

Living to Win

August 15, 2003
Volume 8, Number 8
Christian Educational Ministries

Personal from. . .
Ronald L. Dart

What Do You Want To Believe?

What do you *want* to believe? You should really give that question some serious thought before you ever look at the evidence in a given case. Because what you want to believe is like a giant thumb on the scales as you balance the evidence before you. I think it was a line by Groucho Marx, caught by his screen wife with a young lady, “Are you going to believe me or believe your eyes?” It may be funny but it is close to reality. People commonly sweep incontrovertible evidence under the rug in order to believe what they want to believe.

Some day, when you are trying to understand some egregiously stupid behavior on the part of a friend, just ask yourself, “What does she *want* to believe?” It may go a long way toward explaining why wives believe cheating husbands. It may go a long way toward explaining why O. J. Simpson is a free man today.

What prompted me to ask this question was a special issue of *US News* I picked up at the doctor’s office. It was the August 26 issue of 2002 and the cover article was titled: “The Art of the

Hoax.” The lead item was crop circles, which by now nearly everyone knows are fake. We even know the names of the guys who made the originals, now that they have ‘fessed up’. They are Doug Bower and Dave Crowley. But I will bet you that if you did a walk through the mall with a microphone and asked people what they thought was the origin of crop circles, you would find plenty of people who think they were made by space ships landing.

Why, in the face of an admission, will people persist in believing a hoax? According to Daniel Boorstin, “P. T. Barnum’s great discovery was not how easy it was to deceive the public, but rather how much the public enjoyed being deceived.” But I think the truth of the matter is much deeper and much more worrisome than that. Viktor Frankl, in his remarkable book, “Man’s Search for Meaning,” observed that man has a drive to meaning. Of this I have no doubt. We can’t stand the idea of a meaningless universe, and so we are driven to find meaning in the most trivial of deceptions.

Why not, I wondered, do we not take the obvious road to meaning—God, a creator with a purpose for man. Why would we rather believe a lie than to believe God? I can tell you what Paul said about the question: “For the secret power of lawlessness is already at work; but the one who now holds it back will continue to do so till he is taken out of the way. And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus will overthrow with the breath of his mouth and destroy by the splendor of his coming. The coming of the lawless one will be in accordance with the work of Satan displayed in all kinds of counterfeit miracles, signs and

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wonders, and in every sort of evil that deceives those who are perishing. They perish because they refused to love the truth and so be saved. For this reason God sends them a powerful delusion so that they will believe the lie” (2 Thessalonians 2:7-11 NIV).

There are two things at work here. One is a strong delusion sent by God. But it is sent to people who do not love the truth. And take note of the contrast between a delight in wickedness on the one hand, and a love of the truth on the other. People take a perverse delight in being deceived.

In a sense, people believe what they want to believe because the alternative requires too much work. They are lazy, in a word, and are happy to take the easy way out. We marvel at the Heaven’s Gate cult and the Jim Jones suicides in Guyana, but they aren’t so terribly hard to understand. Living requires work, effort, struggle. Death requires drinking the Kool-aid and lying down.

So what do *you* want to believe, and how does it affect the decisions you make from day to day? I address this problem in a future radio program, entitled “What Do You *Want* to Believe?” But I would like for you to have a *free* cassette tape of the program right away. Just check the box on the enclosed card and send it back to us. There is no obligation, now or ever.

God bless you, and keep in touch.

Keeping the Word before the world,
Ronald L. Dart

Better for Less - Feast Housing

Skip Martin

Are you still looking for a place to stay while attending the CEM Feast site in the Destin/Ft. Walton Beach area? Look no further than Okaloosa Island. Even if you’ve already made reservations but would like a more convenient location and/or more affordable accommodations, this is for you as well. There are hundreds of condominiums and hotel rooms *on the ocean* on Okaloosa Island, most within a very short distance from the Emerald Coast Conference Center where the Feast will be held. These units are just as nice as the ones down the road in Destin, and *most are less expensive*.

The following are Realtors for you to contact (offering varying discounts up to 20 percent and some with winter rates): Anchors Resorts Realty, 1-800-8740162, Dale E. Peterson Vacations, 1-800-336-9669, Southern Resorts Vacation Rentals, 1-800 314-4672, Abbott Resorts, 1-800 336-4853, and Newman-Dailey, 1-800 225-7652. *To get our discount you must tell the Realtor that you are with CEM.* For a more complete housing package contact CEM at 1-888-BIBLE 44 or check out our website at www.cemnetwork.com/feast/accom.htm

Grow Along With YEA

Toni Coffee

Youth Educational Adventures activities at the Feast last year exceeded our expectations – and those expectations were already high! Both enrollment and attendance were up significantly over the previous year. Class attendance remained high throughout the Feast, indicating that young people enjoyed the classes and parents appreciated the sound, biblical instruction that YEA provides.

