

DESTINY ABLAZE

Issue 21 + Dec - Jan + 25/26

"For some, destiny outweighs the security of the familiar."

D.L. Mauder, President DIBC

A MINISTRY OF DESTINY INTERNATIONAL BIBLE COLLEGE

Oh Holy Night

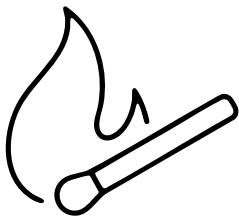
A Child is Born

**Another Christmas
to Remember**

Colossians 3:14

**The Thrill
of Hope**

Isaiah 9:6



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Our prayer is that the anointing will be upon each issue and that the Lord will reach through this magazine and touch each reader's life.



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Equipping individuals to discover, activate and fulfill their purpose and their **DESTINY**

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SNAPSHOT!

God's Creation

Snowfall in Yosemite National Park





From the President's Desk

David L. Mauder

Is Your Reality Your Destiny?

During this season we would like to wish all those both here at home and around the world, a very Merry Christmas and a happy New Year. We consider it a blessing to have the opportunity to reach into your lives throughout the year. As the New Year approaches many of us begin to take inventory of our lives, our accomplishments and the expectations for 2026.

On the cover of this magazine is a phrase that I often say, *“For some destiny, outweighs the security of the familiar.”* Destiny goes beyond familiar, it is our greater purpose. A purpose that often goes beyond what we would ask or think. Familiarity is comfortable, but comfort is often a trap. It’s easy to do the same thing over and over, year after year. It is easy to lose our way in the mundane and the familiar and find ourselves not pursuing our true purpose. I believe that from time to time we should hit the pause button in our life and literally stop what we are doing. In that quiet moment ask ourselves, **What am I supposed to be doing? What is my true purpose in life? Does my life fulfill my expectations?**

Recently, my company completed a project for a woman who had just retired after 42 years at a local factory. We celebrated her dedication, but afterward my son and I reflected on how life can sometimes quietly limit us—not in a judgmental way, but in the sense that many of us feel, deep down, we were made for something more. She once planned to work there only briefly while finishing her degree and pursuing another dream. Somewhere along the way, the temporary became permanent, and the familiar replaced the calling. For some this works well in their lives but for others, down deep inside, you know that you are made for something more. More without limiting ourselves; spiritually, financially, and creatively.

We know that the things that we see, hear, smell, taste and feel become our reality. This can be both good or bad. Once we are convinced of that reality we begin to follow the rules of that reality. But what if we saw ourselves differently believing that

we can have a different reality? Believing that we have a destiny beyond what we are today.

Many of us have known women who are in abusive marriages, that is their reality. It becomes what they know, forcing them to follow the rules of that relationship. It makes it very difficult for them to believe they can get out of the abusive situation and that their life does not have to be one of constant turmoil, pain, sadness and abuse. This often becomes normal/familiar to them, so much that if they do get out they go back to the same or another abusive relationship.

After my open heart surgery in 2018 it became difficult for us financially. I also experienced feelings of hopelessness and had no vision for the future. It became our new reality. Whenever you go through a crisis such as a long-term or chronic illness it can seem impossible to believe that this will not always be your life. It stifles your creativity and steals your dreams. Although I hated that reality, one of the hardest things to do was to make a conscious decision to change the way I thought. Nothing about my senses told me that my reality was changing. I determined in my mind it was. Over the years, prior to that illness, God had given me dreams and visions of our future. At that time it did not seem like it would ever become my reality but I knew that God is faithful and my mind was renewed.

A few years ago during a conversation with a local pastor, I felt the Lord say, “If I had a church where each person was actively pursuing and doing what I have called them to do, that church would be unstoppable.”

How do we do that? How do we change our reality? We have to make a conscious effort to change how we think and what we are doing. Understand that you can change the reality of your marriage, your relationships with your children, your finances, your health and you can fulfill the calling that God has given you no matter where you are in your life. No matter what you feel, what you think or what you have been taught you can change your reality. Choose to proclaim His goodness, His promises, and walk in your destiny. God is the Alpha and Omega. We celebrate the beginnings but we need to learn to embrace the endings. With God involved, when one thing ends, something better begins.

✦ **In this New Year, I encourage you to** ✦
embrace the endings and step into your new
reality, step into your destiny.

You Ask, Destiny Answers

Each issue we answer questions submitted by our readers. Our responses come directly from our advisory board and seasoned ministers, ensuring you receive the most informed and experienced answers.

