

Thursday AM

By: Dan Griffith

[00:00:00.430]

You know, I've been married to her for 27 years in July. And you'll get to hear more about that a little bit later. But, you know, yesterday thank you. Whatever student came up to me and said, oh, consistency. Thank you for teaching is about consistency. That is so nice of you, because that was the theme of yesterday. And then I realized I would not be a very mean professor. I'd be nothing like Dr. Bruce. Now. Is anybody taking Dr. Bose? Yeah, baby. He's probably a lot like our Dr. Lawrence, he used to give you \$20 if you can ace his exam because I would tell you the answers. I couldn't do it.

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So yesterday was consistency, today is perspective, and tomorrow is theology. But then I realized a lot of you guys are going to leave, so we need to talk a little bit about theology somewhere in there. But life is about consistency. Do you know you don't even have to be good at what you do. You just have to keep doing it over and over again.

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(Are you in the military? Oh, you don't? But I thought you were military. My wife saw you over there. We usually pick our military fellas out. We work with the military downtown.) Over and over again. You don't have to be really good at it. You just have to be good 51% of the time. In fact, in our ministry, we started making food. Now, my wife is a wonderful cook for four or ten, maybe 20, but when you go cook for 100, it's a little different.

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And when you get a little guy coming up to you and go, honey, if you soak those beans a little longer, us guys without teeth might be able to eat them. And we just kept at it. And we kept at it. And finally, one of the people from Cedar Mill Bible Church up in the West Hills in the rich area of Portland came up and said, oh, for crying out loud, let me make the food. And they did, and they took over the ministry. And they serve 13,000 meals a year. They served last night 100 meals. And we serve all these little mentally ill fellows. You don't have to be really good at something. You just got to do it over and over again.

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And then let God change who you are. Let him change your perspective. Read the Bible. You guys have Bibles? Do you read them? That was Dr. Mitchell, the founder of Multnomah. That was his thesis, don't you read your Bibles anymore? That's what happened to me. You take a hoodlum like me, and you make them a Christian and you hand them a book and you start reading. And guess what it says over and over and over again is about the poor and the needy and the orphan and the widow. It's about justice. It's about mercy. It's about compassion. Then our Lord comes and what does he do? He does justice, mercy, and compassion. He's kind to the orphan and the widow. He heals. He's the prophet that healed the blind. He had compassion on other people.

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Jesus Christ came. We're to be his example. Our theme is Isaiah. Now, Isaiah is my favorite prophet. Isaiah was part of my master's thesis. I love Isaiah. But guess what? Isaiah begins in Exodus, and it ends in the end. I know there's another book of head of Exodus and Mike, don't freak out there. But the Exodus starts about the orphan in the widow and the law and stuff like that. We do have a book called Genesis.

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Guess what? Have you ever read James? Anybody know the book of James? Another one of my favorite books James, is called by the theologian, the Straw Epistle. Meaning it didn't have a lot of theology in it, not a lot of complexity. It was really simple. Who was James? Does anybody know who's James? James was Jesus' what? Brother. He hung out with this dude. They did things together. If Jesus ever wrote a book that we knew he wrote, it would sound like James. And the Bible teaches us over and over and over again about compassion. And you don't have to be good at it. And guess what? Simplicity. It is so simple. Remember yesterday we held up these socks? Thank you for leaving them. I mean, I know your college students probably if I was here out of raided these things. Socks are important.

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Change your life by changing a man's socks. Change your life by changing a man's underwear. See, the streets are filled with single men. And the reason is now we do have our street ladies, and street ladies don't like nobody, like that street lady yesterday, she's dangerous. If you see her on campus, watch out. But there's a lot of single guys, and I bother this poor guy. I'm sorry. I humiliate people all the time. It's just kind of what I do.

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But we have guys that have served our country. They've fractured their soul for us, and they wander our streets because war is tough, and you can come up and comfort somebody so easy. You don't have to fix everything. Jesus does that. Isaiah 42 tells us this. It's the prophecy of Jesus fixing everything. But we can be compassionate. And then the most miraculous things happen. A phone call, a little note changes a man's life. We walk into a hospital room and a dear friend laying there.

