

# NETWORK

*Christian Educational Ministries*

Volume 6, Number 2

Newsletter of the CEM Network

February 15, 2001

Personal from...

**Ronald L. Dart**

Dear Friend,

Of all the deceptions foisted upon Christian people, the most dangerous may be that *nothing is required of them for salvation*. As someone put it, "Salvation requires Christ plus nothing." At the most basic meaning of the word, that is true enough. Without God, there is no salvation. But I fear there is another level of meaning where that statement is a long way from the truth.

In the end, there are certain basic conditions which can bar a person from discipleship with Christ. Jesus made it plain in one shocking statement: "If any man come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, *he cannot be my disciple*. And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, *cannot be my disciple*" (Luke 14:26). Not only is there a state of mind, an attitude, required for discipleship, there is a singular action required – to take up one's cross and follow Jesus. Jesus went on to develop this with a caution that, before we decide to become His disciple, we must first "count the cost." I don't see how it could be plainer. There is a cost to discipleship.

So salvation is a free gift, but there is a cost connected to it. How can this possibly be? Well, the word "salvation" is used in more than one sense in the Bible. In the sense that we must be forgiven of our sins and reconciled to God, that is something

that must be done for us. There is nothing the sinner can do to send away, to forgive, his own sins. But in the sense of the final salvation that comes when we are raised from the dead, there are requirements that we must meet. Jesus continued to say, "So likewise, whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, *he cannot be my disciple*" (verse 33).

Becoming a disciple of Christ involves certain commitments, specific sacrifices, and it is right that we be challenged on these questions before we make those commitments. I recall my own baptism vividly to this day, especially the question of whether I had counted the cost. The minister who counseled with me read this passage (Luke 14:26-43) to me and posed certain questions. Would I, he asked, be ready to obey God even with a bayonet in my back? I was sure that I would, though how could one know until he faces the bayonet?

But to tell the truth, the question of counting the cost made no sense to me. I couldn't see that there was any choice involved in the matter. Once one comes to the truth of the Gospel, there is nowhere else to go. Still, there was an issue left unaddressed. All of the questions of counting the cost focused on hypothetical matters somewhere off in the future. What was not addressed was a very real question of here and now. What was the cross that I had to pick up *today* and bear? What would I be required

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to forsake right now? Was I truly ready to accept the authority of Jesus Christ in my life with all the changes that was going to entail – right now?

Writing in the latest edition of the *Intercollegiate Review*, Mark Malvasi said this: "It has in some ways become more difficult to believe in the historical and human attributes of Christ, which requires the emulation of his conduct, than it is to believe in the eternal and divine attributes of Christ which may require nothing more than credulity. At the end of the twentieth century, therefore, we suffer the consequences of an almost total emancipation from the moral heritage of Christianity."

It is one thing to believe in a set of doctrines. It is another thing altogether to imitate Christ. And there is so little argument about what Christ did. There is very little more to argue about regarding His instructions. Yet debates rage on among Christian people about what they should believe about God and Christ. While we debate the doctrinal issues, the moral heritage goes unattended.

It is one thing to talk in the abstract about Jesus' statement,

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“whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he cannot be my disciple.” It is another thing altogether to actually forsake something. Anything. It is one thing to accept a set of doctrines. It is another thing to stop sleeping with a person you aren’t married to. In spite of everything, there is a pervasive notion that what we believe, what we know, is more important than what we do. And those who hold that notion are in for a rude shock someday in the future.

I would very much like to send you a cassette tape of a Bible study I presented here in Tyler a few days ago on this theme. It isn’t a hard topic to understand, but it will challenge you to reappraise your Christian walk with God in ways you may not have considered. To receive your *free* cassette tape of “*Count the Cost*,” just check the box on the enclosed card and return it to us.

Thank you for keeping in touch.

With love in Christ’s service,  
**Ronald L. Dart**

## Radio Update

**Please note the following new stations:**

### **New Orleans, Louisiana**

WLNO 1060 AM  
7:30 a.m. Saturdays &  
11:30 p.m. Sundays

### **Burton, Michigan**

WFNT 1470 AM  
7:30 a.m. Sundays

### **Versailles, Missouri**

KTKS 95.1 FM  
6:30 a.m. Sundays

### **Knoxville, Tennessee**

WITA 1490 AM  
5:00 p.m. Sundays

### **Morgantown, West Virginia**

WZST 100.9 FM  
2:00 p.m. Saturdays &  
8:30 a.m. Sundays

## Calendar of Events

### **February 17<sup>th</sup> - Arlington, Texas Sabbath Services**

Ronald Dart, in cooperation with the North Texas Church of God, will be conducting Sabbath services in Arlington, Texas on Saturday, February 17<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 in the afternoon. We will be meeting at the Training Center Room of the La Quinta Conference Center, 825 N. Watson, in Arlington, Texas. The La Quinta is located across from Six Flags on the west side of 360, by Owens Restaurant.

