

UNLIMITED

NEWSLETTER

GOD IS CLOSE TO YOU, SO DO NOT FEAR

▼ BY DES FORD

Alfred Tennyson, the most representative English poet of the nineteenth century, was devastated by the death of his closest friend, Arthur Hallam. But his grief and pain led to a rebirth of his poetry.

A biographer says: "Before the highest potency of the poet's gift could come to Tennyson, there was need of a baptism of conflict and sorrow, to purify him from the mere love of art for art's sake..." Years later, Tennyson wrote his elegy 'In Memoriam'. It includes famous lines such as...

*'Tis better to have loved and lost
Than never to have loved at all ...
One God, one law, one element,
And one far-off Divine event,
To which the whole creation moves.*

Tennyson lived at the same time as Charles Darwin and was greatly troubled by the new theory of organic evolution with its view of the fierce, destructive struggle of nature. More recently, naturalists...

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... have pointed out that this ferocity is limited to an unrepresentative fraction of nature and most animal species enjoy their days.

I believe this truth has important bearing on our daily lives. Because we are human and fragile, we fear many things. But most lives are like nature – the terrible portions stand out so clearly to us because most of our days are not terrible. They are filled with good things.

Someone has said that Scripture tells us 365 times to ‘fear not’. One of my favourite verses is a most familiar line: “I will fear no evil, for thou art with me”. This is a wonderful anodyne for all our doubts and consternations.

Jesus said that our heavenly Father knows all our needs and counts the hairs of our heads. Thus he could admonish us: “Be not anxious for the morrow”.

The verses with which I often conclude a letter are Romans 8:28–39. We should all read them often. God is nearer than breathing and closer than hands and feet. He is by our pillow as we sleep, and walks with us through every day. Practise Philippians 4:4–7: Be anxious about nothing, prayerful about everything and thankful for anything. Alleluia!



Because we are human and fragile, we fear many things. But... most of our days are not terrible.

“I LEARNED THAT JESUS IS ALL I NEEDED”

says Sara after listening to Des Ford's sermons online



The seeds you sow through your partnership with Good News Unlimited are bearing fruit – and God is bringing great increase! We pray you will be encouraged by this story from Sara. She recently wrote in an email...

A year ago I collapsed in a nervous breakdown that nearly took my life away. I had lost my way from my Christian upbringing and life was a deep black hole.

I knew I needed God: I couldn't help myself and I knew my medication wouldn't make me better. I found Des Ford's sermons online and discovered the truth about sin and Jesus. I learned that Jesus was ALL I NEEDED.

Des said: “Anyone can come to Jesus – it doesn't matter who you are or what you have been like. You can come just as you are – but he won't leave you just as you are.” This was the Good News I needed: not just forgiveness but healing.

Jesus was there all along, but now I had found him and he had my heart – and my undivided attention. I took my pain and suffering to him; it led me to his suffering. My pain was lost when I saw him suffering. I am not saying that I don't feel any pain now but, when I take my pain to him and see the cross and believe in his broken heart for me, my pain dissolves and I am comforted in the power of his love.

My baptism was a truly joyous day and a milestone in my journey with Jesus Christ.

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I knew I needed God: I couldn't help myself and I knew my medication wouldn't make me better.

- Sara, pictured here with Eliezer at her baptism

JESUS ONLY

Distribution grows in Kenya thanks to your prayers and generosity!

Zebedeyo Mokaya's printing business in Kenya has now printed 18,000 copies of 'Jesus Only' in both English and Kiswahili languages. He is on fire for this work and says:

'Jesus Only' is a wonderful book that should be read by all Christians. We should print more English books because urban dwellers in Kenya prefer English to Kiswahili. I can tell you it will be in high demand.

This book has met my main objective of printing Christian literatures, and also strengthened my trust and faith in other Christians across the international divide. I wish to express my gratitude in entrusting me with the printing job. So far this is the biggest printing job I have ever done, and I am looking forward to working with GNU as God may open the way.

I wish that this book gets to every person in Africa. It explains Jesus and the gospel in a wonderful and simple way. Please let us print more English, French and Kiswahili versions to circulate so we can make a follow up and get all the converted Christians into the fold.

I also wish GNU to use radio and television through satellite broadcasts so we can reach so many people around the entire African continent easily. We are grateful to all the people who helped make this possible.

Thank you for helping meet the costs of printing an increasing number of resources such as 'Jesus Only' for people in Africa, India and elsewhere to read in their mother tongue.



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- Zebedeyo Mokaya, pictured right



NEWSFLASH – PLEASE PRAY!

Good News Unlimited is running evangelistic programs in Africa this month! Please pray for people who will come – that they would be open to the Good News and respond to it.

Q&A with a GNU Partner

We recently spoke to Joel Alexis, a new GNU Partner, about his enthusiasm for the gospel of Jesus Christ and the work of GNU:

Q Joel, what brought you to make the decision to partner with GNU on a monthly basis?