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And at this point I'm going to hug him, and he says, I'm ready to go. Powerful words. I'm ready to go. Where are you going? It's funny when you stand at the door of eternity with somebody and you're right there and you're just about to see them ease off. You want to send them a note? Send help. Maybe I can look beyond the curtain as you go. A wonderful thing at the door of eternity. You get to go back, and everything stands still, and all the memories flood the room and all the things that finally brought us to Charlie saying, I'm ready to go.

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In missions, you brought that airplane in. It really changed my thinking because I read about that airplane and that's the reason I decided to go into missions. Read about Nate Saint, about the Elliot's. Extravagance. Read about the way he would spiral around and lower gifts. You know, he invented a thing they use in bush pilots today where they take a gallon of gasoline inject it into the manifold. So, if your carburetor rice is up, Nate Saint the man that flew that plane, it's

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kind of where we started our ministry. We drove up scared to death. We'd see a bunch of guys, we'd get a peg, a bunch of boxes of blankets, and shove them out and drive off in our yellow truck, extravagance. And you'll stand at the door of eternity and somebody saying, I'm ready to go.

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You know, in missions, you know, if you've made it, if you came into the person's humor in their personalities, if they were telling jokes with you. 20 minutes before that, Charlie calls me down, and he has these killer blue eyes and his thick black hair, and he wants to whisper something to me and everybody's in the room, the volunteers, my wife, my son, my daughter. That was his baby girl. See, Hannah grew up in the streets, and there's 400 guys that look like they come out of the Star Wars bar you have to get through to date her. I feel sorry for the fella, I know me as a dad, and then her second dad's, my oldest son, and then 400 gargoyle looking things you're going to have to get approval from to date Hannah.

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And we're standing there at the door of eternity, and 20 minutes before that, he pulls me down and he says, I won, I died with more hair than you. And I'm thinking, Charlie, is that when you got out all this? My bald head has been the wonderful experience of getting many people out of tickets. As you know, I wear a cowboy hat everywhere because people recognize me. And somebody came up and said, where's your cowboy hat? The problem with my cowboy hat is that when I wear it, I get tunnel vision.

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I get what's called policeman mind. It's when I start looking for the bad guy. And none of you look like you're going to go crazy on me here. You might. I mean, you may just came out of a Boose exam. I'm not too sure. Standing in a court, judge looks over the bench, Reverend Griffith, why is your client laughing at you? I said, well, your Honor, and he's bald, too, and my clients bald. I said, you know, I used to wear a cowboy hat, but of course I'm in court now with my client, and so I don't, and he doesn't know I'm bald. The judge starts laughing. Bailey starts laughing. Reporter starts laughing. He says, what do you want? I said, I want just some leniency here. He's in a program. He's doing great. Just get out of here. That's happened three times.

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He's laughing. You can't take life this seriously. We're here for just a moment, and as Charlie says, I'm ready to go. The room starts filling up with memories, remmies of people that affected our lives, apparitions and ghosts that have just brought us to where we're at. And we then go back in Charlie's life, and we go way back to when he was born in Alabama as a poor, very poor farm boy. Ten years old. He had a mule strap and a mule he would pull. At 17, he was 240 pounds, six foot four, all man, all mountain from Alabama. And so poor he didn't know there was segregation. Because when you really were poor in Alabama, that all the poor people go over here. We have a way in society of taking everyone that don't work and put them in one place. We find those in skid row.

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Charlie learned to read with a blowtorch, and he had the scars in his arm to show it where his dad would take the blowtorch and hit him with it when he got a word wrong. That can cause some problems with reading. Charlie's dad was a brutal alcoholic, and Charlie's mother loved him dearly. And at 17, he decided to get away, and he was going to go join the military and fight in Korea. Now, see, there's a problem. You take 240 pounds of muscle that can knock a mule out with a single punch, and you put him into a military, and you get a West Point lieutenant that's lived very kindly, and you have that West Point lieutenant start being up on your black friends. You might have to deal with the mountain man. And this lieutenant did, one punch, sent the lieutenant someplace else. It landed Charlie in Leavenworth, four years. Interesting how time will take us from over here to Leavenworth prison, where Charlie learned to tool leather.