### **March 17<sup>th</sup> - Phoenix, Arizona Christian Renewal Conference**

Ronald Dart will be speaking at a “Christian Renewal Conference” in Phoenix, Arizona on Saturday and Sunday, March 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> at the Embassy Suites, 2333 E. Thomas Road in Phoenix. There are two services planned for the Sabbath and then meetings on Sunday from 9:00 until noon. The Embassy Suites has offered a special rate when you call, (602) 957-1910, and mention the CRC. For more information or directions please contact Marvin Davis at (480) 949-0645.

### **March 31<sup>st</sup> - Atlanta, Georgia Meet the Teacher**

The Independent Church of God of Atlanta, Georgia is sponsoring a “Meet the Teacher” with Ronald Dart on Saturday, March 31<sup>st</sup> at 1:30 in the afternoon. It will be held at the 4 Point Sheraton Hotel-Atlanta Perimeter, 1850 Cotillion Drive, in Atlanta. For more information, or directions, please contact Steve Sanders at (770) 844-8147.

## Daily Radio

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

### **Huntsville, Alabama**

3:30 p.m. daily - WBXR 1140 AM

### **Little Rock, Arkansas**

5:30 p.m. daily - KAAY 1090 AM

### **Denver, Colorado**

5:00 a.m. Daily - KLT 670 AM

### **Augusta, Georgia**

5:30 p.m. daily - WFAM 1050 AM

### **Morrow, Georgia**

7:30 a.m. & 7 p.m. daily  
WSSA 1570 AM

### **Richmond, Kentucky**

12:30 p.m. daily - WCBR 1110 AM

### **Denton, Maryland**

10:00 a.m. daily - WKDI 840 AM

### **Omaha, Nebraska**

3:30 p.m. daily - KLNG 1560 AM

### **Asheville, North Carolina**

4:00 p.m. daily - WSKY 1230 AM

### **Charleston, South Carolina**

4:30 p.m. & 7:30 p.m. daily  
WZJY 1480 AM

### **Greenville, South Carolina**

4:30 p.m. daily - WELP 1050 AM

### **Chattanooga, Tennessee**

5:00 p.m. daily - WLMR 1450 AM

### **Beaumont, Texas**

8:30 a.m. daily - KQHN 1510 AM

### **Dallas, Texas**

6:30 a.m. daily - KSKY 660 AM

### **Ephrata, Washington**

6:00 a.m. Monday - Saturday  
KTRW 970 AM

**The following stations  
broadcast daily  
at 2:30 p.m.**

### **Northeastern Oregon**

KGDN 101.3 FM

### **Central Washington**

KGER 95.9 FM

### **Moses Lake, Washington**

KTAC 93.9 FM

### **Northwest Washington**

KTBI 810 AM

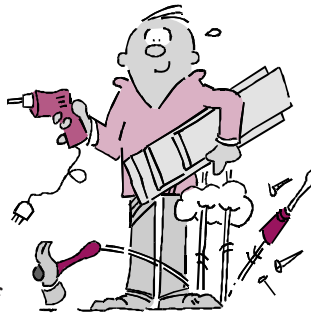
### **Spokane, Washington**

KSPO 106.5 FM

### **Yakima, Washington**

KYAK 930 AM

## FEAST PLANS ARE UNDER WAY!



The Festival Association is already busy making detailed plans to provide you with another great Feast in Niceville, Florida this autumn. Deborah Collins heads up a team of experts for travel and housing. Diane Cacchio is assisting Deborah Collins with housing. Shirley Hamil is taking care of the section of travel which will include maps, directory and camping information. Lavonne Schnell is working on the airlines and car rentals.

The travel and housing team is working hard to ensure that you get the best available rates for your housing accommodations and transportation. Extra discounts are in the makings for those attending the CEM Feast whether you plan to fly into Ft. Walton Beach or Panama City Beach. You will benefit from a lower air fare and car rentals expenses if you can work with their guidelines. Keep watching the Network and CEM's website for further information.

