



# the INFORMER newsletter

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | PCAI FELLOWSHIP | JULY 2019

## LEADERS EMRACE LIFE FULLY THROUGH ACCURATE ASSESSMENT

By Dr. Henry A. Harbuck / PCAI Int'l President and General Overseer

Have you honestly tried to evaluate yourself, your motives, your traits, your personality, and how you relate to others? If your answer is “no,” you might be headed for trouble. Success and happiness in life are assured if you will take time to assess yourself. Some people tend to avoid self-assessment because they may need to make changes.

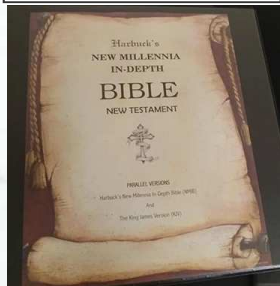
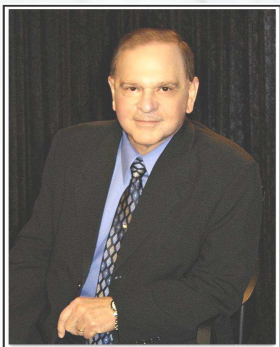
How do you see yourself? Are you too critical of yourself? Learn to love yourself

with the kind of love that doesn't lead to arrogance, but to humility.

Much of your final conclusions concerning personal assessment will be determined by how you see God. Do you see Him as a brutal, harsh, judgmental God of anger and hate? Or do you see Him as a loving, compassionate, non-judgmental Father who wants the best for you? Once you honestly assess yourself accurately, then take appropriate action to rid yourself of doubts and fears.♥♥

**2 Corinthians 13:5 (New Millennia In-depth Bible)**  
*“[You must] evaluate yourselves and put yourselves to the test to learn whether you are in the faith—(that is, belong to Christ—or are holding on to your faith—or are a genuine believer). You must prove or test yourselves and not test Christ! Or do you not fully understand and realize for yourselves that Jesus Christ is in you, unless you are disapproved and disavowed [to be genuine Christians]?”*

**BIBLE NOW AVAILABLE (Notebook Style)!**  
**Give a donation of \$45.00 to PCAI.**



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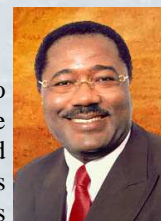
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OFFICE HOURS :  
9:00AM to 4:00PM



# Balance Between Life and Spiritual Ambition

By Dr. Daniel O.C./Deeper Life Christian Centre, Singapore Senior Pastor



Poverty is usually the co-partner of laziness. You never know what you can do until you try. There are three ingredients for a good life: Learning, Earning and Yearning. I am not what I ought to be, I am not what I wish to be, and by the grace of God, I am not what I used to be.

There are many people in the world today who have their eyes set on a single ambition: a career. They do whatever it takes to develop it to make them have a good life. Thus,

they neglect their spiritual quest. There are also some people who are so heavenly-minded they are of no earthly use. There are many people in this world who major in the minor and minor in the major. God is calling His Church for a balance. Jesus taught us balance. He made us understand what balance means. When He was on earth, He preached to great multitudes. He gave them not only spiritual food but also physical food. Many Pentecostal, Evangelical, and Charismatic denominations

usually emphasize giving spiritual food whereas the traditional churches lay much more emphasis on physical welfare such as food and clothing, and neglect the spiritual. These practices are not well balanced.

Most people do not know how to balance their life and spiritual ambition. They have neglected their prayer time, devotion time and Bible reading because of the development of their career. It is saddening and

embarrassing to remark that the Almighty God has promised us good success and progress, but still many people are not succeeding in their life pursuit of knowing the Lord. Some people do not even carry their Bible to church because they are ashamed of it.

Joshua 1:8

This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but

*Continued on page 3*

## Be Careful of 100% Claims

*(Church Law & Tax excerpt)*

Key Point... Donors who make designated contributions to a church may be legally entitled to a return of their contributions if not used for the designated purpose.

A federal district court in Arkansas allowed a group of 185,000 donors to move forward with a class-action lawsuit against a missions agency for allegedly violating its repeated assurance to donors that their designated contributions would be spent "100%" for the designated purposes chosen by the donors. A US-based Christian Missionary Organization (the Defendant) worked mostly in Asia. To fulfill its charitable purposes, the defendant solicits donations from donors across the world. Each year more than one million unique donations are made to the Defendant from tens of thousands of donors in the US. The Defendant then works with its overseas agents to ensure that the designated money reaches its intended purposes in Asia (the field).