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And then we get Charlie off the streets. And what he does for his rehab is he tools leather. This is one of thousands. I have a suitcase custom made to take. I have a saddle because 30 minutes before he told me about winning, a saddle was brought in, he was working at, he wanted to get it done before he died. And the leather maker that was helping him got all the silver on it. And it's beautiful. Entire groups of oncology have leather purses.

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I will walk into social service meetings. This is where my files fit in here. I can use it to look at notes, but I just lose my place. And they go, oh, is that making leather? I said, yeah. Hours he would spend on this. Entire youth groups have hairpieces. All our supporters at one time got a little leather. Did you guys get a little leather bookmark? Leavenworth prison. And Charlie gets

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out, and he's going to make something different with his life. He's going to work hard, and he does, and he buys himself a little MG. When he's driving along in his MG, he smashes right into a garbage truck. Now MG's have wooden handles. They don't allow these anymore. The handle busted off, went in his mouth, and came out his nose, and his face exploded, and he wasn't expected to live.

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And they take his face and just shove it back together. And it looked like that to this day, just a big, massive hole that was in his face. So not only is Charlie poor, not really good in society, but Charlie now is ugly. And I'm sorry, we're not in a society that's very kind to ugly people. But Charlie did not give up. And so, Charlie persevered. He worked hard. He worked in Oregon, moved from Alabama, went someplace different, got married. His soul was finally fractured when the love of his life died, and he ended up in the streets. See, Charlie, after the accident, laid in a hospital bed for six months.

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For two months, he was in a coma. He wasn't expected to live, but his mother prayed. His mother sat at his bedside and prayed. See, when you're simple people like us, you learn about the gospel that you want to have a friend that will never leave you. You want to go to heaven when you die. You want to be part of a family. These are good things. And Charlie as a young boy, VBS missions raised his hand and went forward and became a Christian at a very young age. So, his mom knew where he was going, but his mom knew there was something more for Charlie.

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So, in 1959, while Charlie laid there in that hospital bed and it took him three years from 1962, many things were happening, because, I believe, of a mother's prayers. In 1956, another hoodlum was born into a very rough family, a step off the reservation, a broken home. And then in 1959, another child was born, abducted, brought into a rough home. And as Charlie went through his life and became an alcoholic and ended up in the streets and just stayed down in skid row, the young hoodlum fella, traveled around with his family, getting into trouble, and the young lady traveled around with her family, but she didn't get as much trouble. All she did was long for her original family.

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Charlie lived in skid row and was cold and lonely and hungry. See, we figured out something problems. Not homelessness. The problem is loneliness. He's just lonely. Separation. The young man's family finally divorced, moved all over, split up, got back together. Very abusive. And one night, the young man rides his motorcycle, and as I get off and walk in there's this guy speaking up there and he's got this microphone in his hand and he said, at any moment, this microphone can drop to the ground, and I can be an eternity. Are you ready to go? I have never heard anything about the Gospel message whatsoever. I knew nothing about the Bible. I knew, do you have a Bible? Can I borrow that, Bible? I will bring it back, I promise. I just stole somebody's bible. You're a very...person. Nothing about this at all.

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So, David Wilkerson, his group that is working with street gangs in New York is now over in Northern California talking about Jesus Christ. And so, his counselor sends me off to this poor guy named Lon Allison. He was a Covenant youth pastor working at the YMCA. And now he runs evangelism department for the Covenant Church. Has me as a disciple, and he has no clue how to deal with hoodlums. So, he takes me to a Bible study. I don't know what that was, so I went, they handed me a Bible. First time holding the Bible. These are defective. Do you know Bibles are defective?

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Yeah. Turn to the Book of Psalms. So, I'm not even going to pretend I know where that's at. So, I go to the index. Do you know these indexes are not in alphabetical order? How can you find the book of Psalms? And then once I looked through all the s's and there's no s in here, the Psalms are puhsams. And that's where my journey as a Christian started. Now, the young lady ended up in Grass Valley, California at 14 and walked into a church called Calvary Bible. And there a family took her under her wing and became her family.

