

# Take a Risk!

A monthly publication from Risk Takers for Christ

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Platinum  
Transparency  
2022

**Candid.**



## Twin Teachings from Dale

### Burned or Buried?

by Rev. Dale M. Glading, President

*"To wash and dress a corpse is a far different thing from making it alive: Man can do the one - God alone can do the other."* - C.H. Spurgeon



My wife Deanna is adamant about one thing: she wants to be cremated when she dies. "I don't want a viewing," she has told me repeatedly. I guess she doesn't like the idea of people walking by her open casket and saying, "Doesn't she look good?"

Being buried - or burned - doesn't matter to me, but I'm likely to follow Deanna's lead so that our ashes can be interred together. After 38 years of marriage and counting, it would be a bit weird to be buried in one place and have Deanna's ashes scattered elsewhere.

Sound morbid? Maybe so, but as you age, subjects like this begin to occupy your mind. In fact, I have already given Deanna and our kids some instructions for my memorial service. I want Teddy Roosevelt's "The Man in the Arena" speech to be read and the "Impossible Dream" from The Man of La Mancha to be sung. I also would like "It Is Well with My Soul" to be sung and a strong gospel message preached including an

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### We Need Each Other

by Rev. Dale M. Glading, President

*"When bad men combine, the good must associate; else they will fall, one by one, an unpitied sacrifice in a contemptible struggle."* - Edmund Burke

How important is it that Christians work together?

Well, in Jesus's "high priestly prayer," which He offered in the Upper Room on the night He was betrayed, Jesus prayed for unity. "That they all may be one," He said, "as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me."

In other words, with just hours left to live, the unity of His current disciples - and future followers - was foremost on Jesus' mind. And why was that? First, because Christian unity would demonstrate to the world that God the Father had sent Jesus the Son, thereby further legitimizing His ministry and teachings (John 17:23).

Second, Jesus taught in Matthew 12 that "Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation, and every city or house divided against itself will not stand." What Jesus was saying was that if we truly want to fulfill the Great Commission (see Matthew 28:19-20) and keep the Great Commandment (see Matthew 22:36-40), we need each other.

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## Burned or Buried?

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invitation to trust Jesus Christ as Savior. I sure hope that either Dave McMurray, Larry “Chap” Lilly, Bill Waltz, or Tom Cox is available to give the altar call.

If anyone could instill life in a dead body, it would be one of the aforementioned men. Not only are they great friends and mentors, but they are all top-flight preachers. But alas, not even these gifted and anointed pastors can accomplish the impossible. Only Jesus can do that... and He will, reuniting my spirit with my glorified body someday.

Until then, I plan to share the gospel with as many people as possible so that they will experience God’s abundant life here on earth (see John 10:10) as well as His eternal life in heaven. I also plan to love my beautiful bride, my three adult children and their spouses, my six precious grandchildren, and all my friends to the very best of my ability while I’m still here.

The bottom line is this: it doesn’t matter what happens to your earthly body once you’re done with it. Of far greater importance is what you did for God while you still inhabited it... so let’s get busy!

*“And the sea gave up the dead who were in it, Death and Hades gave up the dead who were in them, and they were judged, each one of them, according to what they had done.” - Revelation 20:13 (ESV)*

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## We Need Each Other

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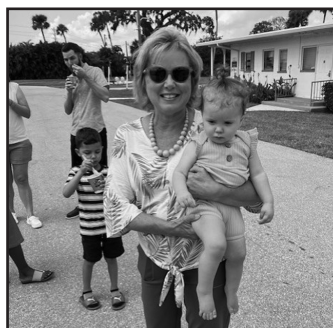
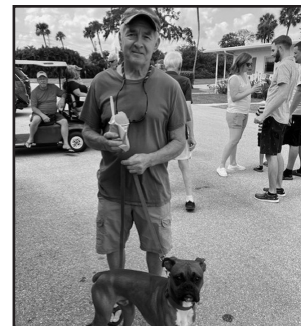
Let me say that again... WE NEED EACH OTHER!

Of course, that doesn’t mean that we should compromise our biblical beliefs by aligning ourselves with cults, false teachers, or false religions. After all, the Apostle Paul warned about being unequally yoked with unbelievers (see 2 Corinthians 6:14).