Submit your questions for future issues to:
destinyablaze@dibcministries.com

Why Do So Many Christians Start the New Year With a Fast? *Wallace Vanslyke*

As another year draws to a close, we are reminded that we are not only ending a chapter—we are being given the gift of a new beginning. A year with no mistakes written on its pages yet. This is the season when many of us set resolutions to do better, live healthier, and strengthen our relationships. In the same way, pastors and church leaders cast fresh vision for the year ahead. Every effective leader continually seeks ways to multiply and strengthen the work God has entrusted to them.

For this reason, many churches begin the new year with a call to prayer and fasting. Why is this so important? First, if we are truly doing the work of God, we must know the direction He desires for us. Second, once we know where He is leading us,

we must have the strength to follow. The Lord’s Prayer teaches us both the goal and the path: “Thy Kingdom come”—the goal; “Thy will be done”—the way we get there.

I often describe this using a simple illustration: we all have two natures within us—the spiritual and the carnal. Prayer strengthens our spiritual nature by bringing us boldly before the throne of God (Hebrews 4:16). In prayer, we are not just speaking words; we are communing directly with our Heavenly Father. Our faith grows, and spiritual authority rises within us. Yet the carnal nature does not automatically weaken. This is where fasting becomes powerful. Prayer strengthens the spiritual man, and fasting weakens the carnal one.

When prayer is little and fasting is little, the spiritual man remains weak and the carnal man strong. When prayer is strong but fasting is weak, both remain strong. But when prayer and fasting are strong together, the spiritual man grows strong and the carnal man grows weak. Suddenly, discouragement, doubt, and fear lose their grip.

My heart for every spiritual leader is this: if you desire a strong move of God in your church this year and beyond, build a strong foundation. Do not simply plan activities—build spiritual depth. Encourage dedicated times of prayer and fasting, especially among your leaders. Prayer was never meant to replace effort; it was meant to empower it. When we rely on our own strength, we get what man can do—but when we pray and fast, we experience what God can do. Oh my, what a difference!

Do not just plan activities. Make a strong spiritual undergirding your main goal.

When we “Seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness all these other things will be added.” Matthew 6:33 KJV

My prayer: God give great end-time revival to His end-time church.

“For if thou altogether holdest thy peace at this time, then shall there enlargement and deliverance arise to the Jews from another place; but thou and thy father’s house shall be destroyed: and who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?”
Esther 4:14 KJV

Another Christmas to Remember

By: Alice Benavides

I have a precious Christmas memory of my oldest daughter, Veronica, playing with a china tea set her grandmother had just given her. At only two years old, she was unaware of how fragile the little pieces were. So, being the teacher-mom that I am, I told her, “Honey, these little plates are made of glass. They can break.” She looked at me a bit puzzled, but as soon as I walked out of the room, she held up one of the plates to her dad and adamantly said, “This is not a glass, it’s a plate!”

I also have another Christmas memory of our cat, Pancake, howling so loudly in the garage that it hurt my ears. Unbeknownst to my husband, Pancake had climbed up into the truck engine and was badly injured when Benny started the motor. Yes—on Christmas Day.

And like all of us, I have many other Christmas memories over the years—from my own childhood Christmas mornings to now watching my grandkids on Christmas morning.

What makes a memory? Why is it that some experiences stay with us while others fade away? Could it be connected to the emotions we felt at the time—love, pain, joy?

Love is a very strong emotion that we all experience, but I believe the word love is often overused in our culture. We use it for everything from commenting on someone’s wardrobe—“I love your new shoes”—to expressing deep affection for a close friend—“I just love you so much!” Maybe it should be, “I like your new shoes,” but “I love you!”

Years ago, we attended a small church—fifty to ninety people, depending on the weather. For a season, this little church suffered from inner turmoil, so much so that the pastor felt we needed teaching on love.

He began his sermon series by telling us that he had taken time to look up every verse in the Bible that contained the word love and wrote each one down. There are more than 500 such references in Scripture, including its various forms: loved, loves, loving, and so on. I’m sure it was quite a task, but as he taught on love, it became clear that the process had a profound impact on his own life.

Sometime later, I pulled my concordance off the shelf, grabbed a notebook and a good pen, and did the same. I got about halfway through the New Testament when it hit me—I began to see love in a brand-new light. I started seeing it from God’s point of view instead of just my own. I realized how important it is to Him that we love Him—and each other. Love is so important to God that without it, we truly have nothing.

We often quote 1 John 4:7: “Let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.” But we sometimes overlook verse 8: “He who does not love does not know God, for God is love.” Ouch.