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I can't remember who I got this Bible from. Was it you? If I don't get it back, I'll keep it and accepts the Lord. The trouble is that the young man, the hoodlum drives into Calvary Bible Church. Now, the deal is when you're a new Christian and you've been raised rough and you did three things, remember? What are the three things my family did when I growing up? Play poker. We watch boxing. And how do we settle all our arguments? With a fist fight. Right. So, you have a growing up like that, you could be a little bit different. And I was. I had long hair. I had a big

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Camaro and it had loud pipes and had airplane tires on it. I didn't know you took your knife off. I always carried my knife.

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You walk into church like that, and you sit down right next to the young lady. But she became the darling of Calvary bible church. She's, our orphan. See, God loves orphans. God loves us orphans. I know that immensely because he writes about us a lot and it horrifies the leadership. What do we do? I mean, we're a nice church and there's a hoodlum sitting next to our darling. And they like each other. They fell in love. What do we do? The irony is, maybe we just need to know. We need to be consistent, and we need to get simple. We need to be compassionate and understand.

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So those two got married at a very young age. Horrifying do not do this. In fact, if you come to me for marriage counseling, do not follow our pattern. Lynn was 17. How many 17 here? Probably they're older. Older than that, aren't they? Are you all older than 17? Horrifying. It is amazing what God can do, because that very church that wouldn't let us get married in their place. Don't tell them. We're some of their senior missionaries. They were thrilled to death because the family that took her under a wing, he was a CHP. You know how I met him?

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Yeah. I was racing another Camaro and took out a bunch of mailboxes. Bob Blacksmith. He's, my dad. He's closest thing I got to a father. We were already dating. She wants me to meet her

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family and she's saying, this is the love of my life. And Bob turns around, big old CHP, we've met. How are you doing? Did you get those mailboxes replaced? Yes, I did, Bob. Horrifying and even if we're saying, oh, this marriage will never work, they stuck by us and stuck by us to this very day, their family. Isn't it amazing how God creates the most unlikely families? And then when we decided to go off into missions, it was so funny.

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I thought I was going to go into law enforcement. Well, see, their sons in law enforcement, Bobby is now in the FBI and Bob's retired CHP. Sheila calls up one day and says, no, please, I can't have another child worried about what they're going to do at night. So, we're going to go out to Multnomah and be missionaries. Great. Four days later, we found our mission field. Great. What is it? [inaudible 00:20:35], skid row, works with mentally ill, elderly, probation, drug addicts, prostitutes, stuff like that. Oh, we're thrilled. Yeah. Now we're missionaries. You're thrilled. Isn't it interesting how God creates the most unlikely families and as he brings us together, because we're now part of the family.

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And I'm standing there, and Charlie says, I'm ready to go, and the room fills up with [inaudible 00:20:59] in our mind and all the people that's brought this family together. What a change of life. And he dies and he's gone. That quick. See, us hoodlums love another thing. You ever heard about the story of the thief on the cross? See, we could sit here and exegete Isaiah 58, and we could talk about it in Hebrew, and we could talk about how you take the poor wandering homeless into the home. And you don't actually take them into the home, but you had a home

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that they would go into, because during the time you did, a lot of gleaning in the fields and things, and we can talk about those things, and then we can talk about Isaiah 61, about preaching the good news to the poor and see it in Luke again and the biblical theology of that. But guess what? The Thief on the Cross-story cuts through all that.

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The thief turned to him. What did he say? Dear Lord, I profess with my mouth that you are the Lord of Jesus Christ and I know about the Trinity, and I know, no, he just said, remember me. That's all I knew. Whoever this is, this is somebody he had some knowledge. Because during that time, a lot of information going about this Jesus fella. Remember me? And Jesus gives us a lot of theology in a very short amount of time. Today you'll be in paradise with me. We're dropped dead and go to heaven Christians. Charlie walked out, like Paul says, was absent from the body and present with the Lord. And until you've held somebody's hand as they cross that threshold, you're now authenticated as their minister.