To maintain its ability to send sufficient funds to the field, the Defendant arranges fundraising

itches in several mediums, including in-person solicitations at churches in the US, on its own website, and through advertising efforts on social media and in various mailings and radio broadcasts.

Because the needs of the poor in Asia are so many, the Defendant allows potential donors to specify for what purpose their field donations will be spent. For instance, donors who give online or in response to catalogs may direct their donations to any of 179 different donation categories. Donors make these designations by either checking boxes on order forms or, if ordering online, by adding the item (which lists the corresponding price) to their shopping cart. At other times, the Defendant directly solicits donations for particular items such as "emergency grams" sent in the wake of natural disasters and advertisements sent around the holidays asking for donations for blankets.

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## Vacation Bible School Ready?

*(Christian Law Association excerpt)*

While your community at this point may know you have a VBS every year, does your insurance company know? While vital, VBS does bring substantial risks as you and your volunteers assume care for dozens of children's well-being. Is every single one of your volunteers, even the registration helper and snack helper, properly trained and background checked?

Many insurance companies now require background checks as a prerequisite for certain policies. It is also very important to ensure that you have proper coverage for all planned recreational activities at VBS. Are you renting a bounce house? Don't assume your general liability policy will automatically provide coverage for a child who breaks an ankle while playing inside the bounce house.

Take the time today to call you agent and walk him through all the special activities you are planning. Don't let your ministry fall into the nightmare of discovering that there was no coverage only after an injury has occurred. □

**Balance Between...** from page 2

you shall meditate on it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.

In order to succeed in our pursuit, these Six Commands of Obedience must be observed:

We must be strong and of good courage, Joshua 1:6-9. We need the strength of God in everything that we pursue in life.

We must give the Word of God the first priority (Joshua 1:7). We must set our priorities right. The Word of God must be the first priority in everything that we do.

We must not turn away from the Word of God. This is the key to success. Keep your eyes on the Word of God.

The Word of God must not depart from us (Joshua 1:8). In all that we do, we must allow the Word of God to guide us.

We must not be afraid. (Joshua 1:9). Fear is the greatest enemy of our lives. Therefore do not be afraid.

We must not be dismayed. We must not be discouraged even when we have failed. We might be knocked down but not knocked out. The downfall of someone is not the end of his/her life.

Many people who have failed in their pursuit have resigned to fate or deny the faith by saying that God Almighty no longer cares. God did not plan for anyone to fail. It is not the will of God for anyone to be defeated. He has given us victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Some of the people who failed have been deceived by the devil into thinking that it was God who caused their failure. These people have become lukewarm. They are like clouds without rain. They are no longer what they used to be. The truth is that the cause of their failure is their inability to strike a proper balance between their physical life ambition and spiritual pursuit. Failure to strike a proper balance between these two competing challenges often results in tragic life ambition, failure and unfulfilled spiritual life and ministry. You are the enemy of yourself when you fail to balance your life and spiritual ambition. Good success is simply a product of a balanced life. There are many people who work till they are exhausted without any rest and without eating the fruits of their labor. The other extreme are those who do not work and claim that Jesus is coming soon. These are lazy people who do not want to work. They always give excuses for not working. ♥

## Taylor: God give us faith as we enter this new era

*By Rev. Michael Taylor/Religion Columnist*



As we enter this new era there are some things we can learn and understand from the Bible. Many, I believe, are in the situation in life similar to what the Israelites experienced at the parting of the Red Sea. Many of us, myself included, have moved on from the past and now find ourselves at the river's edge not knowing our next move into this new season of our life.

If you remember from the Old Testament, Israel had escaped Egypt and Pharaoh only to find themselves at the Red Sea with no apparent way to cross over. Doesn't it always seem we can get out of one bad situation in life only to find ourselves right back into another bad situation? The Israelites escaped from Pharaoh but could not fully get free until they crossed over and got to their new season living in the promised land.

If you remember the story and how it ends, Moses lifted up the rod in his hand over the sea and the sea divided. God caused a miracle to occur using Moses and the people of Israel who crossed over on dry ground to the other side. God also caused Pharaoh and his army to pursue the Israelites then the water returned and covered everything, the chariots, the horsemen, and all the army. The Israelites were now free to enter into what would be a new era in their life.

