

# THE SHEPHERD'S CROOK

Volume 2, Issue 1

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## The New Year Update!

This is an exciting time at the Practical Christian Living Centre Ministry as we begin the New Year with a desire to see the hand of God work mightily in the lives of those we come in contact with and will encounter and teach in the coming year.

We are currently in the hunt for facilities in which we could use in order to conduct our weekly training that will start for brand new Christians. This will be a 12 session training, consisting of one ninety minute session weekly in which the very first step will be to understand true biblical salvation, followed by reviewing in detail the 10 commandments (1 each week) culminating in the final week reviewing the continuing Christian walk.

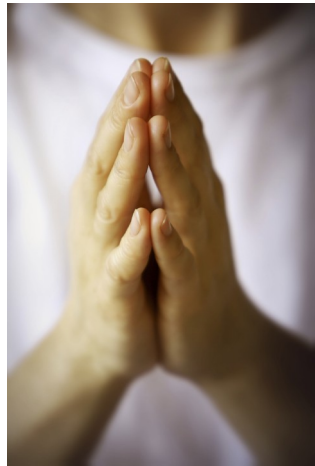
We are very excited about this and look forward to running this several times through out the year. We are also, in addi-

tion to the other trainings we provide, will be finalizing the courseware for Level 2 & Level 3 Discipleship in which we will dive deep into topics like Purity, Submission, The Family, Finances and Tithing to name but a few.

We have also heard from the Federal Government regarding our application for Charity status and expect to be fully authorized the first half of 2008! Praise the Lord for this!

We are also in the final stages of bringing the amazing Basic seminar from the Institute in Basic Life Principles, Resolving Youth Conflicts, to PEC Area. We are very excited about this and for those churches in the area, expect to hear from me with the details.

As always, **Thank You** for your prayers and practical support. We truly could not continue without both of these!



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## I DON'T THINK SO!

As usual, I am often sent to my knees in awe of God and His love, grace and mercy He shows us on a continual basis. God who created the world, created us, told the planets and stars where to exist and how to function. This being who told the mountains where to reach

up and valleys where to lay low. He tells the oceans how far it can come up on the earth and all these things obey perfectly. This amazing God then turns to us and commands us to evangelize and be witnesses in this world and we tell Him quite bluntly, "I don't think so!"

"This is the job of my pastor.. That is what we pay him for." Amazing! And we call ourselves followers of Christ. We should add to that statement in order to remain truthful, "As long as it does not cost me anything." Think about it...



## DO THY JOB FEAR GOD FOR NOUGHT?

Charles Spurgeon was one of the greatest preachers. In fact he was known as the prince of preachers. Looking back on his life and how he was despised in his time for standing firm and fearless for the name of the Gospel. I long for the day when once again God will raise up mighty men of God to go forth boldly and proclaim the Word of God with Power and conviction instead of the watered down version that resides with us today. Recent statistics published by Barna Research Group show us that over 40% of pastors do not believe that the Bible is without error, 46% of self-proclaiming Christians do not believe in the existence of God. The worst of the stats is that 26% of "self-confessing" Christians BELIEVE that while Jesus was here on earth, that he committed sin, just like every other human! And we wonder why things are the way they are. The following is an

excerpt from one of his sermons based on Job 1:9.

This was the wicked question of Satan concerning that upright man of old, but there are many in the present day concerning whom it might be asked with justice, for they love God after a fashion because he prospers them; but if things went ill with them, they would give up all their boasted faith in God. If they can clearly see that since the time of their supposed conversion the world has gone prosperously with them, then they will love God in their poor carnal way; but if they endure adversity, they rebel against the Lord. Their love is the love of the table, not



of the host; a love to the cupboard, not to the master of the house. As for the true Christian, he expects to have his reward in the next life, and to endure hardness in this. The promise of the old covenant is adversity. Remember Christ's words-"Every branch in me that beareth not fruit"-What? "He purgeth it, that it may bring forth fruit." If you bring forth fruit, you will have to endure

affliction. "Alas!" you say, "that is a terrible prospect."

