

Love and Compassion Ministries

In the Name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit

November 1, 2013 In The Year of Our Lord

Volume 8, Issue 11

Inside This Issue

Story:	Page
BIBLE QUESTIONS ANSWERED	2
BIBLE QUESTIONS ANSWERED CONT.	3
MINISTRIES OF LCM	4
MINISTRIES OF LCM	5
GOD'S TIMING	6
LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT	7
PRAYERS	8

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Newsletter
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Thank You For Your
Support And Prayers!



Caring Makes All The The Difference

Will this young girl grow up to have the same opportunities as we did when we were growing up even though she is homeless? Will she be able to attend the best of schools, have good food to eat and clean water to drink? Will she end up being homeless forever or will she become the President of The United States of America?

Who and what will have influence on her life? Will someone talk to her one day about a Savior that loves us enough to send His Son to this earth to die for our sins?

Who will say: Here I am, send me, I will tell her of Christ.

NEWSLETTER

ANSWERS TO YOUR BIBLE QUESTIONS

Dear Ray,

Do you believe in reincarnation and why?

Thanks!!

Susan

My answer is – NO – I do not believe in reincarnation of the human body...

Why?...

You cannot find ‘ashes to ashes, dust to dust’ in the Bible because it is not there! The phrase comes from the funeral service in the Book of Common Prayer and it is based on Genesis 3:19. That passage says that we begin and end as dust. Where did the ashes come from? The compilers of the Book of Common Prayer were careful to produce what is called metrical text - text that when a congregation reads it, it all comes out even. Therefore, they pulled in Genesis 18:27 (Abraham speaking that he is nothing more than dust and ashes) and Job 30:19 (Job answering his friend Bildad) in which dust and ashes are both components of the human body.

When God calls us home, our CARNAL body is laid to rest. (The death on the cross and laid in the tomb.) On our day of resurrection we then receive a SPIRITUAL body. Therefore, upon our death we do NOT receive a new CARNAL body but receive a SPIRITUAL body like Christ. (refer to John 20:19, 27). Our capabilities are all together changed. (Baptism is symbolic of the cross) Look at 1st Corinthians 15:42- 44 ⁴²So will it be with the resurrection of the dead. The body that is sown is perishable, it is raised imperishable; ⁴³ it is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory; it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power; ⁴⁴ it is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body.

I hope this answers your question!

Dear Ray,

Do you believe in once saved always saved and why?

Thanks!!

Midge

Once Saved, Always Saved – The Biblical Evidence

The Bible teaches “once saved, always saved” -- that we can be saved once and for all only through a repentant, saving faith in Jesus Christ. Once a person has accepted Christ as Savior they may wonder if it is possible to lose that salvation. What if they commit a sin? What if they commit a lot of sins? What if they do something very, very wrong? Is it possible to be saved and then lose that salvation? Fortunately, the answer is a resounding “NO.” Once a person has accepted Jesus Christ as Savior, he/she is forever saved. This fact is referred to as the doctrine of “eternal security,” often summarized as “once saved always saved.”

God gave us a choice! To believe on Christ and be saved or do NOT believe in Him and be lost. The Bible states “You cannot serve two masters and be saved.” The choice is up to the individual. With that in mind... if you put your FAITH and TRUST in GOD you have eternal security.

There are several reasons why a person can be confident in their “eternal security.” First and foremost is the evidence of Scripture. John 3:14-18 (NIV) says: ¹⁴ *Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up.* ¹⁵ *That everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.* ¹⁶ *For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.* ¹⁷ *For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.* ¹⁸ *Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God’s one and only Son.*

The salvation in Christ is not temporary, it is **eternal**.

In John 10:28-30 (NIV) Jesus says: ²⁸ *I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand.* ²⁹ *My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father’s hand.* ³⁰ *I and the Father are one.*”

The forgiveness of God through Christ is sufficient to cover all of our sins -- PAST, PRESENT and FUTURE.