Would it not be great if we could all fully escape the past and move into this new era with a fresh start and leave all our previous troubles behind us? I do believe it's possible, but we must do it God's way. We do our part, but only God can do the miraculous. For some its going to take a miracle to get fully into what you have seen for yourself and your family going forward.

Many problems and challenges come our way every day. It's just part of living this life on Earth. God's word, however, tells us that He is faithful to bring us out of any trouble we find ourselves in. It's going to take faith in God. Fear immobilizes but God can give us faith to overcome our fear. Faith is not the absence of fear; faith just overtakes fear when we step out and if we have to, we just do it though we're afraid. I am sure the Israelites had great fear as they crossed over the sea not knowing if the water would suddenly return and drown them all. God will surprise us and encourage us each new step if we take towards our future goals. These are destiny times and moments we are living in. The Bible says "the just " shall live by faith. We cannot please God without faith. As we enter this new era together, we must find ways to overcome our fear.

These are challenging times in which we live. Life is speeding up and many things are changing. It's not fully clear yet what is ending. We just all sense a new beginning has started. The greatest generation is passing away. What will be our legacy? I pray with God's help and mercy we will know what to do and how to do it.

We don't always need great faith, just to do the next thing on the list and watch how God works. I pray as we enter this new era that we all fully crossover into the new. I pray all our troubles are defeated and we find rest for our souls.♥

**Be Careful of 100%... from page 2**

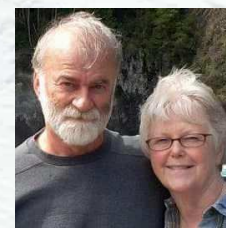
Several donors sued the Defendant in a federal district court in Arkansas, claiming that the defendant was not spending designated contributions consistently with donors' designations. The donors alleged that whether solicitations for contributions were made by the Defendant or its agents at in-person church presentations, through catalog mailings, on its website, or in radio presentations, the Defendant included a similar promise to its donors that 100 percent of the money given by donors would be sent to the field and spent in accordance with the donor's wishes, rather than being applied to cover administrative costs or overhead. Moreover, every donor received receipts that contained a representation that "100%" of all contributions designated for use on the mission field are sent to the mission field.

The lawsuit centers on claims that, despite these numerous representations, the Defendant did not, in fact, spend designated donations in accordance with the donors' wishes or with the Defendant's representations. The parties agree that approximately \$375 million in donations are at issue. As a result, the donors asserted a number of claims against the Defendant, including Civil RICO (Racketeer Influence), fraud, unjust enrichment, and a state law claim. For its Civil RICO fraud, and unjust enrichment claims, the donors attempted to bring a class-action suit seeking monetary damages for about 185,000 donors nationwide who were affected by the alleged failure of the Defendant to apply designated contributions in the manner specified by donors.

The court certified the donors' proposed nationwide class for the Civil RICO claim but limited the class for the fraud and unjust enrichment claims to donors residing in Arkansas. □

# I Can Almost Hear the Trumpet!!!

By Robert Thornhill



"For she said, "If only I may touch His clothes, I shall be made well."" Mark 5:28 (NKJV) This poor woman was so bold in her faith that Jesus would heal her that she risked her very life to touch the hem of His garment, and the rest is as they say, history, or Scripture. A desperate woman stepped out in faith to receive her healing and a miracle occurred; not because of a bold minister, but because of her boldness.

Many 21st Century, Western Christians have developed (or lapsed into) a state of apathy in regards to their public expression of their faith outside the walls of their local church. Boldness of faith is necessary in the expression of the holiness that Christians (all Christians) are called to pursue (Hebrews 12:14); not only in taking advantage of opportunities to tell others about Jesus, but especially in showing them Jesus through their actions. The Christian life (and ministry) is less about shouting from the street corner that we are all sinners; and more about walking alongside them in order to show them Who Jesus is, and that He loves them. It takes courage and determination to use our faith in order to help others; that is who we are called to be. Our faith is not a commodity to be preserved; it is a gift to be used at every opportunity; faith increases with each use; God takes care of that.

Where should we be bold in our faith? We may not be called to China, or Africa, but I promise you that we Christians are all called to the grocery store, the restaurant, the school, our workplace, and to our local Church. We are called to "boldly go" where no man has gone before! I can also promise you that you can never go where God is not already working; we are not explorers paving the way for God; He has paved the way for us and miracles await those who will boldly follow Him. ♥

