

GIJAPA



God Is Just A Prayer Away
Radio Broadcast Around the World

GOD Is Just a Prayer Away

50,000 Watt Stations Every Sunday

WLW	6:30 AM	700 Dial	Cincinnati, OH
WLW	8:00 AM	700 Dial	Cincinnati, OH
WRFD	10:00 AM	880 Dial	Columbus, OH
KXEL	10:30 PM	1540 Dial	Waterloo, IA
WRVA	7:04 AM	1140 Dial	Richmond, VA
WRVA	9:30 PM	1140 Dial	Richmond, VA
WIBC	7:30 AM	93.1 Dial	Indianapolis, IN
WHAS	7:30 AM	840 Dial	Louisville, KY
KAAY	9:30 PM	1090 Dial	Little Rock, AR
WMCL	8:30 AM	1060 Dial	McLeansboro, IL
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Monday 7:00 PM
(1800 UTC) 7190 kHz on Dial

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ALL CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR MINISTRY ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE

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Issue 8

The Big Race

HEBREWS TWELVE

Therefore let us also, seeing we are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, lay aside every weight, and the sin that doth easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us. Looking unto Jesus the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross despising the shame and sat down on the right hand of the throne of God.

These witnesses in Hebrews eleven of by gone days testify of their faithfulness as an example for us as we remember that David slew Goliath, a giant over nine feet tall today. Aside from his bravery, one may wonder how many hundreds of times he had developed accuracy with the sling until he made that one great shot. David must have been like those 700 left handed men of Benjamin who could sling a stone at a hair breath and not miss. Is that not encouragement to us to spend much time in each Bible school lesson, or sermon in preparation to do battle with our giant.

Another witness is the witness of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego in the fiery furnace. While there is no preparation in any fiery furnace for practice, their faithfulness is a testimony of loyalty even unto death.

And then there were some who stopped the mouth of lions such as the prophet Daniel in the Lions' Den. What an example is the witness of Daniel when we consider 1st Peter 5:8: "Be sober be watchful: your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour." We have our Lions' Dens today where the Roaring lion seeks to devour us. There the Den of division, the Den of devilishness, and the den of disease.

However all the witnesses of Hebrews eleven pale into insignificance before the greatest witness of all. The apostles said in 1st Peter 2:21: "Knowing that we have been

redeemed, not with corruptible things, with silver and gold, from your vain manner of life handed down from your fathers, but with precious blood as of a lamb, without blemish and without spot, even the blood of Christ: who was foreknown indeed before the foundation of the world, and was manifested at the end of the times for your sake, who through Him are believers in God, that raised Him from the dead, and gave Him glory; so that your faith and hope should be in God."

So let us run with patience the race that is set before us, because the Christian life is a race. It is a greater race than the Kentucky Derby. It is a greater race than the Indianapolis 500, or any of the races ever run in the Olympic Games. The winner of the Christian race will not be called upon to perjure him or herself for a price and endorse a cereal that he or she may never eat.

Furthermore the Christian race is a marathon and not a forty-yard dash. Paul encourages us in 2nd Timothy 4:7: "I have fought a good fight I have finished the course I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, and not only for me but for all who have loved His appearing."

I have seen many a person confess Jesus Christ as the Son of God, get immersed with these words, "for the remission of sins" pronounced over them and within a few weeks gone. The Christian life is a race that begins when you rise from the waters of baptism and goes on until you cross the finish line at the Second Coming of Jesus or when the coroner pronounces you dead.

Years ago I visited an elderly couple feeble with age and the husband met me in the yard and informed me that he and his wife were in a race to see which one of them could get to heaven first. I have forgotten which one came in first it was matter of days after I had the funeral of one that I had the funeral of the other. It was almost a dead heat.