A The Christ-centred clarity of GNU's message always sends me to the Bible. This is the message for our time that the world needs to hear.

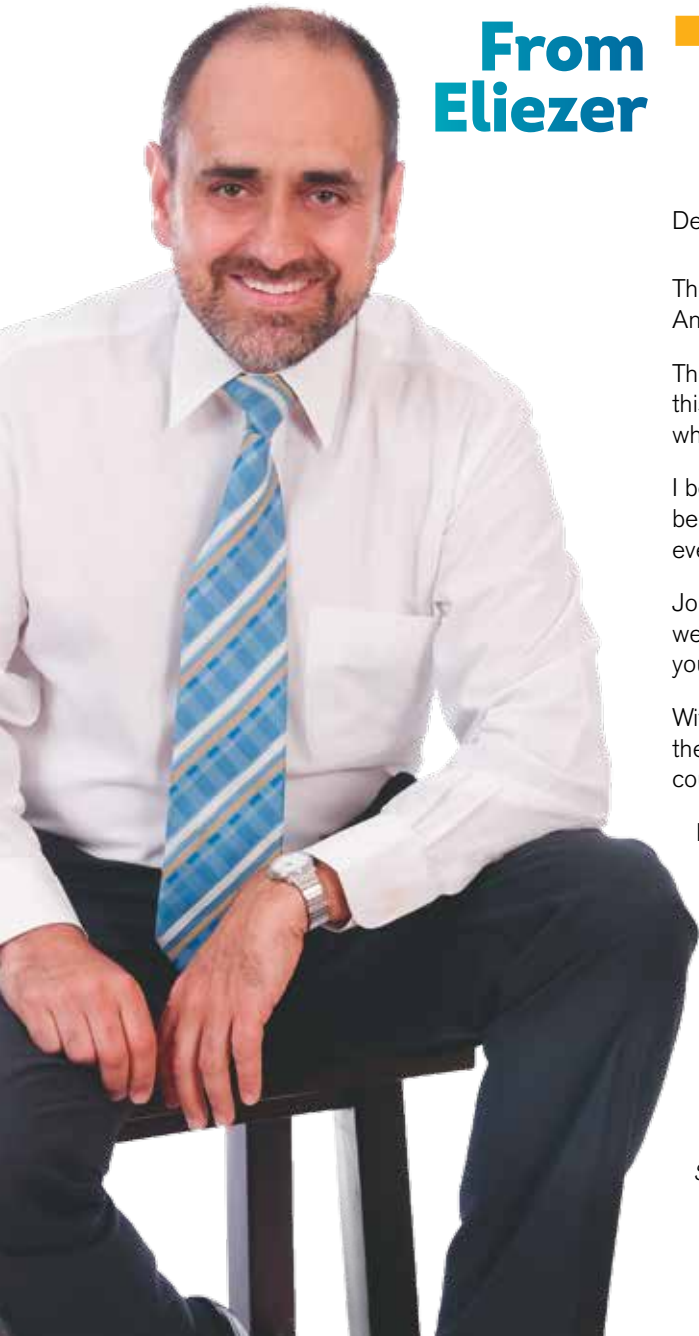
Q What aspect of GNU's ministry particularly excites you?

A Its focus on the simplicity of Christ and the gospel. I pray every day for the gospel to go to all the world, and this is GNU's vision.

Q What message would you like to send to other GNU supporters who are considering becoming GNU Partners?

A Think of the gift of Christ. Our sharing is fulfilling the response of love.

If you would like to know more about becoming a GNU Partner, or about supporting GNU in any other way, please call Carolyn on +61 7 5524 5040 (international) and 07 5524 5040 (within Australia). Thank you for helping accelerate the spread of the Good News!



From Eliezer TO YOU

Dear Friend,

The great Protestant reformer, John Knox, prayed, "Give me Scotland or I die". And God gave him Scotland.

This week I have been praying, "Give me the world or I die". I have been praying this prayer on behalf of Good News Unlimited, and of Christians everywhere who love the gospel.

I believe that we can pray an even greater prayer than the wonderful John Knox because we are so much closer to the time when the gospel will have gone to every nation... and to the time when we will see Jesus face to face.

John Knox served the same God we do. However, times have changed. Today we have a global society, and today we have global communications by which you and I can accelerate the spread of the Good News to those yet unreached.

With God's continued blessing and your incredible support, we're able to share the gospel with people in some of the furthest corners of the planet – and see countless lives changed.

I pray you are encouraged to see the impact you are making possible as you read Sara's story and Zebedeyo Mokaya's story in this newsletter. You – as a member of our wonderful Good News Unlimited family – are truly helping to fulfil the gospel commission.

Together, with God's help, we are spreading the Word – fast.

Grace and Peace in Jesus!

▼ **ELIEZER GONZALEZ**

Senior Pastor, Good News Unlimited

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