Another passage that has been especially meaningful to me is Matthew 22:37–40. A Pharisee asked Jesus what the most important commandment in the law was, and Jesus replied, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.” That answer was likely expected—but then Jesus added, “And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”

Colossians 3:14 refers to love as the “bond of perfection.” Want to be perfect? Practice love. And Scripture tells us, “If we love one another, God abides in us, and His love has been perfected in us” (1 John 4:12). This is a beautiful mystery—because while we can never be perfect on our own, when God’s love lives in us, He sees us through His perfect love. We serve a mighty God who loves us that much.

This Christmas, I want to begin with that kind of love—the kind of love that impacts others and creates lasting memories. Gathering during the Christmas season gives us a precious opportunity to strengthen relationships with those we spend time with. Let’s make this Christmas one to remember.

The Best of Times

By Rev. John Hattabaugh

“You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.” 2 Corinthians 9:11 NIV

These are the best of times and the worst of times. In our world today, there is a great move of the Spirit and many blessings upon the church and church family. Many are blessed with abundance—more than enough. We drive nice cars, eat good food, and live in comfortable homes. Yet in the midst of blessing, it is easy to become materialistic or take advantage of what God has given us.

With blessing comes opportunity—opportunity to be generous. We must renew our vision for giving and use what God has entrusted to us for His glory. There are many reasons to give and much good soil to sow into. Scripture gives us both instruction and promise concerning generosity:

Those who give to the poor will lack nothing but those who close their eyes to them receive many curses. Proverbs 28:27 NIV

One person gives freely yet gains even more: another withholds unduly, but comes to poverty. Proverbs 11:24 NIV

As Christians, we are often reminded that we can never outgive the Lord. Yet at times, obedience in giving can feel like sacrifice. Still, Scripture consistently teaches that the more we give, the more we will harvest. This cycle continues unless we choose to break it.

As a missionary, I saw God faithfully provide for ministry needs time and again. In Argentina, a 13-year-old girl named Carmen began attending church—she was the only one in her family who came. She and my son Mark, who was just 10 at the time, started a small Sunday school under a

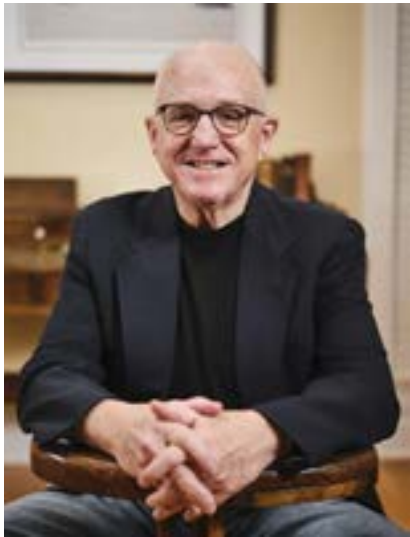
tree in her neighborhood. Soon, nearly 70 children were gathering each week. They came to me and said they needed a place to meet. Our budget was already stretched thin as we were raising funds to plant three other churches. I told them we simply could not afford it. Their response was simple: “Don’t worry—we will pray.”

Not long after, a woman visited our church and offered to sell us the front portion of a large lot she had purchased. There was already a foundation on the property that she thought might be useful. Her plan was to build her home on the back portion of the land. She offered ownership of the front portion with a down payment and monthly payments. We accepted. Carmen and Mark made a deal with the children that every Sunday they would each carry a brick to the foundation to help build the church. It began with children and soon included entire families. A man from the community was saved and later became the pastor. Even the woman who sold us the land eventually became a member of the church.

More recently, our local church raised \$180,000 for missions. I shared with a friend how, back in Argentina, we once raised \$35,000 to buy property for a Bible school located inside the Federal Capital—important because registration inside that belt applied nationwide. After negotiations, the seller agreed to \$37,500. We accepted—but only had \$35,000. I prayed all night, not knowing what to do. By morning, the value of the peso had dropped and the value of the dollar had risen. Our \$35,000 had become equal to \$37,500 in pesos. It was a miracle. Today, that same \$35,000 from 1971 would be worth nearly \$280,000. I have seen it over and over again—God will always provide.

Someone once asked me what the greatest miracle I witnessed in Argentina was. I saw a withered arm healed, a leg grow two inches, blind eyes opened, and deaf ears restored—but the greatest miracle of all was the salvation of a soul.

