

The Way

STEPS TO CHRIST

November 2023 Newsletter

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The Way - Steps to Christ is Moving Forward!



“Nevertheless at Thy word I will let down the net.”

This past month has taken us through a time of great wrestling with God. His Word has rebuked me, comforted me, and encouraged me beyond that which I am worthy. This month's newsletter contains passages the Lord inspired me to read - and to understand how to apply it in my life. As you read, it is my prayer the Spirit of God speaks directly to your heart, that you hear His voice saying, “Launch out into the deep, and let down your nets for a draught” Luke 5:4. If you do, I know you will be blessed beyond measure...

*Night was the only favorable time for fishing with nets in the clear waters of the lake. After toiling all night without success, it seemed hopeless to cast the net by day; but Jesus had given the command, and love for their Master moved the disciples to obey. Simon and his brother together let down the net. As they attempted to draw it in, so great was the quantity of fish enclosed that it began to break. **They were obliged to summon James and John to their aid.** When the catch was secured, both the boats were so heavily laden that they were in danger of sinking. – {DA 246.1}*

*But Peter was unmindful now of boats or lading. This miracle, above any other he had ever witnessed, was to him a manifestation of divine power. In Jesus he saw One who held all nature under His control. The presence of divinity revealed his own unholiness. Love for his Master, shame for his own unbelief, gratitude for the condescension of Christ, above all, the sense of his uncleanness in the presence of **infinite** purity, overwhelmed him. While his companions were securing the contents of the net, Peter fell at the Saviors feet, exclaiming, "Depart from me; for I am a sinful man, O Lord." – {DA 246.2}*

Even although we had witnessed the miracles of how the Lord had bought along our first two Clydesdales, it was the miracle of Hamish, our third Clydesdale that made the above passage personal for me (see the story of our Clydesdales below). I can completely relate to the disciple Peter - love for my Master, shame for my own unbelief, gratitude for the condescension of Christ, and above all, the sense of my uncleanness in the presence of infinite purity. Yes it overwhelmed me!

Through the miracle of Hamish, Christ was revealing to me what He was about to do. He was asking me to leave all my doubts, my fears, my inabilities, my thoughts, my ways, and follow Him! He wants me to be surrendered completely, every moment, every day. He wants me to be bold and not be concerned about what people may think, or worried about making people feel uncomfortable. He wants me to share the blessing of this entire project (to let down thy net). He wants me to ask others to assist and contribute so they too can be abundantly blessed (remember James and John helping to pull the overflowing net into the boat). But above all He wants me to trust that He will do this work in me and through me, and will change me into the likeness of His image and for His glory! Hallelujah!

It was the same presence of divine holiness that had caused the prophet Daniel to fall as one dead before the angel of God. He said, "My comeliness was turned in me into corruption, and I retained no strength." So when Isaiah beheld the glory of the Lord, he exclaimed, "Woe is me! for I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips: for mine eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts." Daniel 10:8; Isaiah 6:5. Humanity, with its weakness and sin, was brought in contrast with the perfection of divinity, and he felt altogether deficient and unholy. Thus it has been with all who have been granted a view of God's greatness and majesty. – {DA 246.3}

*Peter exclaimed, "Depart from me; for I am a sinful man;" yet he clung to the feet of Jesus, feeling that he could not be parted from Him. The Savior answered, "Fear not; from henceforth thou shalt catch men." **It was after Isaiah had beheld the holiness of God and his own unworthiness that he was entrusted with the divine message. It was after Peter had been led to self-renunciation and dependence upon divine power that he received the call to his work for Christ.** – {DA 246.4}*

***Before asking them to leave their nets and fishing boats, Jesus had given them the assurance that God would supply their needs.** The use of Peter's boat for the work of the gospel had been richly repaid. He who is "rich unto all that call upon Him," has said, "Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over." Romans 10:12; Luke 6:38. In this measure He had rewarded the disciple's service. And every sacrifice that is made in His ministry will be recompensed according to "the exceeding riches of His grace." Ephesians 3:20; 2:7. – {DA 249.1}*

Friends, that's what He wants from all of us . . . a complete surrender and trust in Him. Not only our hearts and minds, but also our skills, our talents, our time, our means, EVERYTHING! He wants to bless us beyond that which we can imagine. He wants to make us fishers of men . . . are you ready to give **all** and be **filled** with His Spirit?