YEA classes give children and teenagers an opportunity to grow in their knowledge of a Christian way of life with friends their own age, in a supportive and joyous environment. The facility where classes will be held this year – the new Emerald Coast Conference Center in Ft. Walton Beach – is beautiful and comfortable. Its attractive, convenient setting will also contribute to the enjoyment of the classes, where large private classrooms are available for each age group.

The YEA program is set up to be a win/win situation for the students and the teaching staff. Each class is designed to be a joyful experience as students discover, with their peers, that God’s way is best. YEA recruits volunteers from among Feast attendees and trains them to make learning about God easy and fun. For donating their time and effort the teaching staff receives such bonuses as developing lasting friendships among their peers and the children they teach. They also gain the satisfaction that they are *building tomorrow’s church today* as they teach each YEA class. Nothing at the Feast is more important for your kids than these fun and effective YEA classes. Plan now for your children and teens to attend every class and grow along with YEA at Feast 2003!

Speaking Schedule

| | | | |
|------------|-------------------|------------|------------------|
| October 11 | Friday Evening | 7:30 p.m. | Ronald L. Dart |
| October 12 | Sabbath - Morning | 11:00 a.m. | Ronald L. Dart* |
| | Afternoon | 3:00 p.m. | Jeff Osborn |
| October 13 | Sunday | 11:00 a.m. | Steve Sanders |
| October 14 | Monday | 11:00 a.m. | Larry S. Watkins |
| October 15 | Tuesday | 11:00 a.m. | Peter Kamen |
| October 16 | Wednesday | 11:00 a.m. | Ronald L. Dart |
| October 17 | Thursday | 11:00 a.m. | Dave Havir** |
| October 18 | Friday | 11:00 a.m. | Youth Day |
| October 19 | Sabbath | 11:00 a.m. | Ronald L. Dart |

*A holy day offering will be taken up at this service.

**This song service will be predominantly contemporary Praise and Worship music.

Outstanding Feast Seminars

Festival attendees can look forward to a most varied Seminar program. You can choose from three different seminars each morning, during the same time as the YEA classes. All seminars and YEA classes will be in the same building as the main service and will begin at 9:30 a.m.

EMERALD GRAND BALLROOM II

Sunday, October 12 - Friday, October 17

Michael Linacre

A six-session series on the Old Testament, designed to build upon Ron Dart's Internet Online Old Testament Survey class.

EMERALD GRAND BALLROOM III

Sunday, October 12

Terry Gray

A slide show presentation on "Our Expanding Universe: An Eternity of Stars."

Monday, October 13 - Thursday, October 16

Ron Smith

A four session series of interactive discussions designed for post-high school young adults.

Friday, October 17

Larry Watkins

Scripture shows us that God created human sexuality and the beautiful gift of shared intimacy. It is a gift meant to be celebrated and enjoyed. God did say, "behold, it was very good."

EMERALD GRAND BALLROOM IV

Sunday, October 12

Trish Svehla

A session on personal self- improvement.

Monday, October 13

Pam Dewey

A session on personal and small group evangelism and discipling.

Tuesday, October 14

Nancy Vandemark

A session on developing Christian websites.

Wednesday, October 15

Scarlett Stough

An interactive session on women of Faith, from Bible to modern times.

Thursday, October 16

Bill Stough

Interactive session on developing Home Fellowship groups.

Friday, October 17

Wendy Granberg

An interactive, inspirational session on seeing the love of God in the good times and bad times.

Feast Activity Schedule

Saturday, October 11

7:00 pm-9:00 pm - Teen Time - Food, Fun, and Fellowship

Sunday, October 12

1:00 pm-5:00 pm - Teen Beach Party

7:00 pm-10:00 pm - Festival Dance

Monday, October 13

1:00 pm - 5:00 pm - Singles and Seniors Luncheon

1:30 pm - whenever - Golf Tournament

6:00 pm - 8:00 pm - Family Night at the Track

Tuesday, October 14

2:00 pm - 4:00 pm - Preteen Mini Golf at the Track

7:00 pm - 10:00 pm - Pie and Ice Cream Social

6:00 pm - 11:00 pm - Young Adults Bar-B-Q

Wednesday, October 15

1:00 pm - 5:00 pm - Family Picnic

2:00 pm - 4:00 pm - Young Children's Beach Party

7:00 pm - 10:00 pm - Festival Variety Show

Thursday, October 16

7:30 pm - 11:30 pm - Teen Dance

Friday, October 17

7:00 pm-9:00 pm - Youth Wrap-up

Teen Time - Food, Fun, and Fellowship

2:00 pm - 4:00 pm - Children's Beach Party

COOL YEA CLASSES

Any child between the ages of 3 through 19 who isn't in each cool, relevant, action packed YEA class is going to miss out on the most awesome time of the year. Bring your kids, teens, grandchildren, and friends at 9:30 a.m. Sunday through Friday for surprises, awards, and fun things to learn and do. Here are the class themes and what your kids will learn each day:

Beginners (ages 3 - 5) *Tales from The Kingdom*

Lesson 1: Feast for a King

Lesson 2: God Tells the King "No"

Lesson 3: God's New House

Lesson 4: A Friend Indeed

Lesson 5: Josiah the Child King

Lesson 6: Crown Her Queen Ester

Primaries (ages 6 - 8) *Going Places*

Lesson 1: You are Tabernacling!

Lesson 2: What Would Jesus Do?

Lesson 3: A Good Example

Lesson 4: Giving is Good

Lesson 5: Jesus was a Child, Too!

Lesson 6: Quit and Quote!

Juniors (ages 9-11) *Exploring God's Word*

Lesson 1: Anyone Camping?

Lesson 2: An Awesome Prayer

Lesson 3: Be Bold!

Lesson 4: Bible Heroes

Lesson 5: Equipped With Love

Lesson 6: Faithful Friends

Intermediates (ages 12-15) *Impressions*

Lesson 1: First Impressions

Lesson 2: Impressions of Truth

Lesson 3: Impressions of Friendship

Lesson 4: Do Impressions Matter?

Lesson 5: Impressions of Greatness

Lesson 6: Lasting Impressions

Senior Teens (ages 16-19) *In Search of God*

Lesson 1: A Time to Remember

Lesson 2: Footprints of God

Lesson 3: Is Premarital Sex Adultery?

Lesson 4: Does the Church Matter?

Lesson 5: In Search of Faith

Lesson 6: A Reason to Repent

An Awesome Youth Day!

Our youth work hard to develop their talents all year long, and this is CEM's day to honor them. On this special day you will witness youth choirs, special music, presentations, a testimony and other surprises. Give our children and teens your support and be in services on Friday, Youth Day.

Teens and 'Tweens

This Article is for you!

Lisa Gregor

Don't let this year's Feast be like every other one. . . you know what I mean. By the time you meet up with other folks your age and figure out where everybody's staying, it's already midweek and the Feast is nearly over. Make this year different! Come be a part of Food, Fun and Fellowship in the Faith. Connect with other 15 to 20 year-old young people at the beginning of the Feast so you can enjoy spending time with them throughout the entire week.

Food, Fun, and Fellowship in the Faith are opportunities to get to know other young adults in a relaxed atmosphere, with activities, munchies, and interactive discussion of topics related to issues that people your age are facing today. These discussions will be facilitated by Chris and Lisa Gregor, as well as a group of our college-aged folks who are already dealing with many of the issues you are facing.

The discussion topics will be generated by you: What are some of the life issues you are dealing with? What tools do you need to remain strong in your faith as you go through high school and college? What can churches do to support you? How do you see the role of young adults in our churches today? What do churches need to do to better meet the needs of young adults? What's on your mind relating to your faith?

Please e-mail us with your ideas at c.l.gregor@mindspring.com. Then come join us October 11th, on the first Saturday evening of the Feast and October 17th, from 7 to 9 p.m. in Palm 1 and Palm 2 rooms at the Emerald Coast Convention Center.

If We Build It – They Will Come

Jeff and Joan Osborn

It was pouring rain Wednesday night when we headed to the Community Center. The wind was blowing hard – Isidore was on her way to Destin just in time for the 2002 Festival Variety Show. Several frantic phone calls resulted in the decision to “go on with the show” – despite the weather. Some predicted no one would come and suggested only setting up a few chairs.

The roof over the stage was being repaired and buckets were catching the leaks. Somehow it added to the theme of the Festival Variety Show which was *Noah's Ark*. The anchors and life preservers that were part of the stage props fit right in to our time in the storm.

Going on faith and the theme of *If We Build It – They Will Come*, we set up 150 chairs. Every chair was filled and still they kept coming. Some 200 plus brave people enjoyed more than 15 acts of varying talents. Everyone had a great time. Afterwards, several people told us they would be back next year and wanted to be in the show.

We're already planning for another historical Festival Variety Show in 2003. Your talents are needed! Our theme this year is *A Broadway Review*. Your act *DOES NOT* have to fit the theme. But if it does, great! We use a theme just to give a little glue to the show.

