

UNLIMITED

NEWSLETTER

HOW YOU CAN AVOID A LIFE THAT'S "CRUMBY"

▼ BY DES FORD

The story of the rich man and Lazarus is one of the most trenchant Jesus ever told. But while it is scary, it was given to save us from eternal loss.

You might remember the story from Luke 16. There was a very wealthy man who lived and feasted like a king every day. He permitted a beggar named Lazarus at his front gate to consume the crumbs from his royal table. He never talked with the beggar and probably only heard of the beggar's death long after the event.

Both men died, and as the rich man looked up from hell at Lazarus in heaven, he longed to have Lazarus dip his finger in water to cool his tongue.

Clovis G. Chappell had some interesting insight when he preached on this story. He said:

Thus given only the crumbs, we are not surprised to read that the beggar died. Institutions, causes, men, ...

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GNU WORD
SPREADS
FAST.
Good News Unlimited

HOW YOU CAN AVOID A LIFE THAT'S "CRUMBY"

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... all these die when we neglect them or feed them only upon crumbs.

But they are not the only ones who die: "The rich man also died." Crumbs have a way of killing him who gives as well as him who receives.

It's so easy to forget that God measures our gifts by what we have retained, not by what we have imparted. When a penniless widow surrendered two very small copper coins, Jesus said "I tell you the truth, this poor widow has put in more than all the others. All these people gave their gifts out of their wealth; but she out of her poverty put in all she had to live on" (Luke 21:2-4).


Christ told us that whoever seeks to save his life shall lose it. He wasn't talking about the narrow, cramped, mean life. The "lose" to which he refers is not just death, but a losing day by day in the here and now. When we fail to give, we die a little every day.

May we so contemplate Jesus in his living and dying that our selfish natures dwindle as we become more like him. "He must increase and I must decrease," said John the Baptist about Jesus in John 3:30. In that process, we will experience a flood of joy, assurance and love. We will no longer live the "crummy" way!



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"THIS IS MY CALLING FROM GOD!"



Emma's story is testimony to the impact of your support and prayers. Thank you!

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I want to do all I can to work with Good News Unlimited so this message can go to all the people of Rwanda.

Emma survived unspeakable horrors as a young lady. During the genocide in Rwanda, her father, a pastor who loved to preach the gospel, was denounced by jealous fellow pastors. As a result, he and most of her family were murdered.

Today, Emma is a vibrant and loving follower of Jesus. She has no resentment, but instead a boundless enthusiasm for the gospel ever since she discovered it through Des Ford's book, *Jesus Only*. Emma said to us,

"I want to do all I can to work with Good News Unlimited so this message can go to all the people of Rwanda. This is my calling from God!"

Emma is now the host of a radio talkback program that is heard throughout Rwanda and the surrounding nations. And as a result of God's profound calling, and our meeting, she will soon be preaching the gospel on the Unlimited radio program in Rwanda.

This story is just one example we've personally seen of broken people being changed and transformed into powerful servants of the gospel through your support of GNU. Thank you!

FRIENDS LIKE YOU HELP SPREAD THE WORD FAST AROUND THE WORLD!

▼ BY ELIEZER GONZALEZ

Our recent trip through India, Africa and Europe was a wonderful time of preaching, teaching and meeting with key leaders in different countries. I am sure you will want to praise God, knowing that we had baptisms on three continents during the trip!

I would not be speaking truthfully if I told you that ministry in India was easy. But it was so rewarding! We went from village to village with Pastor Joseph Usala, speaking to the prayer fellowships he's established at every village.

These meetings are often held at night amid clouds of mosquitos after the villagers return from working all day in the paddy fields. They always gather outdoors because they have no indoor place to meet. But seeing for myself how much this ministry has grown in only twelve months – and seeing the people continuing to surrender their lives to the gospel – was absolutely thrilling.

We then held evangelistic meetings in Kampala, Uganda, where more than half of the non-Christians who attended were baptised. And even many Christians who attended came to thank us personally, often with tears in their eyes. Some told us that they had never heard this message of the gospel. Others shared that they had never understood the Cross before.

Delegations from other countries in Africa are pleading with us to come and do more work, since the Good News of Jesus



Pastor Richard, Eliezer (rear), and Christine, a new child of God, share the joy of baptism in Kampala, Uganda.

Christ is so desperately needed there. We had many meetings with key people from across Eastern Africa, and are currently working on plans to answer those requests! Our meetings in Sweden and Brussels were small. But almost all the non-believers who attended were baptised. Europe is difficult soil for the gospel these days, and much patience is required. Yet still, many are coming to faith. Charmaine from the Netherlands attended our meetings in Brussels and said,

"I have heard for the first time, who Jesus really is, and what he has done for me. He gave his life for me and that is why I have made a decision to surrender to Jesus and get baptised."

I truly believe this trip is a sign of tremendous things to come. So thank you for partnering with us through your prayers and support to help *spread the Word fast* around the world!

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Word Spreads Fast in Africa.

FROM ELI'S DESK

Dear Friend

I've returned from my trip with pleas for help from people who want to receive the Good News of Jesus, and see it shared with their communities and nations. One of those people, Danny, said,

"I can now joyfully say that I've fully understood that I contribute zero to the price that was paid for my salvation. I request GNU to come back. Do not abandon us."

Some people might ignore Danny and so many others like him; instead, focusing on what is "doable". But we do God's business by the grace of Jesus Christ. It is the business of the gospel – and every need is worthy of our attention!

So we came home challenged, with a greater vision than ever. If the work is bigger than we thought, so too is our God who has washed away our sin and conquered death and hell for us!

God's astonishing goodness and your incredible support are what have brought us this far. More lives than you will ever know this side of eternity are being transformed thanks to the generosity of friends like you.

I hope this edition of our newsletter has encouraged you that you're helping *spread the Word fast* all over the world. Thank you for your support that allows us to do this most important work on earth!

Grace and Peace,

▼ **ELIEZER GONZALEZ**

Senior Pastor, Good News Unlimited



YOU'RE REACHING LIVES FOR CHRIST!

Thank you for prayerfully considering our August letter, which came with the special offer of Des Ford's book, *How to Manage Stress in Partnership with God*.

In the letter, Eli shared with you the story of Radhika in India. She said,

"I was a Hindu. I had no peace of mind. I heard the gospel at the Good News Unlimited gospel evangelism program, and for the first time I prayed to God, with strong faith. I was so happy! I accepted Jesus Christ as my Saviour! When I had finished praying, I realised that God had given me peace of mind."

Your donations are helping many more people like Radhika accept Jesus Christ as their Saviour and find the peace of the gospel!

We are humbled that God has given us the privilege of being co-labourers with you. Thank you for giving generously to this effort so that the Good News of Jesus will flood this world like a tidal-wave of grace!



Your donations are helping many more people like Radhika accept Jesus Christ as their Saviour and find the peace of the gospel!