Their contest reminds us of what Paul said in Philippians 3:13: "Brethren, I count not myself yet to have

laid hold: but one thing I do, forgetting the things which are behind, and stretching forward to the things that are before, I press on toward the goal unto the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.” And as we press on, Paul gives this further word of advice to that old couple as well as ourselves, in 1st Corinthians 9: “I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I as not beating the air; but I buffet my body. And bring it into bondage: lest by any means, after that I have preached to others, I myself should be a cast-away.” Paul was not shadow boxing as one that is beating the air; he was slugging it out with his body trying for a knockout. The words of Jesus apply to our every day life: “The spirit indeed is willing but the flesh is weak.”

Anyway you look at it you are in it for the duration, so run with patience the race that is set before you for he that endureth unto the end the same shall be saved.

The Christian race is a race that requires discipline, more discipline than any athlete training for the Olympics. Paul says they run for a corruptible crown that passeth away, but we run for an incorruptible crown. The olive wreath for victory withered, and even the gold medal is not forever. One notable athlete won a gold medal in the Olympics came home and threw it in the river. In Philippians three Paul said, “But one thing I do, forgetting the things which are behind, and stretching forward to the things which are before, I press on toward the goal unto the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.” When he was about ready to face the headsman’s sword he said, “I have fought a good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith. Hence forth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord that righteous Judge shall give to me and not to me only but for all those who have loved His appearing.”

The apostles tells us in 1st Peter 1:13, “Wherefore girding up the loins of your mind, be sober and set your self perfectly on the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.” And in Revelation 3:11 the Lord himself advises the Church at Philadelphia: “I come quickly: Hold fast that which thou has that no one take thy crown.” The devil can snatch your crown either by false doctrine on an unfaithful life style.

So lay aside every weight and the sin that doth so easily beset us. The ancient Greeks used to train by wearing weights on their shoes, but when they ran in the race they let go with everything that could slow them down. If I were an artist I would paint a picture of the average church member on the mark of the beginning of a marathon. He is wearing an overcoat, hip boots, carrying a fishing pole, a set of golf clubs, a bowling ball, and two bags of luggage. Much of this baggage is good stuff, but becomes sin because it may slow us down in our spiritual activity.

In running a marathon in the physical sense a runner giving it all he have will be exhausted at the end of the race. In the spiritual race the harder you run the stronger you get. So lay aside every weight and the sin that doth so easily beset you. Each victory over temptation makes you stronger for the next. So run, run, run, the race that is set before you.

The greatest inspiration in running the race is looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith, who for the

joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and hath sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

After Jesus sat down at the right hand of the throne of God, we need to notice that one of the first things he did, not too many years later, was to write a letter to the church at Laodicea, and tell them in Revelation 3:21, “He that overcometh, I will give to sit down with Me in My throne, as I also overcame, and sat down with my Father in His throne.” That promise itself should give us pause, as we remember the words of Hebrews chapter four: “Having then a great high priest, who hath passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we have not a high priest who cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but one who hath been tempted in all points like as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore draw near with boldness unto the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy, and may find grace to help us in time of need.” So run, run, run, in the race that is set before you.

LETTERS FROM LISTENERS



Dear Brother Bousman,

Thanks be to God Jehovah we have today received a box containing dresses for kids and today received a box of Bibles you posted about nine weeks ago and another box containing babies clothing and shoes posted recently. Some times some of the items spend several weeks before reaching here. We are happy to receive them. We appreciate so much. These are very helpful to us here. The radio ministry keeps bringing more and more prospects to us and through that many are converted. We thank God. Please keep on praying for us, especially for our new converts and prospects. One good news is that our number keeps increasing on this hard soil. We are doing our best to work hard for the Master, please keep on praying for us. Last week we baptized eight souls and this week five, we thank God so much for this.

Here, what we do most is to make sure every soul baptized is maintained, this is very, very important for us. We thank you so much for your great assistance, especially in the area of used clothing, shoes and Bibles. Many of our converts are now getting Bibles of their own to read at home and at Church service, especially our Muslim converts. We appreciate, Sir. Thanks to you and Sister Naomi in the Lord. To God alone be the glory in your life through Christ, Amen.