So get out your tap shoes, dust off your harmonica, and start writing your jokes. We'll have an excited group ready to hear you. Please contact Jeff and Joan Osborn, 110 Westwood Rd., Fillmore, IN 46128, telephone (888) 526-5710, or e-mail us at: jmosborn@tds.net, or jasosborn@tds.net immediately so that you can be included.

Daily Radio

The *Born to Win* broadcast can be heard daily on these stations:

- Birmingham, Alabama**
11:15 a.m. daily - WDJC 850 AM
- Huntsville, Alabama**
9:30 a.m. & 3:30 p.m. daily
WBXR 1140 AM
- Mobile, Alabama**
9:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m. daily
WMOB 1360 AM
- Montgomery, Alabama**
8:30 a.m. daily - WAPZ 1250 AM
- Little Rock, Arkansas**
5:30 p.m. & 5:15 a.m. daily
KAAY 1090 AM
- San Francisco, California**
2:03 p.m. & 11:30 p.m. daily
KDIA 1640 AM
- 1:00 p.m. daily - KCBC 770 AM
- Denver, Colorado**
5:00 a.m. & 1:30 p.m. daily
KLT 670 AM
- Deland, Florida**
6:00 a.m. & 4:00 p.m. daily
WYND 1310 AM
- Pensacola, Florida**
7:00 a.m. daily - WASG 550 AM
7:00 a.m. daily - WZNO 1230 AM
- Atlanta, Georgia**
10:30 a.m. daily - WGKA 1190 AM
- Augusta, Georgia**
9:00 a.m. & 5:30 p.m. daily
WFAM 1050 AM
- Kansas City, Kansas**
6:30 a.m. & 4:00 p.m. daily
KCNW 1380 AM
- London, Kentucky**
12:00 noon daily - WGWM 980 AM
- Richmond, Kentucky**
12:30 p.m. daily - WCBR 1110 AM
- Gretna, Louisiana**
4:30 a.m. daily - WLNO 1060 AM
- Denton, Maryland**
8:30 a.m. & 3:00 p.m. daily
WKDI 840 AM
- Jackson, Mississippi**
7:00 a.m. daily - WTWZ 1120 AM
- Omaha, Nebraska**
3:30 p.m. daily - KLNG 1560 AM
- Buffalo, New York**
4:30 a.m. daily - WDCX 99.5 FM
- Asheville, North Carolina**
4:00 p.m. daily - WSKY 1230 AM
- Portland, Oregon**
12:30 p.m. & 6:00 p.m. daily
KKPZ 1330 AM
- Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania**
4:30 p.m. & 12:30 p.m. daily
WWNL 1080 AM

Calendar Of Events

August 28th - Meet The Teacher - Little Rock, Arkansas

Ronald L. Dart will be conducting a "Meet the Teacher" session on Thursday, August 28th, in Little Rock, Arkansas, in the Blair Room of the Holiday Inn Select, 201 S. Shackelford Rd, beginning at 6:30 p.m. If you have any questions, please contact either John Beasley, in Little Rock, at 501-663-8016, or Larry Watkins at the CEM office, at 1-888-BIBLE-44.

August 30th - Meet The Teacher - Paris, Tennessee

Ronald L. Dart will be conducting a "Meet the Teacher" session on

Saturday, August 30th, at 2:00 in the afternoon at the Krider Performing Arts Center, 650 Volunteer Dr. For more information, please call Ed McPherson, at 731-593-0557 or the CEM office at 1-888-BIBLE-44.

Daily Radio

The *Born to Win* broadcast can be heard daily on these stations:

- Anderson, South Carolina**
9:00 a.m. daily - WRIX 1020 AM
- Charleston, South Carolina**
7:30 a.m. & 7:30 p.m. daily
WZJY 1480 AM
- Greenville, South Carolina**
11:30 a.m. & 4:30 p.m. daily
WELP 1360 AM
- Chattanooga, Tennessee**
5:00 p.m. daily - WLMR 1450 AM
- Knoxville, Tennessee**
7:00 a.m. & 5:00 p.m. daily
WITA 1490 AM
- Dallas, Texas**
10:30 a.m. daily - KSKY 660 AM
- The following stations broadcast daily at 2:30 p.m.**
- Moses Lake, Washington**
KTAC 93.9 FM
- Pasco, Washington**
KGDN 101.3 FM
- Spokane, Washington**
KSPO 106.5 FM
- Wenatchee, Washington**
KTBI 810 AM
- Yakima, Washington**
KYAK 930 AM



Tune in for the latest weekly broadcast.

August 9 - August 15

Christian Holidays 4

August 16 - August 22

Christian Holidays 5

August 23 - August 29

Christian Holidays 6

August 30 - September 5

Christian Holidays 7

September 6 - September 12

Who's Who In Prophecy 1

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That the man of God may be proficient and equipped for every good work.