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)

There is nothing a person can do that God cannot forgive. This doctrine is supported by Romans 8:38-39, Ephesians 4:30, and Jude 1:24, among others. Romans 8:38-39 (NIV) ³⁸ *For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, ³⁹ neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

Ephesians 4:30 (NIV) ³⁰ *And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.* Jude 1:24 (NIV) ²⁴ *To him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy -*

A person who willingly, humbly, repents of sin and turns towards the cross, trusting Christ as their Savior, will be saved (Acts 16:31; John 6:37-40; and John 14:6-7.) Acts 16:31 (NIV) ³¹ *They replied, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved - you and your household."*

John 6:37-40 (NIV) ³⁷ *All those the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never drive away. ³⁸ For I have come down from heaven not to do my will but to do the will of Him who sent me. ³⁹ And this is the will of him who sent me, that I shall lose none of all those he has given me, but raise them up at the last day. ⁴⁰ For my Father's will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life, and I will raise them up at the last day."*

John 14:6-7 (NIV) ⁶ *Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷ If you really know me, you will know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him." That salvation is once and for all, eternal, and secure. Those who truly trust in Christ are saved once, and saved always.*

The Holy Spirit dwells with-in all believers (Romans 8:9) and baptizes all believers into the Body of Christ (I Corinthians 12:13). Romans 8:9 (NIV) *You, however, are not in the realm of the flesh but are in the realm of the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, they do not belong to Christ. I Corinthians 12:13 (NIV) For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body - whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free - and we were all given the one Spirit to drink.*

If you believe in Christ today you, "have eternal life." However, if your CHOICE was not to believe in Him then it was never "eternal" at all. Again, it is this gift that allows us to choose to either worship God or not worship God. This gift and only this gift, allows us to truly love Him as a Father. All should have the assurance that they are saved upon them repenting of their sin and trusting Christ as their Savior.

I pray you have found this information interesting. I would be pleased to read any comments you may have. Address any comments or questions to ray@lovecompassion.com.

With Brotherly Love,

Ray

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SUPPORTING LOVE AND COMPASSION MINISTRIES. INC.**

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Mail Your Donations to:

Love And Compassion Ministries, Inc.

P.O. Box 152636

Cape Coral, Florida 33915

All donations are tax deductible!

Thank You!

The Many Aspects of Love And Compassion Ministries

Brought to this community by your support! Thanks!

In February we will be celebrating sixteen years of serving our Lord throughout Charlotte, Collier and Lee County. More than 2,600 people have come to know our Lord through one of our many programs (Homeless Ministry, Street Outreach Ministry, Youth Ministry, Prison Ministry and Drug Program Ministry).

Our thanks goes out to all the people that have supported us, worked with us and prayed for us these past years and I might add, all that will be joining LCM in God's service in the future.

Love And Compassion Ministries' board of directors have always been dedicated to develop policies and approve programs that focus on the homeless, veterans, disadvantaged families, people on drugs, prisoners and troubled youth.

We have serviced over 20,000 people helping them with car repairs, gasoline, bus tickets, utility bills, medical needs, helping them find jobs, working with courts to get people into drug rehab programs, transporting people to programs, doctor's appointments, job interviews and hospitals. All of this at no cost to the individuals.

We desire to help all who come to us regardless of their faith, race or gender. Love And Compassion Ministries is made up of people of all faiths. With our volunteer staff of more than thirty-three caring people, we serve this community.

Ron Willis
President and Founder of LCM
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Street Outreach Ministry...

is going strong and many are coming to the Lord through this ministry. Street Watch Ministries and LCM is working together to reach the lost of this area. In order to reach out to more families in the area of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. and Ford Street, we change our location and time of day.

We still serve a wonderful meal, give out clothing, hygiene items and preach the Word of God to them. If you wish to join us call 239-574-LOVE.



Street Outreach Ministry is having the Church come to the people.

Prison Ministry...

is going strong and many are coming to the Lord through this ministry. Seeing the same people return to the prison system time and time again will break your heart. This ministry is breaking that cycle. Pastor Holbrook, Mark Decker and Rev. Mark Johnson make up our prison ministry team. These men are gifted evangelists and wonderful preachers. They love serving our Lord within the jail system and the ones they minister to are so thankful that these men are willing to give up their time to come out and preach the gospel.

