

DEVOTIONAL

MY SOUL THIRSTS FOR YOU

Psalm 63:1 "...O God, You are my God; I will seek You earnestly; my soul thirsts for You; my flesh longs for You, as in a dry and thirsty land, where no water is."

The Psalmist has no doubts about his God and his personal, intimate relationship with Him; "thou art my God" and why should any true believer have any doubts? The straightforward, clear language of this opening sentence should be our personal declaration rather than the doubtful expressions so often heard among Christians.

Possession breeds desire. "You are my God," therefore "I seek You Earnestly"; Knowledge of our God should not be a hindrance to our earnestness in seeking Him, but it should be the cause of it. How can I seek another man's God? It is with a passionate desire that I seek after Him whom I know to be my own and he who truly longs for God longs for Him not only now but for all eternity.

Genesis 2:7 "And The Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul."

My soul

God put my soul in me, and gave me life, He placed eternity in my heart and by His grace He placed a desire in me to seek to know Him who made me.

Thirsts for You

He does not say my soul thirsts for water, but my soul thirsts for You Lord, nor does he say my soul

thirsts for deliverance out of this dry and thirsty land, but that my soul thirsts for You, my flesh longs for You. Thirst is an insatiable longing after that which is one of the most essential supports of life; there is no reasoning with it, no forgetting it, no despising it, no overcoming it by patiently waiting. Thirst will be heard; If we thirst it is because the brain signals thirst, the whole man must yield to its power; It is that same divine desire that The Lord creates in the heart of the regenerated man through His grace; only God himself can satisfy the craving of a soul truly made to thirst by the Holy Spirit.

Psalm 42:2 "My soul thirsts for God, for the living God."
Isaiah 55:1 "Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters."
John 7:37 "Jesus stood and cried out, If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink."

Revelation 21:6 "And He said to me, It is done. I am the Alpha and Omega, the Beginning and the End. To him who thirsts I will give of the fountain of the Water of Life freely."

I will seek You earnestly I will diligently seek You, as men seek after gold and precious stones that are of the greatest value.

True happiness can only be found when our soul is satisfied and our soul can only be satisfied when God quenches the thirst in our soul.

Challenge Bank Account direct deposit details
BSB: 066162 / Account: 00900455

INDIA

A COUNTRY FOCUS

Last month, Carl Carmody represented Challenge at the official launch of the Destiny paper in the Indian city of Hyderabad, where the paper is to be printed. Whilst in India, Carl appointed an editor and sub editor on a contract basis in partnership with Asia Evangelistic Fellowship and also negotiated with a printer.

The paper is to be called "Destiny – A Challenge To Better Living" to compliment the work that A.E.F are already doing under the banner of Destiny Communications. Sheldon Samuel has been appointed as director of Destiny Communications in India.

The first print run is expected in March/April 2009. The

paper will be distributed into 3 cities Hyderabad, Secunderabad and Bombay, which have a combined population of 35 million. The initial print run of 50,000 copies will be in English with a view to produce a separate edition completely in the Hindi language.

Sheldon Samuel has anticipated that within twelve months the Challenge distribution will have grown to 300 000 copies per edition.

Although the Indian economy has grown steadily over the last two decades, wealth distribution in India is fairly uneven. The top 10% of income groups are earning 33% of the income. A quarter of the nation's population (more than 300 million) earns less than the government-specified poverty threshold of \$0.40 per day.

Over 800 million Indians are Hindu followers, 134 million Muslims, 23 million Christians, 19 million Sikhs and 8 million Buddhists. What a potential harvest field for the Kingdom and for the Glory of God.

AEF is also launching a training centre to train pastors and outreach workers. These staff will also be used to disciple those who make a profession of faith in Jesus Christ.

Rom 10:13-14 "...whoever shall call on the name of the Lord will be saved." How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without preaching?



If you would like to join the next Impact Africa trip for 2009 please contact the office:

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ROGER RADBONE
DESKTOP PUBLISHER



Born in 1933 in South Australia, I grew up in a happy household with three brothers, until alcohol took charge of my father, and violence and arguments made things upsetting for all members of the family. When I became a Christian later in life I was convicted to forgive my father for all the ill will. And I found that a very hard thing to do.