In Charles Dickens’ A Tale of Two Cities, the opening line reads: “It was the best of times, it was the worst of times.” That contrast still rings true today. Many Christians in the United States are richly blessed, while many others—both here and around the world—live in deep poverty, without hope, and without knowledge of the Gospel. We must listen to the leading of the Spirit, walk in generosity, and give so that the lost may be reached. Then, and only then, can we truly say, “It was the best of times.”



David Runge

Christ Follower, Husband, Father,
Pastor, Pilot, and Author

Spiritual formation has become a major emphasis at many seminaries. Dallas Willard describes it thusly. “Spiritual formation in the tradition of Jesus Christ is the process of transformation of the inmost dimension of the human being, the heart, which is the same as the spirit or will. It is being formed (really, transformed) in such a way that its natural expression comes to be the deeds of Christ done in the power of Christ.” (Spiritual Formation: What it is, and How it is Done – [Dallas Willard, Dallas Willard Ministries](#)).

Spiritual formation is the lifelong process of discipleship involving obedience in the practice of spiritual disciplines resulting in our will becoming, not just subordinate to God’s will, but a natural expression of the Father’s will. As Dallas Willard explains, it is a transformation of the heart. It is a transforming work of the Holy Spirit in response to our obedience as He molds us into the image of Christ. Jesus, Himself, described doing the Father’s will as His very food, His sustenance (John 4:34). This is a noble and lofty goal. Admittedly our progress involves ups and downs, two steps forward and one step back. And at times it seems unattainable. Even Paul, in his excellent discourse in Philippians 3:8-16, confesses he has not attained it but nevertheless forgets that which is behind (his stumbles or failures) and presses on. This begs the question, at what point in our spiritual journey do we become “good enough,” pleasing to God? One pastor and former seminarian expresses this dilemma in his review of my book, Commended.



“This book is a great insight into who, what, and where our identity comes from. The timing of this book was very interesting to me. I was going through a period of “I’m not a good enough Christian/husband/dad/missionary” self-talk. (Side note: that’s true. Nobody is.) Commended challenged me to remember Who and what determines my worth.”

Available at Amazon and at www.davidrunge.com.

Theologically we know that God’s approval does not rest in our actions but in the atoning blood of Jesus. Nevertheless, we often may experience a nagging feeling that we are not measuring up, not good enough, that robs us of the joy that Jesus offers. How do we deal with that? Jesus’s words to His disciples in Matthew 18:1-4 gives us a clue.

Trust v/s Obedience

Part 2

And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them and said, “Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Matthew 18:2-3



Matthew describes the scene. Jesus is approaching Jerusalem, and His impending crucifixion. His disciples, oblivious to this, had been arguing about which of them was the greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven, and approached Jesus with that question. Perhaps they had been comparing notes, touting their accomplishments, wondering who amongst them was most deserving of this honor.

Jesus draws a little child to Him and uses him as an illustration. Unless His disciples humble themselves as this child, not only would they not be great, but they would not even enter the Kingdom of Heaven.

What was it about this child that touched Jesus? Consider the following anecdote of an intimate moment between a child and her father.

“A young child, seeing her daddy at the bottom of the stairway, descends to meet him. She stops suddenly, two stairs up, and smiles. Her daddy stretches his arms as she giggles in anticipation. She launches herself into orbit, splashing down in the ocean of her daddy’s enveloping love as she hugs his neck. He belly-laughs as she squeals. She runs back up the stairs, this time to the fourth step. “Do it again, Daddy!” Can we sense the reward of joy they both experience? The bonding? The trust to now double down?”
Davide Runge - *Commended*

Have you ever noticed how a child can experience deep joy in their relationship with their parents through simple trust? Have you experienced deep joy from a child who places a humble, simple trust in you? Have you tasted the intimacy this builds in your relationship with a child? The child is not yet mature, nonetheless is able to experience deep joy in the intimacy of a trust – based relationship with their father or mother. Perhaps that is why Jesus brought the little child before His disciples. Perhaps it is why, in Revelation 2:4-5 He encouraged the mature church at Ephesus to return to their first love, to the intimacy of that first love relationship with Him.

Obedience builds character, discipline, and maturity. But trust builds intimacy. And intimacy in relationships is the catalyst for joy. A child’s development depends on its intimacy with its parents. The more intimate the relationship with the parent, the more a healthy desire to please and obey grows. It is this trust fueled intimacy with Jesus that brings Him joy and enables us to experience the joy He offers.