However, what it DOES means is putting aside our petty differences and joining forces to win this world and its inhabitants for Jesus Christ. To be His arms and legs, His feet and hands. Most of all, His heart.

*“By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.” John 13:35 (NKJV)*

## Midway Bible Fellowship 1 Year Anniversary Celebration



## Follow Boldly

by Alistair Begg

*"I have not come to bring peace, but a sword."*

- Matthew 10:24

The Christian will be sure to make enemies. It will be one of his objects to make none; but if doing what is right and believing what is true should cause him to lose every earthly friend, he will regard it as a small loss, since his great Friend in heaven will be even more friendly and will reveal Himself to him more graciously than ever. You who have taken up His cross, don't you know what your Master said? "I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother... And a person's enemies will be those of his own household."

Christ is the great Peacemaker; but before peace, He brings war. Where the light comes, the darkness must vanish. Where truth is, the lie must flee; or if it remains, there must be a stern conflict, for the truth cannot and will not lower its standard, and the lie must be trampled underfoot. If you follow Christ, you will have all the

dogs of the world yelping at your heels. If you live in such a manner as to stand the test of the last judgment, you can depend upon it that the world will not speak well of you.

He who has the friendship of the world is an enemy to God; but if you are true and faithful to the Most High, men will resent your uncompromising commitment, since it is a testimony against their iniquities. You must do the right thing and not fear the consequences. You will need the courage of a lion to pursue a course that turns your best friend into your fiercest foe; but for the love of Jesus you must take your stand. To risk reputation and affection for the truth's sake is so demanding that to do it constantly you will need a degree of moral principle that only the Spirit of God can work in you. Do not turn your back like a coward, but play the man. Follow boldly in your Master's steps, for He has made this rough journey before you. Better a brief warfare and eternal rest than false peace and everlasting torment.

*Devotional material is taken from "Morning and Evening," written by C.H. Spurgeon, revised and updated by Alistair Begg. Copyright © 2003, Good News Publishers*

## Listening to the Father's Heart

by Os Hillman

Son, the reality of your faith is based on how you live your life with me. Some can only speak of what they read about me; I seek those who can speak of what they personally know and have experienced by walking with me. Experience is the witness the world is looking for. Genuine faith in me is not the absence of doubt; it is the moving toward those things that cannot be reconciled and choosing to release questions and doubts to me, your heavenly Father, who knows all things. The greatest faith believes in the one who knows the future, rather than seeking to know the future before choosing to believe. Keep trusting in me son. You will not be disappointed when you place all of your life's concerns upon my altar.

*"For I will not dare to speak of any of those things except what Christ has accomplished through me, in word and deed, to make the Gentiles obedient."* Romans 15:18

*"Hold fast the pattern of sound words which you have heard from me, in faith and love which are in Christ Jesus. That good thing which was committed to you, keep by the Holy Spirit who dwells in us".* 2 Tim 1:13, 14

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## Golf Tournament Photos



## Save the Date!

100-Hole Golf Marathon  
Wednesday, June 14, 2023  
Sandridge Golf Club, Vero Beach FL



## Notable Quotable

from Admiral James Stockdale

*"I think character is permanent, and issues are transient."*

*"There can be no such thing as being the 'victim' of another. You can only be a 'victim' of yourself. It's all in how you discipline your mind."*

*"Work with what you have control of and you'll have your hands full."*



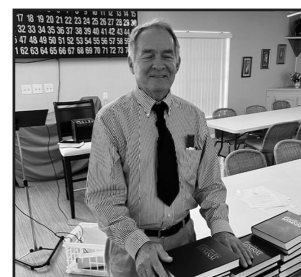
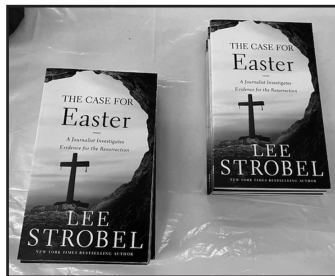
## We Have a QR Code

Everyone can use a spiritual lift in the morning, especially on weekdays when work, school, and other demands vie for our time and attention... and sap our strength. Risk Takers for Christ wants to help by offering a free weekday devotional message that will challenge and encourage you in your daily walk.



*Point your smart-phone camera at this QR code to receive an uplifting devotional message each weekday.*

## Easter at Midway Bible Fellowship



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