Housing an inmate in jail or prison costs thousands of dollars! To teach him about a wonderful Savior is priceless. When someone turns from their wicked ways and accepts Jesus Christ, they become a taxpayer and not a burden on society.



Youth Ministry...

We have a large team of Christian men and ladies who minister to the youth at Crossroads Wilderness Institution in Punta Gorda, Florida every Wednesday afternoon. They also cook delicious meals and wonderful desserts to feed the young men on the last Saturday of each month, while teaching them the Word of God.

These young men are our future! Please pray for them and all of Love And Compassion Ministries Youth Team Members that care enough to reach out to them.



Homeless Ministry...

Common to all religious faiths is the responsibility to care for those most in need – provide food, clothing and clean water. Love And Compassion Ministries works with many wonderful organizations to bring awareness of issues facing homeless individuals and families in Lee County and provide assistance to them.

Lee County has more than 2,700 homeless people living out of their cars, under bridges, in the woods and various other places where law-enforcement will allow them to sleep. They are in need of shelter yet all the shelters are and have been full for months.

Our primary focus is to work on getting the families with children off the streets but any person who is taken off the streets will be considered a victory. We have put entire families on the bus and sent them back to their family in other states, given gas cards to people traveling “back home” and provided mechanical repairs to people’s cars to help them get to work.

LCM is trying to open a place that will provide essential life skills, social skills and practical work experience. We wish to have our “graduated” residents to be able to integrate back into society as wholesome individuals.

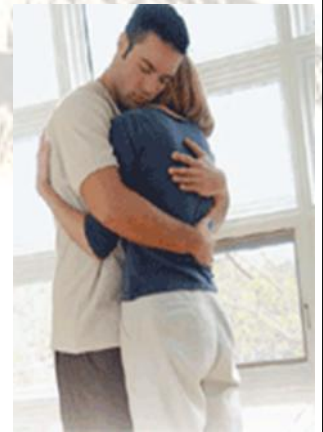


Drug Program Ministry...

is going strong and many are coming to the Lord through this ministry. Love And Compassion Ministries works directly with numerous, very wonderful Christian drug and alcohol programs. We believe that without Jesus Christ it is almost impossible to be delivered from any addictions. Many times we go to court and ask the judge to allow a person to complete a drug program rather than going to prison.

We do our own evaluations of people who desire to stop living under the bondage of alcohol and drugs and help the ones that want the change in their lives! We do all we can to make sure that when we recommend a person to a program that it’s the right place, at the right time and that the person will be able to complete the program.

Love And Compassion Ministries makes all the arrangements for the entry, including transporting the person to the program. It is so nice to see the change in people’s lives after completing a nine month or more in-house Christian drug program.



Prayer Ministry...

Prayer requests are very important to us! We always need people who care and are willing to personally pray for others’ needs.

Bread Ministry...

We always need help picking up bread, cakes, pies and many other wonderful items and delivering them to several local churches.



God's Timing

When I was around nineteen or twenty years old, my brother and I decided to take my mother and aunt to a Mother's Day lunch. My mother had divorced my father some time before and she was left to raise my brother alone. I went by to pick up Mom and my brother. He is six years younger than I. Mom said, We should take her car, because it was bigger and roomier than my truck.

I did not feel right driving my Mom's car that she thought the world of, but I did. We went by and picked up my aunt. I drove us to a special restaurant on a lake several miles away and we thoroughly enjoyed ourselves. The food was great and we had a lot to get caught up on. Afterwards, we decided to take a ride back home the long way or the scenic route through the hills around the lake.

Everyone was talking and just enjoying the ride, when I realized that I was lost. I had no idea where we were. I did not want to ruin the day by saying anything but I started getting worried. I drove and drove and drove and never came to a road sign, store or anything else that looked familiar.