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## IT FINALLY HAPPENED...

Just recently I was handing out tracts at a business in Belleville and as I handed out one of the million dollar Gospel tracts to one man, he looked at it and he told me that he already had seen that one. I was shocked! Someone else had already given him a tract! This is the first time I have run into someone who had received a gospel tract! Now I quickly reached into my other pocket and handed him a 10 com-



mandment coin so that he would not be disappointed. I also took the time to go through the law with him so that he knew for sure that he would not automatically gain entry to heaven simply because he considers himself a good enough person.

I know there are others out there, so please keep up the good work! We here at the ministry are praying for a time when we will be hard pressed to find someone in PEC that has not at least seen a Gospel tract.

If you would like to be trained in evangelism, please feel free to contact us directly (see last page) or via email directly to me at

Kevin@practicalchristianlivingcentre.org

## WE LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!

The staff here at the Practical Christian Living Centre would love to hear from you. Emails, snail mails and/or phone calls.

If you would like to submit an article to be posted on our website for all to read, then please email it to:

articles@PracticalChristainLivingCentre.org

If you wish to submit pieces for this newsletter (we hope to initially publish every quarter, but moving to monthly in the



future) please send them in as well.

If you have comments about our website, both good and bad or items you would like to see added or enhanced.

If you would like to subscribe to received this newsletter in order to receive it your email in box, please email us at:

subscribe@PracticalChristianLivingCentre.org

We look forward to hearing from you!

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*Living The Word of God Without Compromise*



The Purpose of this Christian Ministry is to teach and help Christians live a fulfilling life based upon Biblical principles.

In a word **DISCIPLESHIP**.

Over the years we have seen far too many Born Again Believers make wrong choices based on their lack of knowledge of the scriptures. The aim of this ministry is to bring to light what the Word of God says about living the Christian life.

Over the coming months, we will be publishing discipleship material to be used to help both young in the faith and the not so young in the faith understand the wonders of walking hand in hand with Christ, our risen Lord!

Currently we offer training in Basic & Intermediate Evangelism (8–90 minute sessions), a 1 day (4 hour) crash course on evangelism (perfect for youth groups), a 10 week Biblical Financial Freedom (10–2.5 hour sessions) and a Financial Stewardship (4-90 minutes sessions).

As this ministry grows our prayer is that many will come to a deeper understanding of the scriptures and as a result, a deeper love for God.

May God richly bless you as you begin this journey in walking closer with God.

Have a great and wonder-filled day!

Practical Christian Living Centre



## DO THOU JOB FEAR GOD FOR NOUGHT?

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But this affliction works out such precious results, that the Christian who is the subject of it must learn to rejoice in tribulations, because as his tribulations abound, so his consolations abound by Christ Jesus. Rest assured, if you are a child of God, you will be no stranger to the rod. Sooner or later every bar of gold must pass through the fire. Fear not, but rather rejoice that such fruitful times are in store for you, for in them you will be weaned from earth and made meet for heaven; you will be delivered from clinging to the present, and made to long for those eternal things which are so soon to be revealed to you. When you feel that as regards the present you do serve God

for nought, you will then rejoice in the infinite reward of the future.

SOONER OR LATER EVERY BAR  
OF GOLD MUST PASS THROUGH  
THE FIRE...

We often think that if circumstances are difficult, than it cannot be from God. Or if things don't go according to how "we" expected than forget God and let's try something else. This is why in today's church we need to be clear in our

Gospel message. People need to understand what sin is and how it affects their relationship with God.

True believers draw close to the Lord during trials and tribulations, false converts run as fast as they can back to the world when these come.

In fact the Bible promises us that once we are truly Born Again of God, that we will experience tribulation, temptation and persecution. Not exactly the prosperity Gospel being preached and proclaimed in our world today. No wonder over 98% of "new converts" fall away within 12 months of making their profession.

The Truth shall set you free!