During that sad night on the lake, when they were separated from Christ, the disciples were pressed hard by unbelief, and weary with fruitless toil. But His presence kindled their faith, and brought them joy and success. So it is with us; apart from Christ, our work is fruitless, and it is easy to distrust and murmur. But when He is near, and we labor under His direction, we rejoice in the evidence of His power. It is Satan's work to discourage the soul; it is Christ's work to inspire with faith and hope. – {DA 249.2}

The deeper lesson which the miracle conveyed for the disciples is a lesson for us also,—that He whose word could gather the fishes from the sea could also impress human hearts, and draw them by the cords of His love, so that His servants might become “fishers of men.” – {DA 249.3}

They were humble and unlearned men, those fishers of Galilee; but Christ, the light of the world, was abundantly able to qualify them for the position for which He had chosen them.

Now consider this . . .

There was a time when there were but few who listened to and embraced the truth, and they had not much of this world's goods. Then it was necessary for some to sell their houses and lands, and obtain cheaper, while their means were freely lent to the Lord to publish the truth, and otherwise aid in advancing the cause of God. These self-sacrificing ones endured privations; but if they endure unto the end, great will be their reward. – {CS 215.1}

God has been moving upon many hearts. The truth for which a few sacrificed so much has triumphed, and multitudes have laid hold of it. In the providence of God, those who have means have been brought into the truth, that, as the work increases, the wants of His cause may be met. God does not now call for the houses His people need to live in; but if those who have an abundance do not hear His voice, cut loose from the world, and sacrifice for God, He will pass them by, and will call for those who are willing to do anything for Jesus, even to sell their homes to meet the wants of the cause. God will have freewill offerings. Those who give must esteem it a privilege to do so.—The Review and Herald, September 16, 1884. – {CS 215.2}

This entire Steps to Christ project will reach millions of souls for the Kingdom. The Lord has promised this. It's a project that continues till the end of time, which we all know is so very near. Many of you may be wondering if we met our financial deadline at the end of October? Well the short answer is no we didn't. BUT we can say this, God has supplied a grace period that is almost up and He did bring a donation along to cover this grace period. So we are still in great need but not in despair. God never fails! You may find it challenging to know exactly what God wants you to do with your funds, or where best to place them so He can use it for His glory. Some will hang on to their savings - not because they're greedy. Rather they're worried they may need it later on - for an emergency or some other need. Can I encourage you to step out in faith and trust God? Ask Him for the courage to give according to His leading and direction and trust that He will continue to supply all your needs. This may seem like an easy thing to say but we know well what it's like to live by faith. As a family, we have so many testimonies of how God has supplied our every need - and it always comes right on time!

We have not a minute to lose. It is with urgency that we plead for those who are able to give generously to this amazing evangelistic opportunity. No matter how little or great, it all goes to His work - it's all for the Glory of God! Our immediate needs are now \$200,000 USD. The overall budget for this entire project is over \$10 million USD.

God is going to test **ALL** of us . . .

To Matthew in his wealth, and to Andrew and Peter in their poverty, the same test was brought; the same consecration was made by each. At the moment of success, when the nets were filled with fish, and the impulses of the old life were strongest, Jesus asked the disciples at the sea to leave all for the work of the gospel. So every soul is tested as to whether the desire for temporal good or for fellowship with Christ is strongest. – {CS 216.1}

Principle is always exacting. No man can succeed in the service of God unless his whole heart is in the work, and he counts all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ. No man who makes any reserve can be the disciple of Christ, much less can be His co-laborer. When men appreciate the great salvation, the self-sacrifice seen in Christ's life will be seen in theirs. Wherever He leads the way, they will rejoice to follow.—The Desire of Ages, 273. – {CS 216.2}

Be encouraged my brother's and sisters, Christ is very near. Let's all do what we can to hasten His return.

In His service,

Nicole

Powerful New Testimony!



It has now been filmed!

This unbelievable testimony is now in the edit room.

Coming Soon . . .

A Miracle Team Is Created!

This news article provides an update on the third part of our project - The Life. The Life will see a team of horses pull an old wagon displaying a 9 foot Daniel 2 statue. This spectacular display will travel from town to town heralding the imminent return of Jesus.

When God created the beasts of the field He gave His special touch to each and every one. But there was one animal in particular that carries a splendor and majesty that is hard to turn away from . . . the Clydesdale!