All at once I looked up on a hill and saw a farm home with a large barn beside it. Then I saw fire! It was in the barn. I drove up a dirt driveway yelling to the rest of the passengers at the same time. "Fire!! The barn is on fire!" My brother and mom ran up to the house and started beating on the door while I ran to the barn. The fire was coming from a car that had been parked inside the barn. I tried to get closer to the car to raise the hood where the fire was coming from but it was too hot. I started yelling for a water hose.

While we were looking for a hose an elderly man, his wife and a young girl about my brothers age, came out of the house. The girl and my brother hooked up a garden hose at a hose bib that was sticking out of the ground between the house and the barn.

I ran back into the barn with the other end of the hose. The water pressure was not enough to put the fire out. I later found out that the hose had several holes in it. My brother and the girl were trying to stop the water from coming out the side of the hose.

While we are trying to put the fire out with inadequate water pressure, the elderly man got on a tractor and pulled the car out from the barn. We all watched the car burn up next to mom's car. By the time the fire department got there the farmer's car was only a lump of burned metal.

We had fought a good fight but could not put the fire out with what we had. I felt so bad for the family and my brother for he was drenched! His suit looked like he had been drug under the car for the last fifty miles. My mom's car didn't look good either. I think the fire got a little too close to her car. Instead of crying Mom and my aunt laughed all the way home even though they smelled as bad as my brother and I looked.

I apologized to my Mom, my aunt and my brother for what had happened but you know, I think that day was one of the best days of our lives. Yes, we lost the farmer's car but we did save the barn. If we had not seen the fire the family would have lost their barn and maybe their home.

If we had gotten there a little sooner we probably would never have seen the fire. If we had gotten there a little later the fire would have already set the barn on fire and no one would have been able to save it. God timed it just right!

From the book GOD's Way
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Friends;

Galatians 6:1-5 says: ¹ *Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted.* ² *Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.* ³ *For if anyone thinks himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself.* ⁴ *But let each one examine his own work, and then he will have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another.* ⁵ *For each one shall bear his own load.* (NKJV)

Many people, even Christians, tell me not to waste my time helping the imprisoned, the drug addict or the homeless for they will just get themselves back into the same situation over and over again. They say just forget about them, but I believe our Lord, according to these scriptures, wants us to reach out to them with love and compassion. We are to bear each others burdens.

Pastor Holbrook, many years ago, taught me to love the sinner and hate the sin. We all have fallen from grace many times in our life time, yet God has always been there for us. Love And Compassion Ministries has placed some people into drug programs five and six times before they allowed God to turn their lives around.

Many people are in jail today because our Lord has been trying to get them to listen to Him. In jail, God is able to get them to hear the words they need to hear from people like us. When we do not give up on them, we are able to be that messenger that God uses to reach them. Many times we are able to lead them to our Lord's free gift of salvation along with their families. Yes, our Lord can and will use us if we will allow him, while not giving up on them. God never gave up on us!

Hebrews 13:1-3 says: ¹ *Let brotherly love continue.* ² *Do not forget to entertain strangers, for by so doing some have unwittingly entertained angels.* ³ *Remember the prisoners as if chained with them, and those who are mistreated, since you yourselves are in the body also.* (NKJV)

Love And Compassion Ministries was started as a prison ministry. I cry for ones that continue to fall back into the same old things that lead them back to jail and / or prison. We are still working to get people off that marry-go-round. Even though we have added so much to this ministry through our Homeless Ministry, Street Outreach Ministry, Youth Ministry, Prison Ministry and Drug Program Ministry the heart of this ministry is still on working to keep people out of the prison system.

In the Presence of our LORD,

Ron Willis

Ron Willis, President
Love And Compassion Ministries, Inc.

Please keep us in your prayers!

**Love And Compassion
Ministries**

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newsletter@LoveCompassion.com**

**We're on the Web!
www.LoveCompassion.com**

Stamp



GOD ANSWERS PRAYERS

**Prayer requests are very important to us!
We always need people who are caring and
willing to personally pray for others' needs.**

**SEND YOUR PRAYER REQUEST TO ...
PrayerRequest@LoveCompassion.com**

**Life isn't about
finding yourself, it's
about discovering
who God created
you to be!**