



BIBLEWAY MINISTRIES

MAKING A DIFFERENCE—THE BIBLE WAY



November 2015

Volume 10, Number 4

BEST OF BIBLEWAY

What's better than two encouraging articles in one month? How about *five*? For this month's Newsletter, we're bringing you all the best of Bibleway. Enjoy our personal favorites from the past year. Simply click the image to read

each article. (By the way, if your favorite article didn't make our list, don't worry: all of our published articles are available by topic right [here](#). Please tell us about your favorite article and why it's special to you [here](#). Who knows? We might include it in another "Best Of" edition.)



A stuffed giraffe's vacation adventure at the Ritz-Carlton hotel provides a powerful lesson to believers about creating the Ritz Experience for the people who cross

our paths.



thefts, and arson in the wake of Freddie Gray's death. Here's how the Church can spearhead efforts to move forward. . . .

The city of Baltimore has experienced a string of violence, rioting,



When Dylann Roof sat through a prayer meeting and then opened fire on members of the Emanuel A.M.E. church, killing nine people, the nation mourned. In three words, however, the church members showed the

world the greatness of Christianity. . . .



The foundations of our world are being shaken. What are Christians to make of cultural changes and the pressures associated with them? Hint: Quitting isn't an option.



In August, Michael Jordan successfully sued Dominick's for \$8.9 million. Christians can learn a thing or two from the basketball legend's concept of personal branding.

NO **Crisis** PLEASE!



No Crisis, Please! I'm doing fine with the problems that I already have. The word "crisis" comes from a word that means "decision." The same Greek word is often translated "judgment." The crisis of belief is a turning point where you must make a decision. You must decide what you believe about God. How you respond at this turning

point will determine whether you go on to be involved with God in something God-sized that only He can do, or whether you will continue to go your own way and miss what God has purposed for your life. This is not a one-time experience. It is a daily experience. How you live your life is a testimony of what you believe about God.

When we observe God's work around us and realize we are invited to become a part of it, we experience the point of crisis that leads us to a deeper faith relationship with God. Our faith does not rest in a concept or an idea. Faith must be in a PERSON — God Himself. Faith is only valid in God and what He says He is purposing to do to carry it out. If the thing you expect to happen is from you and not God, then you must depend on what you can do. But if you are expecting your breakthrough to come from God, then you must depend on Him.

Once you are sure of God's direction, remember that with only a mustard-seed sized faith in God, nothing is impossible. Our faith must be based on God's power and not human wisdom. Without a firm faith, you will stumble and fall.

When there is a crisis, we may not completely understand our struggle. Job did not understand why everything he owned was destroyed, why his children were killed, and why he developed sores all over his body (Job 1-2). He wrestled with his circumstances. He did not know what was happening from God's perspective. He had not read the last chapter of his life where God was going to restore his property, his family, and his health. But in going through his crisis, his life became a testimony of God's faithfulness. This testimony is still used by members of the Body of Christ (the Church) during those times in life when things feel out of control.

I was speaking with a dear sister who struggled with a condition that challenged her faith. As she spoke about her struggle she said, "It has enabled me to share with others who have the same condition." No one likes going through a crisis; but if you stop for a few moments

and trust God to not only bring you through, but to use your crisis to His glory, it may be that the very pains of your struggle become a source of encouragement for others going through a similar experience.

I still want to say, "No crisis, please!" But if God wants to use my pain as a source of encouragement for someone else, then I say, "Bring it on!" After all, it has been the pains of others that have encouraged me when I needed encouragement the most! Praise God! - Dr. L.W. Edwards



Contact Dr. Edwards if you would like to have him as your special guest.

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