But I have trusted in your steadfast love;
my heart shall rejoice in your salvation.
Psalm 13:5 ESV

The Thrill of Hope

Nanette Elkins

O Holy Night has been crowned with the title “Most Beautiful of all Christmas Carols” because of its superb melody and lyrics. Few would argue this fact, and we have repeated it in churches, schools, nursing homes, hospitals and any Christmas gathering that called for Hope.

Where did it originate? The story is amazing. Placide Cappeau (1808-1877), wrote the lyrics in Roquemaure, France on December 3, 1847. His priest had asked him to write a poem and Cappeau, on his way to Paris on a business trip, received the inspiration for the lyrics to “Cantique de Noel” about halfway through the trip.

Once in Paris, he took the poem to Adolphe Adam, who wrote the music, and the song was performed a few weeks later on Christmas Eve.

Fast forward to another Christmas Eve, 1906, where Reginald Fessenden, a Canadian inventor, makes history when he broadcasts the very first AM radio program. Not only do WWI soldiers get to hear a radio program from home for the very first time, but they also get to hear Fessenden playing “O Holy Night” on his violin and then sing the final verse! The beloved carol was one of the first pieces of music to be broadcast on radio.

O holy night! The stars are brightly shining

It is the night of the dear Saviour’s birth

Long lay the world in sin and error pining

Till He appeared and the Spirit felt its worth

A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices

For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn

Fall on your knees! Oh, hear the angel voices!

O night divine, the night when Christ was born

O night, O holy night, O night divine!

O night, O holy night, O night divine!

Led by the light of faith serenely beaming

With glowing hearts by His cradle we stand

O’er the world a star is sweetly gleaming

Now come the wisemen from out of the Orient land

The King of kings lay thus

Who among us has not felt the joy of Christmas and hope of the ages stirring up inside of us when we reach that famous line in the song,

“Fall on your knees!
Oh, hear, the angel
voices! Oh, night,
divine! Oh, night when
Christ was born!”

Dare we say there are few songs more glorious? The thrill of the birth of the Savior surely makes us want to fall on our knees in adoration and praise! The Messiah has come, the Savior of the World!

“For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.” Isaiah 9:6.

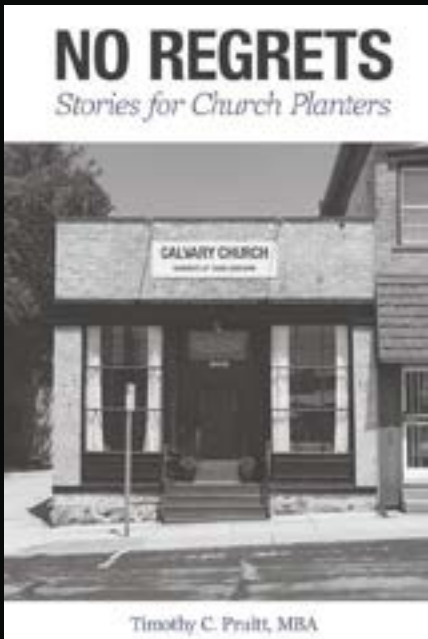
Let this song bring peace and joy to your heart and mind today as you are reminded of that Holy Night so long ago. Our Lord came for you, for me, and for all who would receive Him. He still opens His arms today and says, “Come...”. The door is still open for a little while before He comes again in all His glory and takes His Church, His people, those that are called by His Name, out of this world and that door of Grace closes forever.

Make it a Glorious Day!