### Volunteers needed

Great Feasts require a lot of work and planning. They require many volunteers to see that no detail is left undone. We need you! Many hands make light work. The Festival Association can use volunteers in virtually every area for the upcoming Feast. Whatever your talents or experiences, we can use them. Remember, the Bible says, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." Here is your opportunity to receive a blessing by giving so that others may have a wonderful Feast. The following is a partial list of volunteers that we need for the 2001 Feast:

- ❑ Musicians – pianists, choir members, people for special music, etc.
- ❑ Sabbath School teaching staff – teachers and assistant teachers are needed to work with children 3 through 19 years of age
- ❑ Young adult activities - volunteers are needed to plan programs for this age group
- ❑ Activities – volunteers are needed to help with such activities as the fun show, teen activities, pie and ice cream social, family picnic, etc.
- ❑ Logistics – willing workers and strong backs are needed for setting up and taking down equipment
- ❑ Seminars – volunteers are needed for seminar presentations on various subjects suitable for people attending the Feast

If you are interested in helping in any of these departments, please contact Steve Clouthier at [Sclouthier@aol.com](mailto:Sclouthier@aol.com) or you may send information to CEM's address to Dr. Clouthier's attention.

## Board of Trustees

CEM would like to welcome two new members to the Board of Trustees, John Beasley and Michael Linacre. Two original members of the Board, Paula Hughes and Rod Martin have completed their current terms and CEM would like to thank them for their faithful service over the past five years. The Board is responsible for making decisions about the policies and business affairs of CEM, and their personal involvement and advice help us to continue doing God's work.

**John E. Beasley** is President of Beasley Marketing & Consulting, Inc, founded in 1992, providing professional cash commodity crop marketing services to row crop agricultural farmers. Prior to this he was Vice President of Micro Computer Center. He and his wife Cynthia, formerly of Lena, Illinois, live in Little Rock, Arkansas. John has been a member of the Church of God, Central Arkansas since 1994 and currently serves as their Council Secretary. He is a former president of the Little Rock Downtown Lions Club and serves as a Board member and is a recipient of the Melvin Jones Fellow award. John is also a member and former president of the Arkansas Lions

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Eye Bank Endowment Committee. He attended the University of Arkansas, Arkansas State University and Southern Baptist College, majoring in Business Administration. John enjoys playing golf and tennis.

**Mike Linacre** has been pastor of the Active Bible Church of God in Chicago, Illinois since 1996. Mike met his wife, Maureen (Mo) when they both worked in the Sydney, Australia office of Ambassador College and the Worldwide Church of God. Mike was born in England and is a graduate of Cambridge University, where he also received his MA. Maureen is an Australian and they married in 1973. Mike graduated from Ambassador College and held a variety of positions with the college until 1980. He then became Computer Sciences Manager for a company researching the effectiveness of the Head Start federally funded kindergarten program. In 1989 Mike obtained his Ph.D. in Psychological Measurement from the University of Chicago and took a research and teaching position with the University. Apart from his volunteer pastoral responsibilities, Mike continues to research and teach at the University of Chicago. He has well over 100 publications and conference papers in psychological measurement, focusing on the mental state of patients during medical rehabilitation.

## SUMMER CAMP IS COMING SOON

The time for planning for summer camp is upon us once again. This year's summer camp will be held from June 24 to July 1 and will again be held at Camp Wewoka Woods, near Wewoka, Oklahoma. We will also be sending out a letter to all who are on our teen mailing list. If you or a teen you know are not on our list, be sure to call, write or e-mail to ask about camp information.

The tuition fee will remain at \$250. We do not want this to place a financial burden on anyone, causing them to be unable to attend. So we have established a special camp scholarship fund and request that anyone who can and would like to help sponsor a deserving young person to come to camp, make a special contribution to this camp scholarship fund. This special donation will still be tax deductible, but will be used exclusively for helping a young person come to camp.

Summer camp will be open to all teens who have reached their thirteenth birthday by the time camp ends and who have not yet reached their nineteenth birthday. Summer camp 2001 is open to all teens, regardless of their church affiliation, or that of their parents.

We will have water skiing and tubing, as well as softball, swimming, horseback riding and group initiatives. Again this year we will also have volleyball and full-court basketball *indoors*, not to mention the dances and the annual funshow.

If you know of someone who would enjoy coming to camp, be sure to tell them to call, write or e-mail for an application. Please spread the word, so that all who want to attend will know about camp. And if you are able, please help a deserving young person come to camp this summer by making a small donation to the camp scholarship fund.

**Born to Win**  
Making Life Work

**Tune in for the latest  
weekly broadcast.**

**February 17 - February 23**

*Christian Origins 48*

**February 24 - March 2**

*Christian Origins 49*

**March 3 - March 9**

*Christian Holidays 1*

**March 10 - March 16**

*Christian Holidays 2*

*Christian Educational Ministries*



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