I began working at the Government Printing Office in Adelaide, and in 1961, I married Lynette Parker, who was from WA. Five years later, we moved to Perth, where we raised 3 sons and a daughter.

In 1973, one of my brothers lost his 8-year-old son to Meningitis. As I knew him to be a Christian I wondered how he could cope with the loss of his son, but I saw a peace about him and his family that I could not understand.

Desiring this for my family also, we began attending a small church in Beckenham, where my wife Lyn soon came to know Jesus Christ as her Saviour. I used all sorts of excuses against making a commitment, but a few months later I gave my heart to the Lord at Lyn's baptism.

In 1989, Lyn became ill with breast cancer, and passed away the following year, aged 50 years (and on my 57th birthday). The grief I had at that time was an experience new to me and I did not know how to handle it, because our families lived far away from us. Our friends at the fellowship were a wonderful support.

After the death of Lyn, when time for annual leave came around, I began spending my time at Challenge. We had attended the inauguration of Challenge when Pastor Eric Evans started Challenge Literature Fellowship with a group of willing helpers, a few years earlier.

When the Government Print was closed in 1995, Carl Carmody offered me a position at Challenge to put my printing skills to good use.

That same year, I also met my present wife Margaret Castlehow, who had lost her husband to illness. Between us we have 9 children, 26 grand children, and 11 great-grandchildren.

It might be a surprise to many that as a printer I have read many words, but I have difficulty in reading the Bible. As a typesetter, I got used to reading words and they went straight to my finger tips on the keyboard to type words, and often the words never sink into my brain. So when I read God's Word with Margaret we read it aloud so that I can take in what I am reading.

As I have just celebrated my 75th birthday, the Lord has blessed my wife Margaret (73) and myself in many ways over the years, as we serve Him in our various ways.

PRAISE POINTS

- For the wonderful gifts and help provided through our supporters and volunteers.
- Appointment of Sheldon Samual as Director for Destiny Communications in India.
- Appointment of an editor and sub editor in India to work on a contract basis.
- Safe travel of Carl Carmody as he represents Challenge globally.

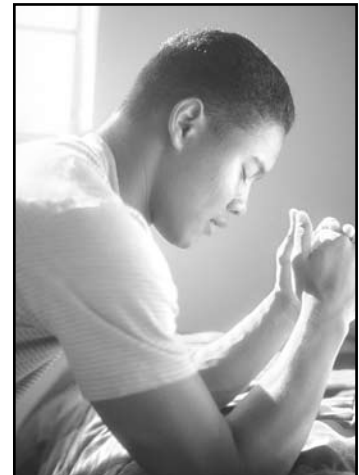


PRAYER POINTS

- Pray for the set up of Destiny Communications – its purpose is to transform Asia through media and for the launch of the quarterly newspaper Challenge to be known in India as “Destiny – A Challenge To Better Living” which is set to take place in April 2009.
- Challenge staff both permanent and volunteers
- For the huge impact of the Christmas edition of Challenge as many churches use it to reach their communities.
- For our Global Partners and for the Challenge distribution globally

Staff Required

- Pray that the Lord will call a replacement for Joe Attwater and Abdel Moorhouse as they leave Challenge to pursue new areas of ministry.
- The requirements for the position: To be called of God



into this ministry on a long term basis. To have experience with desktop work. Needs to have a heart for mission, evangelism and to share the vision of Challenge in wanting to communicate Christ to those who do not know Him as Lord and Saviour.



MY RESPONSE

Post to: Challenge Literature Fellowship, PO Box 978, Cloverdale WA 6985 or Fax to **(08) 9453 3006**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Post Code: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

with God's help I would like to be a partner in supporting the ministry at Challenge in the following way(s):

- Prayer: Please send me updated prayer information
- Financial: Please receive my: Monthly Quarterly Yearly One time contribution of:
 - \$50 \$75 \$100 \$200 Other: \$ _____

Credit Card: Visa Mastercard

Credit Card #: _____

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[]/[]