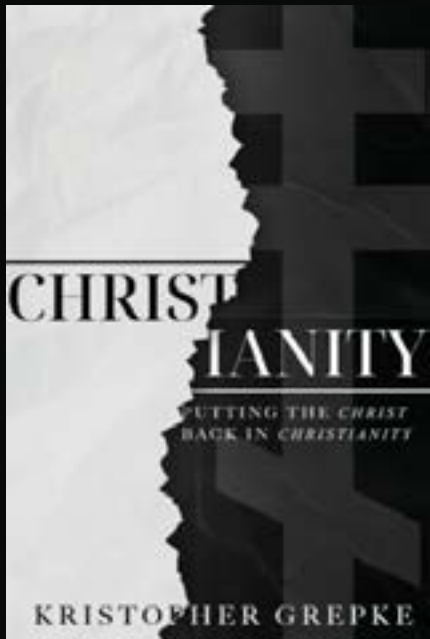


Make Scripture Part of Your New Year Story

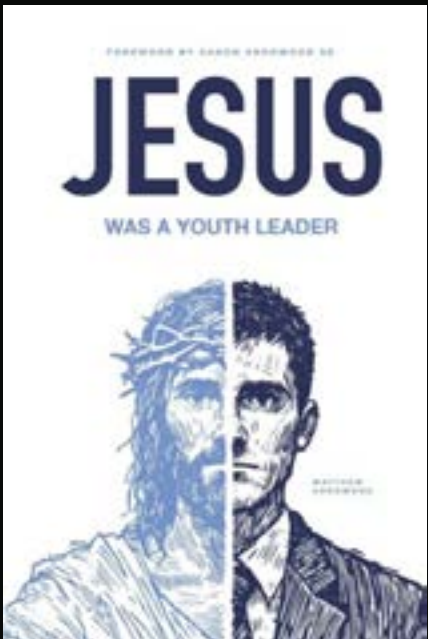
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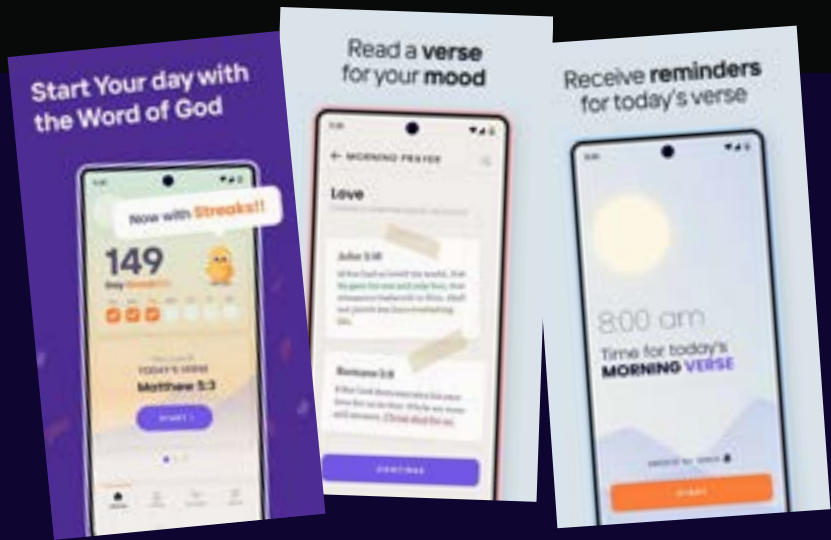


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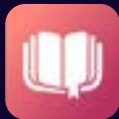
A peaceful and consistent way to stay spiritually connected throughout the day.

We Recommend a Bible App as a Great Way for Those Who are Wanting to Learn More, but Struggling to Start.



Simple Bible Daily
Verse Alarm

Android



Bible Hour

iOS





He Restores My Soul

Psalm 23:3a

A Mental Health Moment

Pamela R. Karandos, LMHC, EdS, NCP

Licensed Mental Health Counselor,
Psychotherapist, Life Coach

“A Holiday of Focus”

We are entering what is supposed to be the most wonderful time of the year.

Why then is there so much hustle and bustle, presents to buy, parties to attend, activities to do, lists to fulfill? Can you feel the turmoil, the unrest, the anxiety just thinking about it? Is this how you want your holiday to be this year? How do we make it different? How do we set our boundaries so we are present to the joy of the season and special moments?

Let’s go back to the start where the angel Gabriel appeared to Mary and see if we can learn something that will help. Mary didn’t hesitate in her “yes” to God. She stayed focused on what God was asking her. She didn’t worry about anything else. She trusted God for the details. She didn’t worry or try to explain her decision. “*I am the Lord’s servant... May your word to me be fulfilled.*” (Luke 1:38)

This year, I encourage you to keep your focus on what makes this wonderful time of year so special. The birth of Christ was and is such a gift. Keep your focus on the Gift of Jesus. Set your boundaries, so that the things you say “yes” to are truly a reflection of what is most special. Take time to spend extra time with Jesus, reading the Bible, reading the story of His birth, sharing with your children, grandchildren, and others. In the giving that you do, remember it is a great time to think of those who feel left out or distant from Christ’s Love, so visit a nursing home, give to the poor, invite an elderly neighbor for coffee. Embrace the special moments like baking with loved ones, making special ornaments, or sharing special memories. Maybe share little special gifts or notes that tell someone why they are special to you. Enter Christ’s Perfect Peace this season. “*May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.*” Romans 15:13

Sermon Showcase / Onward Church – Fishers, IN

Christmas Series • The importance of Peace on Earth and Who brings it.



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Family Fun

“Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward”
Psalm 127:3

Can you find the Destiny Ablaze Match?
It's hidden somewhere in this magazine. Good Luck!

