

# THE INSIDE RUNNING

The miracle of salvation and transformation to becoming like Christ is often difficult for our natural minds to comprehend, but it truly is incredible.

The day-to-day worries and concerns try to drag us back from living in the victory and joy that He has given us. Yet our satisfaction and peace is in our identity as sons (and daughters) of God.

Promise Keepers' mission is to be part of transforming men – and men transforming the world. That comes out of each person's relationship with God. As we walk into all that He has for us, we can give more out to others.

The team has been focused on the call God has on our lives as we prepare for this year's Events – *The Call*. The plan He has for us really is to give us a hope and a future.

Please share this hope with others. The men you bring to Promise Keepers are the men that we have the opportunity to impact and help to create a lasting legacy of their own.

Let's work together.



*John*

John Subritzky

# Saved by Grace

April 2013

## The Good News for Our Family and Friends

by Lew Meyer

The meaning of the word "gospel" is simply good news. Everyone should like good news. But today people are frequently apathetic towards it or downright repulsed by it. Even in many Christians there are negative feelings towards the word because it brings that guilty feeling that tells them "I have not been evangelising enough".

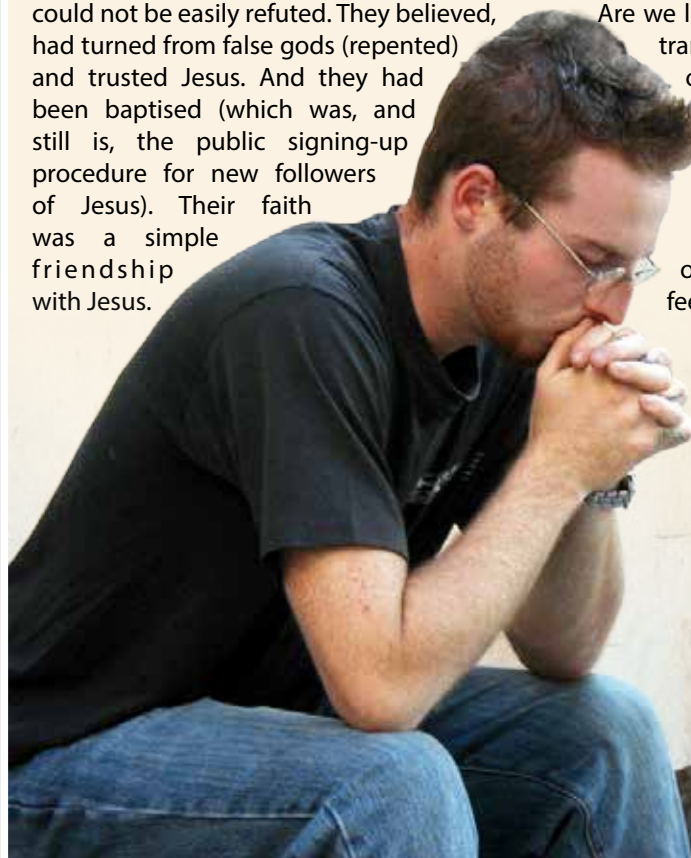
There are many evangelism courses, and most of them have good stuff in them. But have you considered that the first Christian believers we read about in the New Testament didn't seem to need seminars on how to share the good news? Yet the message spread throughout most of the Roman world in a few decades. What were their simple secrets? Here are some suggestions.

**Firstly, their faith was simple.** There were people around who had seen the resurrected Jesus personally so the facts could not be easily refuted. They believed, had turned from false gods (repented) and trusted Jesus. And they had been baptised (which was, and still is, the public signing-up procedure for new followers of Jesus). Their faith was a simple friendship with Jesus.

**Secondly, their lives were dramatically changed.** They had the Holy Spirit within them and were living in His power. Their lives were not perfect, but they were authentic. One of the greatest hindrances to winning our families for Christ is that they see what we are *really* like. We can put on a great show of piety at church. We can sing in glorious, euphoric joy with our eyes closed and our hands raised towards heaven. But our wives and children see what we are really like. Our friends and workmates also know the real us.

Are we living and walking in the life-transforming power of the Spirit of Jesus? Is our moment-by-moment friendship with Jesus so real it changes us and is making us like Him? Are we taking our rightful place as leaders by serving our wives and children so they feel safe and attracted to Jesus in us? Nothing inhibits our family and friends coming to Jesus so much as when we preach it but do not live it.

Authentic Christianity, with Jesus truly enthroned as Lord of all we are, is the most powerful evidence for Christianity. The Lord tells us through Peter how to get authentic. >





➤ "But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect."