From their powerful, enormous bodies, long flowing mane, striking white feather stockings, soft eye, and the most placid kind nature, it's no wonder they are known as the gentle giants of the horse world. Australia was built on the back of these amazing creatures. They were our war horses, our work horses, and our ever trusty steed. Our country owes a lot to this majestic animal as I'm sure do many other countries around the world.

With this in mind we understand why God has chosen such a special breed of horse to be part of His end time message. God chose the Clydesdale for such a time as this!

We would like to introduce three of our Clydesdale team. As we do, keep in mind we had no part in naming them. Their names were given by their original owners who are to the best of our knowledge not believers . . . yet!

Marise - meaning infinite, everlasting. This Sydney Royal Show Grand Champion mare is 7 years old. A 17 hand high gentle loving girl who will take affection all day long, yet is willing to do all the work asked of her. She has come to us by the clear direction of God's hand. Marise is an exceptionally rare mix of temperament, youth, beauty, and ability. She was never going to be sold, but her owner responded to our message, indicating she would be willing to sell. Our agreement to purchase Marise started our search for more Clydesdales who could match the quality of this magnificent horse. The bar was set exceptionally high. Could we find any more?

Hope. This precious 2 year old girl was a complete surprise for us. Once again she was not for sale. However, after a conversation with her wonderful owners, the Lord convicted us we were to request to purchase this charming filly. It was an incredibly difficult decision for her owners. Others had already requested to purchase Hope but their offers had been declined. For reasons that only the Lord knows, through tears it was agreed that Hope would become ours. She will become a vital part of the team when she is fully grown and trained. Born under the promise of a rainbow, we have Hope.

Hamish. Wow, his story is truly unbelievable! About 9 months ago I stumbled upon a photo of a beautiful horse - he seemed perfect. As much as a picture could tell, he ticked all the boxes. I promptly sent this internet picture to an acquaintance in our Clydesdale circle asking if he knew the horse and owner. His response was not what I wanted. "Yes," he replied. "That's Hamish and 1 million dollars wouldn't buy him. He's an exceptional horse and his owner will not part with him." His answer didn't surprise me. Over the time we have been searching, we learnt very quickly that a high quality, well trained, gentle, patient horse was extremely hard to find. Quality foals are not common - and the owners of the grown and trained horses have put so much effort into them. They just don't part with them and who could blame them!

Well, approximately 3 weeks ago I received a message from the owner of Hamish (our acquaintance had given her my number). **She wondered if we would be interested in buying Hamish!** An amazingly spectacular, almost 17 hand, 6 year old gelding. This handsome boy is not only a Royal show winner, but

has been used to visit the sick in hospitals and nursing homes. He has brought joy and love to all who come near him.

Well, I'm sure you could imagine my jaw dropped. Her message was a direct answer to prayer. There was no coincidence or chance. It could only be explained by the super natural hand of a loving God. We had been continually praying for the Lord to bring another perfect Clydesdale to us. All our avenues of enquiry seemed exhausted. We had no idea where to continue looking - there seemed to be no more to choose from in Australia. We thought we'd have to look overseas. Praise God from whom all blessings flow!

The name Hamish is of Scottish origin where the Clydesdale breed originated. His name is borrowed from the Hebrew name "Jacob". This is significant and extremely special. Amongst other reasons, the Lord blessed us with Hamish as a reminder of the struggle He was bringing me through. I was wrestling with God as never before. I could not see how He was going to bring this project to reality. So like Jacob, the result of that struggle was blessing upon blessing in so many ways. My Father in heaven provided Hamish (which means holder of the heel) so He could always remind me to never let go of my Savior. I must surrender all and hold on tight as only then can I receive the blessings He longs to give me. I need to trust that He will do what He has said He will.

I'm sure you'll agree these names are significant. We know God Himself has chosen these majestic animals to form an important part in the distribution of His last day message. Their names reveal a testimony. As they go from town to town and draw attention to the One and Only true living God, they too will be a witness to His power to change the lives of all who choose to come unto Him - the Author and Finisher of our salvation.

Make sure you keep an eye out for our next newsletter where we introduce more of the Clydesdale team.

If you want to be part of the next miracles, please pray and ask the Lord what He wants you to do to assist in this incredible project.

Thank you for all of your prayers, encouragement, and financial support.

God's abundant blessings to you.



Marise



Hope



Hamish

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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