Spot the 5 Differences

Magazine Scavenger Hunt
All of these items are hidden somewhere in this issue. Find them all!

SNOW	GIFT	WISE MEN
PINE TREE	CROWN	ROMANIA
GOLD COIN	CHICK	REINDEER

Christmas Word Search

W	S	A	A	Y	V	Z	E	A	N	G	E	L
G	H	H	I	E	K	L	O	R	H	Z	E	Y
I	R	S	D	O	N	K	E	Y	M	Z	A	C
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WORD LIST

BIBLE	MARY	STAR
DONKEY	ANGEL	SHEEP
INN	FAITH	JESUS
	CHRIST	

MAKE IT TO THE CHRISTMAS BUNNY!



The Miraculous Here and Now

The Holiest,
Ever-Present Miracle
By Loren Jones

This column is called The Miraculous Here and Now. It’s meant to tell the stories of miracles we’ve seen or heard about—things that have happened around us in recent days. And while I don’t have a current miracle to proclaim in that sense, I do know of a miracle so great, so powerful, that it is still active in every one of our lives today. A miracle so vast it was surrounded by other miracles just to make its arrival possible. A miracle that was set in motion before the foundations of the world. A miracle given not to a few, but to all. A miracle that is not only then... but very much here and now.

*A miracle sent from Heaven to earth—
to be born among us in order to save us.*

At Christmas, we celebrate the birth of Jesus. We display the manger scenes, sing the familiar songs, and retell the beautiful story we’ve known since childhood. But I wonder if, somewhere along the way, familiarity has softened our awe. The Christmas story is not just sweet—it is unfathomably miraculous.

An angel appears to a young virgin named Mary and speaks words that would change human history forever:

“The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.”
—Luke 1:35 (KJV)

A virgin birth. A promise fulfilled. A miracle inside a miracle.

Joseph, faced with confusion and fear, is visited by an angel in a dream:

“Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost.”
—Matthew 1:20 (KJV)

Shepherds in the fields are startled by angels filling the night sky. Wise men follow a star across unknown lands. Heaven bends toward earth. God steps into time.

And the miracle is born... not in royalty, not in comfort, not in power—but in humility. In a stable. Wrapped in cloth. Laid in a manger.

“For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord.”
—Luke 2:11 (KJV)

That love is *not* ancient history. That salvation is *not* outdated. That miracle is *not* exhausted.
It is here. It is now. It is still saving. Still healing. Still restoring. Still transforming lives.

The world constantly looks for the next miracle—something new, something spectacular, something that breaks the laws of nature. And yet the greatest miracle of all remains active every day: a Savior who still saves.

Every life changed by Christ is a living miracle. Every addiction broken. Every heart restored. Every soul redeemed.

That same Jesus who was born in Bethlehem still walks into hospital rooms, broken homes, prison cells, lonely bedrooms, and silent prayers. The miracle of Christmas didn’t fade with the shepherds—it multiplied with the saints.

This Christmas, as we gather with family, exchange gifts, and celebrate traditions, may we also pause and truly behold the miracle for what it is. Not just a story we tell—but a Savior we live for. Not just something that happened—but something that still happens. **The miracle is still here. The miracle is still now.**

That is where the miracle becomes personal.

Jesus did not come only to be admired. He came to heal the brokenhearted. To open blind eyes. To forgive sin. To defeat death. To reconcile humanity back to God.

This miracle did not end in the manger—it marched to the cross... and through the grave.

“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”
—John 3:16 (KJV)



The Heart of Selena

A Ministry Close to our Hearts

The Heart of Selena Ministry was founded in 2015 after a very dear friend passed away. Selena Feutz Fleetwood was a devoted Christian, wife, nurse, and friend to many. She gave endless hours of her life helping anywhere she was needed. In her honor, we ship thousands of items and gifts to provide Christmas for many Native American children and their families in New Mexico. With the help of our volunteers and donors, we are also able to give locally to several families, recovery centers, shelters, nursing homes and to the children in our local hospital. We have assisted with helping fire, tornado, hurricane, and cancer victims.

The ministry is not about Selena though, nor is it about any one individual. The ministry would not exist without the help of the many volunteers and donors that also have a heart for giving to those in need. The need may be toys, shoes, or a coat, and our volunteers always step up with the donations.

We wish to give a huge “Thank You” to all of the many volunteers and donors that help each year to make filling, wrapping, and shipping possible.

Why Give?