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As we look back through life and we see again and again lives change by just being consistent and changing who we are, because who changes most in this deal? Who changes most? I do. I change most. Now, the very interesting, the streets, you got to understand that when Jesus Christ helped the poor and the needy, how many times did Jesus Christ do it for himself? I mean, if you're walking along, I'm man. I'm God. I'm man. And you're just walking along, and you see a person there, how many times was it just like you felt it? It's called compassion. How many were

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at the concert last night? Yeah, it's a great concert. And how many of us didn't feel, I want to go, I want to go help those kids. We did.

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And Jesus would see the lame person and heal him, his compassion again and again. And we find the most unlikely families. Do you know that as we were working downtown one day, a little man came up to us and he was this husky little fella named Clyde. Now, Clyde was a hoot. His men were retarded. Didn't that get to you? That really bothers me. You see a guy pushing a shot, he's mentally ill. He doesn't have any choice. He's eight years old. He's mentally ill, and he would sing a lot.

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And Clyde comes up to the window of the car and says, dear Lord, give these two beautiful baby girls to go with a baby boy. The two baby boys, because Johnny was a baby then, he was five and drove off of the shopping cart. And we instantly became friends. And as we got Clyde off the streets and work with Clyde, he would sing Amazing Grace over and over again. And the most interesting thing happens when Clyde decides to get on a train and he's got a tag around him a lot of our people have our blanket coverage tag around, if found, please call. I get sheriff departments calling and saying, does he belong to you? Well, yeah, I guess so.

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Sheriff White from Tillamook, Oregon, Clyde gets on a train, gets over there, they put him in a jail because they don't know what to do with a mentally ill street person walking around singing

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Amazing Grace. And were you there when they crucified our Lord? So, they put him in the jail. Sheriff White calls me up and says, does he belong to you? We have an 800 number because you never know when our people show up. I said, well, yeah, that's fine. Do you want me to send you a bus ticket?

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No, we'll take care of that. Do we need to know anything? Like, he's got a shot, will he bite us? Well, he won't bite. He goes with no teeth, and if he did, it wouldn't hurt all that much. And I think he's had all the shots. He said, we'll send them to you. Anything else? I said, well, don't get him singing too late. He goes, does he know any other songs besides Amazing Grace? And he knows all the verses. And I said, no. And he goes, okay, fine, just tell the deputies to put earplugs in. You never know. And one day, Clyde comes up to us and says, here, he's yours. Who's mine? This little skinny guy? Yeah, he's yours. We know that you guys are really busy, and you won't be able to come down, but you need to fix him.

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And there's little Bill Parks and this little guy is standing there, like this. Brand new in the ministry, we didn't have any money, so I called a church, and they gave us money and we put him in a room. And Bill didn't know you could put the door down. As we got to talking to Bill and he became our friends, all of a sudden, Clyde came up and said, well, Bill, do it. He goes, do what? Whatever. Ask Bill anything. What do you mean? He goes. Ask him anything. And Clyde used to box. He goes, do you know anything about boxing? I said, well, yeah, I know something about boxing. He goes, well, what's the most famous fight? Well, that'd be Sonny Liston vs

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Cassius Clay, Muhammad ali. Bill starts announcing it word for word. Norelco Razor commercials, Ham Beer commercials, blow by blow, the whole thing.

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He had audio graphic memory. He could remember everything that he ever heard in his entire life. Nobody has ever sat down Bill and helped him deal with the fact of that. Bill became family. And Bill, when I would get a haircut and he would laugh because he had a full head of hair too, you know, became family. The sad thing is, and this is what I hope you can take away from here besides being consistent and changing your perspective and letting God change you. Be really careful what you say. You're not careful what you say. You could cause more harm than good. Because they told Bill that he wouldn't wed anymore if he became a Christian. They told Bill that he would be smart if he became a Christian.

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They told Bill that it would all be okay if Bill just became a believer. And he tried and he tried, and he accepted the Lord over and over again. But guess what? His pancreas that was all messed up didn't get fixed. His mind, that was audio graphic, nobody ever taught him how to deal with not being able to forget. I know a lot of us are looking around right now, you know that exam, I would love to have a memory like that. But do you know what it's like never to be able to forget nothing? You have to have somebody help you with the emotions of that. That is really tough. I would love to be able to remember everything, except sometimes forgetting is a wonderful thing. Sometimes forgetting is a very kind thing.