(1 Peter 3:15)

This is the winning combination:

- 1) Jesus in charge;
- 2) equipped to answer questions about faith; and
- 3) a gentle, respectful approach.

**Thirdly, their witness was not forced. It was natural.** They didn't have to know the best 7 techniques for sharing the gospel. It was their story. In every culture, people always tell and listen to stories. It was the story about what Jesus had done for them and was doing in them, and it was backed up by their lives. No one can refute this kind of story.

There are times to be straight and hard-hitting in sharing the gospel, but with family and friends who know us well, the humble approach is best. Kiwis do not like hard-sell. If we feel pressured in a shop, we will not usually go back. People may apparently make decisions, sometimes to get the preacher off their back, but they don't come to know Jesus personally, and that's what makes the difference.

Ripe fruit is not hard to pick. If the Holy Spirit is at work through us, winning people to Jesus can be natural. We need to be faithful and consistent in our witness. Walking in humility, not pride, will produce fruitfulness.

In the end, sharing the good news is a cooperative venture with us and the Holy Spirit. It is encouraging to know that He has used some pretty shaky but well-intentioned witnessing attempts to win some of the greatest believers in history. Keep praying. Let the gospel be a natural part of your life and conversation, and don't give up.

## What's on the DVD



### FEATURED SPEAKER:

**Peter Whaanga - Saved by Grace** Peter has a colourful history that led him to doing time in prison, and it was there that God powerfully touched him. Peter always engages the men when he speaks at Promise Keepers as he tells of his miraculous transformation when he accepted Jesus, alone in his cell. His story will inspire you and anyone you share this video with! 36 min

**DRAMA: Choose Life** The boys explore how God gives us life through salvation, and the basics of what being a Christian involves. 4 min

### BONUS FEATURES:

- **My Story: Adam White**  
Saved from a life going nowhere, God got Adam's attention in a big way. He moved on to 11 years' missionary work in India and is now a pastor. 12 min
- **PK Music: Our God is Greater** 3 min
- **Winning at Work: Tom O'Neil**  
Tom is working closely with Promise Keepers to empower men to reach their life and career goals. 13 min
- **The Call 2013 Event Promo** 1 min 20
- **Refreshed & Released Pastors' Conference Promo** 3 min
- **Tama Tane Malosi Samoan Event Promo** 1 min 40

### HUMOUR CLIPS:

Foam surprise; heavy-duty weed eater; distracted driver; bear rescue; world's fastest pram 4 min

### BETTER WORK STORIES:

Experimental C-130 Hercules test flight. This plane is a one-off modified model for short, rocket assisted take-offs and landings. Some days at work end better than other days though! 2 min

**DVD ROM** Access these using Windows Explorer (PC) or Command F (Mac)

### ARTICLES

Including: Brad Hambrick – Grief in Losses Not Caused by Death; Derek Prince – The First Mile (*Thanks to Derek Prince Ministries for supplying a hard copy of this article, sent with February WiseChoices*); Francis Frangipane – Come and See; Kevin Forlong – Parenting Legacy; Nikki Bray – Fun in Marriage; Ian Buckley – Living Within Your Income

### RESOURCES:

Including Bill Subritzky's booklet – Counselling Prayers; Weekly Studies for Men's Groups; *Break Free* 2012 Testimonies CHC & Men's Stories 2012 AKL; *The Call* 2013 Event Advance Brochures; *Refreshed & Released Pastors' Conference Brochure*; Study Questions – Peter Whaanga; Bible Reading Plans

**MP3s:** Including Derek Prince – Entrance into God's Kingdom 58 min; Tony Evans – Kingdom Man 40 min **PKUSA Classic:** Glenn Wagner – Brothers! Calling All Men into Vital Relationships 40 min **PNZ Classics:** Nick Tuitasi – I Surrender All 32 min; Nick Field – Known by Name 40 min

**PROMISE #1**

A Promise Keeper is committed to honouring Jesus Christ through worship, prayer and obedience to God's Word in the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Next Issue: FRIENDSHIP**

# THE CALL

**Men's Events 2013 - book early!**  
0800 PROMISE (77 66 47)

Christchurch 23-24 August  
Wellington 13-14 September  
Auckland 4-5 October



Tools to encourage and equip pastors. This will be a time to grow together and come to a great place in God.

Christchurch 16-17 April  
Wellington 18-19 April  
Auckland 1-2 May

For more info visit [www.promisekeepers.org.nz](http://www.promisekeepers.org.nz).



**Register today!**