

The Way

STEPS TO CHRIST

December 2023 Newsletter

Web: www.found.rest

The Promo Revisited and I Give Up!



Promo in the Spotlight!

For those of you who are new to our monthly newsletter - welcome! We're blessed to have you join us. In this month's edition, I will try and give a bit more clarity to our promo video, as well as introduce three additional members of our team. There will be more to come next month . . . all so you know who's behind the scenes of this mammoth project.

The silly season is upon us! Some are experiencing the dry hot conditions the southern hemisphere has to offer whilst others are experiencing the cold white fluffy stuff that's starting to fall. Wherever you are in this vast beautiful world that God has blessed us with we pray that Jesus our crucified and risen Saviour is the absolute centre of your world!

Let's jump into a closer look at the promo video. Just to film this was a miracle in so many ways. God sent a precious soul to fund the entire video clip and scouting trip. As our journey progressed, the Holy Spirit sent words of encouragement through our sponsor that cheered us forward on a sometimes very difficult road (near death for Craig). We are eternally grateful for the one who financed and supported this effort.

First, I want to give a little more insight into how the script came to be.

After years of prayer and a gradual understanding of what God was calling us to do came the unenviable task of condensing all the detail into a short video that tried to paint the picture of this entire project. A seemingly impossible feat! But there is One who could - so I prayed and asked the Lord to write the script. The promo was the result.

Set back in the late 1800's, the first few scenes reveal a little girl, a mature aged gentleman, and a well to do businessman. The poor little girl discovers a piece of silver. She cannot believe her eyes - it's a days wage! She knows exactly what she will do with it - her family will be able to eat. The mature gentleman steps off the train - his journey has been tough. He's been a hard worker and his reward has been fair. He too finds silver. He wants to put it to good use but he's not quite sure where. Finally the well to do businessman is running late. The day is drawing to a close as he stops to wipe the sweat from his brow. In so doing he drops a few pieces of silver. It's a few days hard earned wages for others, but for him it's almost worthless. There's no time to pick them up - he must keep going. After all he has enough anyway.

We all fit somewhere in amongst these three people . . .

Thirty pieces of silver was considered a lot of money in Jesus' day. Some say it was only a weeks wage while others contend it was about 4 months earnings. In any case it was what our Saviour was sold for. Heartbreaking, as we know God gave us everything when He gave His Son. He was worth an infinite amount. In fact, inspiration tells us He was worth all of heaven! When Jesus was sold for just thirty pieces, the enemy thought he could end the hope of salvation for all. Not a chance . . . God used that opportunity to turn the terrible cross into something beautiful - salvation for all who believe! Hallelujah! The beautiful terrible cross!

So, ‘What is He worth to you?’ is the question posed at the end of the promo. It’s simple in its meaning. Christ surrendered everything. What are you willing to surrender . . . your time, skills, talent’s, positions, money - to help spread this end time message? And if so, here’s an opportunity for you to join us on this huge evangelistic campaign and contribute where you can.

How much is a soul worth? It’s not a trick question. Jesus Christ died for each one of us which means we are each worth all of heaven. It’s an infinite amount that’s completely incalculable. But since we live in a world that seems to respond to everything in economic and monetary terms, lets consider some statistics that show how the cost of this project actually relates to souls for the Kingdom.

According to Sandy Padula, an independent consultant hired by the producers of The Chosen, over 108 million people globally have watched at least part of one episode (as of November 2022). If we were to reach just half that number with the Steps to Christ project (being very conservative in our numbers), investing ten million US dollars makes each soul reached with the truth worth less than 20 cents! Incredible! When we consider the platform of multiple languages that Steps to Christ will present, I believe we can easily reach more than The Chosen, which would make each soul worth close to nothing in monetary terms. What’s presented will be The Truth as it is in Jesus - a real and saving relationship instead of Bible error and false revival. Remember, our Christ given task is to reach not convert. Christ gave everything on the hope of a soul, not the promise.