Alexander Ofori, a servant of The Most High God; London Corner Church of Christ; The Gambia, W. Africa

Christian Brethren:

Dearest Ed and Naomi Bousman peace and love unto you from the Lord Jesus. Christians, I am writing you this message after I heard you send Bibles and Bible study materials. Brethren if possible please send me the NIV Bible along with your Bible study materials. God bless you

beyond measures. I am looking to hear from you so soon. Grace be unto you.

Your sister, Meheret G. Ababa, Ethiopia

Greetings!

I am grateful to all the help you did for me in sending me a Bible and the lessons. From today on I can't read the newsletters you send to me via my mail address and via the post address it is no longer safe; our lives in danger; therefore please stop sending any mail to me. Apologize me! My friend of mine Mulue is in the same situation. So please stop sending to him any mail in any form.

Zerigabir Eritrea, E. Africa

Dear Sir BOUSMAN:

I've got now the three boxes of Bibles, a box of clothings & shoes, & the gift from REG. Thanks so much. I'm indeed thankful to all of you at GIJAPA. I will send you photos soon. I'm only being stucked by the pressures I am facing. I've been on the go for a relocation but the price is too high for me. My option now is to find a land lease to build a nepa hut where I could stay for few years due to house rent increasing fees. Please keep praying FOR ME. I'm exceptionally in need of your prayers, & include my mom who is undergoing medical tests. The doctor says she needs to be operated for some tumor & we are doing the best we could to let her avail this treatment. Her faith is completely intact, she is but weak physically. Thanks so much for your prayers Sir Ed & Madame Naomi Bousman. I appreciate so much your help. We have just done our Sunday Night Service in my place. I'm currently studying with a couple. Please pray for them to obey the gospel. They are showing interest, and I'm confident they would join with us soon. It's raining here again & it's almost every afternoon. Farmers are preparing again their fields for rice planting. Include them also in your prayers for them to have a good harvest 3 months more. We have been beseted with typhoons & we need to regain our lost. Keep us always in your thought to the Lord. Kindly give my best thought to all the staff of GIJAPA. I'm so thankful Sir Ed & Madame Naomi for having you in my ministry. May God keep on blessing you & your people!

Ed, Sunset Beach Church of Christ; Philippines

Dear Ed Bousman, my brother,

May God's grace continue to be with you, Bro. Bousman. I'd like to thank you for corresponding with me faithfully and helping teach me the truth which is the Word of God. I've learned a lot through your studies and the NIV study Bible you sent to me. I use it in my every day study. It's been a real blessing to me and you have too. You will always be in my prayers and I send my respects and appreciations to you with love in Christ Jesus. I just completed my 30 lessons of Studies in the Bible and look forward to my certificate so I can place it with the others I have. I go up for parole next month and I ask that you continue to pray for me as well. You've really helped me and help this time pass. I thank you, Ed Bousman.

Your brother in Christ, John from Pine Bluff, Arkansas

Dear Brother Ed and Sister Naomi,

I have received 2 boxes of clothes and shoes. We are waiting for the rest of the boxes to arrive. Thank you very much. We had a national strike by all civil servants for almost a month. Teachers stopped teaching and now they have started working, after the government giving them 15% salary increment. Our school going children also have started going to school. Thank you very much brethren for your prayers.

Please pray for us we are having an evangelism campaign from 6th to 10th July 2009. Again we are planning to invite you brethren from GIJAPA to visit us here in Zambia next year. Please think about it and let us know. I will send the report for June and July 2009 together. Send me materials on the ROLE OF YOUTHS, and Sister Naomi also to send materials for ladies class for my wife, Justina.

With Christian love, John Maseka, Evangelist, Solwezi Church of Christ in Zambia, S. Central Africa

Dear Ed,

First of I would like to thank you for all the good thing that you are doing to our church here. Previously, you have sent us clothing and shoes for the needy. I want to thank you on behalf of the people here. God is doing great things through your ministry. All I can say keep up the good work and may God bless you abundantly. As now it would have been great if you could send us newsletter and some clothing. The clothes are for needy between 14 up to 20 years boy and girls. Besides, I am also wandering if you offer any Bible lessons, if you do, please let me know. Thanks again for all the thing that you are doing to keep us strong.