[00:28:24.030]

And as we sat and we helped Bill ease into eternity, it was not a happy scene, you know, where you're going to go when you die, Bill? I don't know. I said, but you accept Jesus, you know, you have he took the big spanking for you. We break it down pretty simple. He goes, yeah, but he didn't accept me. I said, oh, Bill, he did. What a surprise when he walked across into eternity. Because see, we don't have to have it all together. We don't have to be all really smart. How simple, how simple it is to understand that all I have to say is remember me when you get to your kingdom, and you make that step across to a different life and to change our behavior. Be careful of what you say, be careful of what you understand.

[00:29:26.180]

The streets are another planet, it's another culture. Understand that. It's completely different. My son Johnny, who's up there, him and I, he takes me out mountain bike and all the time, he busts me up. I used to run marathons, and so I'm really into athleticism very much. That's how I stay goofy and skinny. And I know all about this. However, guess what? In the streets, they smoke. I'm not going to make a big deal about that. You know, I carry cigarettes on me. I'll probably lose all my support from Calvary [inaudible 00:29:57]. All the time. I've let two people to the Lord lighting them a cigarette.

[00:30:02.020]

You want to be safe in the streets. You ever want to work in a city, get a pack of cigarettes on you and a lighter. Here's a hint for you. Because I work with hoodlums all the time. Somebody comes up and you got a light? If you say no, that's probably because you're a Christian and

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you're probably easy to mug. Got a light? Sure. Got three of them one in every pocket. Got a cigarette? Yeah. Here. Keep the pack. Don't you smoke? No. Most my friends do. Now what I am going to die of something if I don't get shot or if somebody doesn't beat me up or if my son doesn't push me off a cliff one of these times on his mountain biking thing. I'm going to die of secondhand smoke.

[00:30:46.950]

Because in rehab, everybody smokes. I mean we don't worry about it. When you're trying to take somebody off a heroin, you're not going to worry about it if you're getting them off tobacco. I mean, that's like taking a bunch of evangelicals off of caffeine. You wouldn't do that. That'd mess this place up, wouldn't it? Yeah. Now we're over there in the common grounds and they said, what do you want? And I say, I have a double tall skinny macadamia. You're from Portland? Yeah. Well, we are we invented it, I think, didn't we? Starbucks 19,000 different and there is and of course we have other Christian coffee houses, Carolyn's in Grass Valley. I got to put a plug in for them because they send their coffee to blanket coverage. Every rehab has gourmet coffee.

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And I help people lite cigarettes. And when you're walking out of an ER and you're sitting there with your person and a young man wheel in and he's blown in half by a 357 Magnum in a gang war, it's a horrifying sight. And so, you walk out of the army, you look, and you can find the parents sitting right there on the curb crying. You smoke? Yeah. Let me light it. Will I ever see my son again? [inaudible 00:32:04] way change who you are. Because that's what the book of

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Isaiah should do. Change who you are. Change the way you view things. We have street ladies, lots of them. They don't like me, they tolerate me. It takes a long time to get a street lady to connect with you. You got to find a way to connect. You've got to be consistent. I told you it was four years for a fella, Ron, and many other ones that you cover with a blanket you sneak off. I do not dress like this downtown if you're thinking that I don't dress like this downtown, okay?

[00:32:39.110]

And he came up and he saw my Justin boots, which I don't have on today, and he said, Hi, I'm Ron. That's four years. Guess how long for street ladies? Eight, it takes eight years from the time I find a street lady and say, I'm going to help her till the finally we can take her off the streets. And in that process, we figure something out. Having a bad memory is a really good thing because the majority of the street ladies we have out there have lost children. That is hell. That is awful. That is horrible. And beginning able to forget is a good thing. And if we can keep them at survival mode, meaning kind and comfortable and compassionate, in the streets, all they're thinking about is eating, sleeping, staying dry, and they don't have time to remember. So, we do not want to take them off the streets until we've helped them deal with the factor of what's hurting them.

[00:33:39.570]

Get to know the people you are going to serve. Remember yesterday. Yesterday what did we say? Let's not do any more distinctions in this planet, on this time and in this generation of what's a missionary. We are all missionaries. Everything we do, everything we touch, every person

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around us, we are affecting in some way. Understand how that works. Get to know those that you want to change greatly and in those things' lives will change.