If that’s not compelling enough, consider this. If one was to invest the capital in this project and then seek to recover the investment by crowdfunding or the like, the statistics from The Chosen tell us that, “As of 2021, viewers (of The Chosen) had contributed \$40 million towards its production”. Unbelievable amounts of financial support from those who really desire to know Jesus! Imagine how much support they would give to know The Truth as it is in Jesus. Isn’t that an investment worth making?

We need to rethink our media productions. Generally speaking the Seventh-day Adventist organisation has experienced success, but of late it appears the numbers are shrinking - we are struggling. Unfortunately the methods that worked in times past are no longer cutting through. We should not be discouraged. In fact we should be encouraged to seek out new ways to reach our dying world. The end is near - more than ever we must be more persistent, bold, and explore new opportunities.

With the Lord at the helm this project is to meet The Chosen head on in a number ways. Not the least of them is viewership and truth. There are hungry souls the world over seeking for truth like never before. We have an opportunity to put an incredibly powerful book before them in a way that has never been done before.

We are HIS masterpiece - each one of us! Now He's placing the finishing touches on all of us. Like never before, we must give everyone the opportunity to experience the blessing of Steps to Christ. Now it's time to give a fallen world the last day message of how to know Him - The Way, The Truth, and The Life! This power packed, inspired little book holds a revelation every soul needs. A message of love and surrender. A message from the giver of life!

The purpose behind the promo's old world theme is that Steps to Christ will be set in that era and location. Whilst the actors used in the promo are not the actors to be used in the main production, you still get a sense of what the film will look like.

For more information on the individual meaning of each part - The Way, The Truth, and The Life, please see our website or reread the first newsletter. If you haven't received the first one or two newsletters please let us know and we'll gladly forward them to you.

On behalf of all of us at Found Rest, we would like to thank you for your prayers and support over the past year. We have been blessed and challenged. We are humbled by what lies ahead and are looking forward to sharing the journey with you. We wish you seasons greetings and a safe and blessed new year!

In His Service

Nicole.

*Seasons
Greetings*

I Give Up!

Let's keep the introductions going! Last month we introduced you to three of our Clydesdale team - Marise, Hope, and Hamish.

Next up . . . this man!

Craig - Coming from the Gaelic word creag, Craig's name translates to "rock" or "rocky." It also comes from the word "crag," which describes a steep, rugged cliff that makes for a stunning sight on the Scottish coast.

Steep? . . . more like tall! Standing at almost 6'6" and ruggedly handsome, (I am biased of course) his name is definitely an apt description.

A giant of a man in faith, and firm as a rock when it comes to his belief, this man is a true house-band (husband). After losing everything - not only finances but also his first wife (a beautiful mother of 5 young, precious children) this man found himself at the foot of that beautiful terrible cross. Where else was he to turn? Raising up his children to be true to the flint, his is a testimony that every man will be all the better for hearing. Not only does it challenge you in ways you may not want to be challenged but it inspires you in ways that only a heart for God craves to be inspired.

So what is his role in this project? He's the main man! The Director of Photography, and the one who puts my thoughts into actions. The one who captures the vision. The one who lifts me up when I stumble. The researcher. The team leader. The builder. The trainer. The one who's job it is to stay focused and faithful to this project as God leads and directs through miracles and challenges. The one who is surrendered to his Saviour - no matter the cost! There is nothing this man cannot do when he is hid in THE ONE who saved him! Praise God for equipping this man - Craig!

And . . . this son!

Jack - is a masculine British name meaning "God is gracious." This name came about in medieval England as a variation of John and Jacob.

God certainly was gracious when He knitted Jack together in his mother's womb. The kindest most gentle-man who is surrendered to Jesus and ready to do anything that is asked of him. Our eldest and our right hand man. He has been given talents that far exceed his young years and a patient character that gets tested often in this family. He's our colorist, editor, camera man and all round can do guy. He wears his heart on his sleeve, and when God led us to this project He equipped Jack in a way that only God can for this high calling.

So . . . I give up . . .