When we give and volunteer, we participate in something bigger than ourselves. We step into God’s purpose, lift others up, and discover the joy of being used by Him. Generosity isn’t just an action—it’s a way of life that blesses both the giver and the receiver.



Wrapping Christmas gifts for children on a Native American reservation in New Mexico.



Some of our wonderful volunteers with another Christmas shipment all done and ready to be shipped out.

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Our goal is to fund and support our missionaries and the communities they serve. This is greatly helped with your contributions.

- Destiny Global Funding

Christ Commission for Romania

From: John & Viorica Dolinschi

The Lord is with us in every circumstance. Regardless of good or bad news, if we truly love God and allow Him to lead us, then our Lord will always stand at our right side, and we will not fail or be derailed!

Children and Teenagers Camps

The Children and Teenagers Camps supported by CCFR took place this year in the southern regions and near the border of Ukraine, in Suceava and Botoșani. About three hundred children —spiritually, morally, and materially—were blessed to receive food from the hands of our Lord.

Heartfelt thanks go to those of you who sponsored these precious children, allowing them to enjoy God’s natural garden, where humble, angelic men and women served them as if they were their own children, offering God’s very best. I want to highlight the Brasov ProLife Ministry, led by my friend Pastor Joseph Belea. Alongside preaching and teaching God’s Kingdom inside and outside the church, this ministry has taken on practical outreach. They care for abused women, encourage young mothers to keep their babies, and support adoptions. In Romania, abortion remains a tragic issue, with millions of babies lost, and this ministry is actively working to change that. The Belea family also cares for abandoned elderly people who lack family and resources, providing housing, food, and home care, as well as helping poor children and their families. Please remember this ministry in your prayers, and if the Lord moves your heart, consider supporting it as an ambassador for Christ. Praise Reports of God’s Provision.



Photos from the Romanian Mission



Photos from the Romanian Mission

Germany
Slovakia
Italy
Spain
Ukraine
Moldova
Romania
Albania
Serbia
Afghanistan
Pakistan
Bhutan
Nepal
Cambodia
Turkey
Iran
India
South Sudan
Burundi
Uganda
Kenya
Rwanda
Zambia
D.R. Congo
Malawi
Tanzania
Cameroon

Now, I’d like to share a few praise reports of what God is doing with us in Romania. Many of these projects began from a great need and were fulfilled miraculously, without special fundraising campaigns—simply through prayer, faith, and trusting God as our ultimate Provider. Suceava

Church: This newly planted faith church has not only grown but also, by God’s grace, received its own building this year. Truly a miracle! Bistret Church: Recently planted, with evangelism mostly to children and teens, they began building their church this spring. With the final funds now provided, they will complete it before winter. Piscu Vechi Church: They received the resources to finish their sanctuary, kitchen, cafeteria, and even a missionary apartment. Last winter they managed with only a wood stove, but now the facilities are fully functional—a miracle in itself! These are just a few examples of God’s provision. There are many more works happening that we cannot fully record here. Still, this newsletter offers a glimpse of what the Lord is doing among us—through us, and through your faithful partnership. Thank you for being a faithful partner in this ministry. **My family and I extend our heartfelt thanks to those who faithfully support our ministry and respond to the needs we encounter.** Warm regards, John & Viorica Dolinschi

Destiny Ablaze

Would Like to Recognize & Thank Each of You for Making 2025 Possible!

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Patricia Grosbach
Patricia Hillenburg
Sherry Hatfield
Pamela Karandos
David Runge

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Carol Clemans-Staff Writer
Nannette Elkins-Staff Writer
John Hattabaugh-Advisory Board/International Ministries Director
Loren Jones-Creative Director/Staff Editor
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Brenda Jones
Roxanne Kehl
Jeanine Wilson

We wish all
of those who
work with
us here at
DIBC and all
of those who
read Destiny
Ablaze worldwide a
Blessed Christmas and a
Joyous New Year!

Prayer Requests for Dec2025/Jan2026....
these have been sent by readers.

Baby Graham needs a miracle. He isn't two years old yet and has suffered second and third degrees burns on his body from an accident. Pray for his little body to be pain free and comfort for his parents and family - Ohio

Please pray for healing for our Pastor-Joseph Sanders - Indiana



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is reaching the world one life at a time through 14 current and developing ministries. These branches of DIBC support local and international believers and ministries by equipping them through online classes, virtual/onsite conferences, bi-monthly magazine, funds assistance, and more.



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**“For unto you is
born this day in
the city of David a
Saviour, which is
Christ the Lord.”**

Luke 2:11

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