[00:34:15.690]

Now, how many Bible majors do we have here? Do we have Bible majors now? Everybody takes Bible, right? So, nobody here should be like me. Everybody knows that book of Psalm starts with a P. Still can't find it. It's not in alphabetical order, but it starts with a P somewhere in the Bible. When we became Christians and we started to touch lives around us and we started reading about the radical things God's people did, we were told by people that you can't be that radical. You cannot go that crazy. And I'm sorry, ladies and gentlemen, you can, you can do exactly what the Bible says you can do. And that would be my hope and prayer for each one of you that you would believe what the Bible says to you.

[00:35:10.910]

We just took the simple facts of the poor. Do you know that in the Great Commission? What is the Great Commission? Does anybody know the Great Commission? What's that? In the ends of the Earth? Yeah, go to Judea Samaria and the ends of the Earth. I got a secret for you. We are the ends of the earth. We are in the ends of the earth. And now we have a Guatemalan coming up to speak to us about world relief. And we have a dear friend of mine in Guatemala talking about Jesus Christ to the villages. We are the ends of the earth.

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But now, what is the toughest mission field? Before I go on, what is the toughest mission field? Remember yesterday? Anybody? Right here. This is a tough mission field. Your businesses, that's a tough mission field. But guess what? I'm sitting here talking about the physical needs and the horribleness of very broken lives and fractured souls and people that gave everything. And you're sitting next to somebody that is hurting. And when you go into the workplace, there's somebody there hurting. There are people hurting everywhere. Look at the Bible differently.

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1 Corinthians 11, communion. Now that's a very interesting passage because see, if it wasn't for 1 Corinthians 11, we would never have communion because that is brought up again because it would have just ended at the Lord's Supper. But why was 1 Corinthians brought up again. Does anybody know? Because don't you have food in your own houses to eat? And you would humiliate those who have nothing and eat it before they get here. And so, what happens to communion now? There is nothing.

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We have an illustration and I have nothing against it. We help start a church and we have communion every Sunday there, time of reflection. Reflect on yourself, however, so what did blanket coverage do? We found all the people that had everything, up in the West Hills and we had them come down and feed all the people that have nothing, and they do that three times a week. And I make it really clear to them, that's communion, you're finally fixing it. You're going, you have everything. And now you're going to go to those that have nothing and you're going to feed them and you're going to feed them like you would feed Jesus Christ. That means Christ is

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coming to dinner today and you're going to feed him that guy in the streets like it was Jesus Christ. And so, you are not going to food banks. You are not doing any collective. These are not day-old breads. This is brand new food made that day. And if you can't follow this recipe book, beat it.

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And we started what we call Food Wars and it's really a lot of fun because on Friday night Food Wars, we have a Nike sponsor and we have a Texas barbecue sponsor and we have Sunset Press and we put out a spread that fills a very small lobby and we stand out in the middle of it and I'm thinking, am I crazy? I mean, there's parole, probation, multiple personality disorders, people that don't like each other, gang members to strip their gang colors off. No colors. Put them in your pocket. Yes, Father Dan. They do it. I don't know why, some put those colors off. I can see them up there somewhere.

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Communion now is reversed and brought down into the people. Do you know that we don't have any official agreement with the people down there in the hotel? People think we own the hotel. Many people come up and ask me all the time, what do you do? Well, we take care of street people. No, you own this hotel. And I said, no, I don't. And then the manager will come out and said, I want to get your approval on something. We have nothing officially in writing with this group and organization. They just like us and they're not believers. They help staff it. They just open up the lobby. Monday, Wednesday, Friday's. Blanket coverage. That's just the way it's always been.

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Sometimes you don't have to make a big thing. What do you have to be, consistent. Change your perspective and you'll change lives. Tomorrow we are going to talk about our theology, and I know a lot of you guys are going to leave because they do leave, don't they? How many am I going to lose? The bleachers. The bleachers will be gone. What if they're not saved? When you read your Bible, look for themes over and over and over again because you'll find out what's important to God. Thank you very much.