Of late I've been fighting the battle that so many of us fight when we hit middle age. The dreaded middle age spread! Some have barely any trouble whilst others try everything with no success. Here in lies my battle. I used to be relatively fit but over the years I've slowed down. A few months ago I felt the prompting of the Holy Spirit to get back into shape. Although I lead a whole foods plant based lifestyle, it alone does not keep one in tip top shape. There is more to good health than just abstaining from animal products. Anyway, back to my trouble. Exercise! I have tried and failed multiple times. I confess - I'm not easily motivated to exercise.

Then something changed. I gave up. I gave up my will (my futile attempts in my own strength) and my resistance to change. I said, God I can't do this, teach me how. Give me the desire to do this, to do what you've asked me to do. This is a prayer that God will always answer! He has done this for me several times throughout my journey. When I surrender my desire for something, He then replaces it with His desire for me. When we give up all of self to God it's then that He does amazing things in our lives!

The Lord impressed on me, "Do these three things together, Walk-Worship-Water". So as I walk and drink more water throughout my day I listen to either worship songs, the Bible (audio) or sermons. To spend thoughtful time in contemplating the life of Christ, and meditating on what He actual has done for us has been incredibly inspiring in so many ways. I can't tell you the change it has made to my level of enjoyment towards physical work outs. I actually look forward to exercising now. I know I am getting healthier and closer towards the goals God has given me. I'm not only exercising my body but my mind as well. I believe, more importantly I'm learning to hear His voice more and more as I dwell on heavenly topics during this added special time with Him.

This health struggle may sound quite trivial to some but at the heart of this testimony is an issue we all face in one way or another. And that is? . . . complete and total surrender in every aspect of our lives. Your struggle may not be weight. It may be addiction or idolatry. It may be food - a specific food you don't want to give up, or the amount of food on your plate. Something different perhaps? . . . television, technological devices, movies, video games, alcohol, seeking a partner, laziness, spending or making money, control, work, and the list goes on. Whatever your struggle, or whatever you place before your relationship with Christ - it's something you need to surrender. You need to give it to Jesus. Let Him give you the desires of HIS heart. When we do - it's literally life changing! If He can do it in me I know He can do it in you. He longs too.

This season reminds us of the birth of Jesus. Whether or not we decide to celebrate Christmas is a personal matter. Many are centered on giving gifts, sharing meals, and spending time with friends and loved ones. Some enjoy participating in or attending the many Bible orientated Christmas programs of which the nativity scene is often central. Let me draw your attention to one particular part . . . the brightest Star that gave light for the wise men to follow that came to rest over Bethlehem.

Now with that thought in mind it seems fitting to introduce another very special four legged member of our miracle team. (See the November newsletter for more on this team).

Well here is Starlight. A magnificent creature that stands just over 17hh. He's a 7 year old gelding who is a gentle giant in every way. He has impressive action and loves to draw attention as he moves smoothly and majestically down the road. Whether he's in the lead or the wheel this beautiful boy will faithfully do his part. He is another miracle team member that God has given us the opportunity to add to this amazing project. (We're looking for a sponsor for this magnificent boy - please let us know if you can help fund Starlight or any of our other majestic team members!)

Look out for next months newsletter when we bring you updates on "The Truth" . . . the short clips part of the project. Exciting things are happening as God continues to open up opportunities to spread the gospel message.

The financial need for this entire project is still pressing. We humbly ask for your financial assistance - no matter how small or large - every gift goes towards completing what God has called us to do. Steps to Christ! If your financial year is ending and you reside in the United States, now is the perfect time to give your tax deductible soul winning donation. Contact us now for more details on how to give.

It's Time! That's the message - do not put off until tomorrow what you can do today!

But encourage each other every day, while you still have something called "today." Help each other so that none of you will be fooled by sin and become too hard to change.

We have the honor of sharing in all that Christ has if we continue until the end to have the sure faith we had in the beginning.

Hebrews 3:13,14



Craig



Jack



Starlight

Please Share!

Be sure to let your family and freinds know about our newsletter.

Log onto our website, www.found.rest and subscribe.

Print this newsletter and share it around! No one should miss out on this exciting news!

Your Opportunity to Support

If you would like to join with us and financially support this outreach initiative, here are the details you will need.

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