Samuel Alem Eritrea East Africa

Uncle Ed and All:

LET FREEDOM RING! Thank you for your distributing of Bibles, clothes and all. Please grow not weary. Here's some help to keep going! Love all of us.

Mark from Nebraska

Mr. Bousman,

My name is Justin, I am a baby Christian. I am in prison for drugs and want to change my life. I know I can not do it by myself, that I need guidance. What better than God on my side. I know with His help I can over come anything! I just ask that you send me the proper weapon to fend off temptation and evil that I am told it is the Bible. I want to learn and read its doctrine for myself. I am from Fayetteville, Arkansas and away from home. Thank you and God bless.

Prison in Newport, Arkansas

To the blessed man in the Lord,

I am very happy when I received the New Testament book of Sermons given to me as a great gift upon completion of the 30 lessons Studies in the Bible. Thank you very much. Try to expounded my greetings to all your members in the ministry. Ed Bousman 1918 to 2009 almost 91 years, Bousman long life for you in Jesus' name. Almighty God will add to life, God had to Hesikiah's life. Our

almighty God will add to your life, world will enjoying you more and more. Because I enjoying you very well. I know something in your life that Jesus care with you, because you doing the will of God. Ed Bousman, long life, long life, long life in Jesus name I pray Amen. Help me greet your family and family in the Lord for me. I always dream about you. Thank you.

UPDATE FOR IKE & LEE

Hope you are doing fine by the grace of God? Over here we are all doing fine with Lee still on her medication and responding to treatment and better than before. All the kids are doing fine by the grace of God. Fianko is growing at a high speed. Now people have seen that after 2 years the church is still in force and so others are joining from other villages where we have been there to plant a church yet. We thank you so much for your support. Last week Thursday, we sent them a box of assorted used clothing from you. Thank you for your prayers and support. The unexpected church too is doing better with a regular average attendance of 29-35. Most of the brethren like any other village or town have traveled into the cities to work leaving the chairs vacant during church meetings but they are doing well. Agona Nkwanta Church to is also doing well as we still have some of the brethren coming to worship with us and some of us going to worship with them at times. We thank you so much for your concern for this congregation. I am still working and worshipping at Adawukwao Church and goes there every Thursday evening for Bible class. the church is still struggling with the people saying that they are waiting to see the fate of the church since most new churches planted there collapse in the first year. So please, pray for us.

It is still raining and disrupting activities but we are thankful for it. I was unable to travel to Accra last Friday

because I had to go to a village to study the Bible with some couples and to settle a marital problem with the same couple. Thank God it was successful and last Sunday they attended church and both of them were baptized. My Ed's sermon translation program was also successful last Friday with a soul baptizing. I will go again this evening and will tell you what happens. Pray for me.

We thank you for your prayers for our evangelism campaign we had from 6th to 10th July 2009 this year. Many people received the gospel, tracts, and 7 remaining pairs of glasses. Two sisters were baptized yesterday Sunday 12th July 2009, and 4 families attended the service with us and have promised to continue coming.

Concerning the mail you sent recently, I am happy to inform you that, what you are doing for us is great, very great. We always thank God for you and please continue. Many souls are coming to the Lord through your gifts.

You are declared righteous before God now and forever because of your love for His name and his gospel. This is good. Our prayer is that, your children and grandchildren will be great on earth. God will increase and bless your children and grandchildren because of your faithfulness to Him so that GIJAPA continue to bless our children and grandchildren.

Brother Ed, I agree with your age because in 1922, you were about 5 to 6 (I was 4) years old as according to the picture in the sermon book. God continue to strengthen your bones and be in good health. My wife, Justina sends a word to thank Sister Naomi for the ladies Bible materials. Please send me Bibles and some tracts. All is finished. To God belong all the glory and honor for all He has done.

Your brother and fellow soldier of Jesus Christ, John Maseka (Evangelist - Messenger Church of Christ, Solwezi, Zambia, Africa)



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