



## “Faith for the Helpless”

Rev. David J. Bauer

*Several years ago, Dolores became a caregiver for a quadriplegic young man. He had never walked nor moved his arms or legs by his own power in his lifetime of 23 years. But over the course of time his legs, arms and back had become gnarled and grotesque in form, eventually twisted like a pretzel. A special wheelchair had to be manufactured for this young man to accommodate his irregular form. He was helpless, totally dependent on those who cared for him each day. He could only move when others moved him, and eat only when they fed him.*

When we hear the old adage: “All you have to do is have faith,” it would all depend on just what we might have faith in. A hopeless faith is a faith that is not in the right object. We need faith in Christ, our Savior plus nothing else. This is the faith that can make us whole. Let us look at a good example of faith which made a helpless man whole...

**Only God’s power can heal when we are absolutely helpless and in need of restoration –John 5:1-7.** Jesus finds a group of people gathered near the pool of Bethesda –V. 3. They were quite a helpless lot: There were blind folks, lame ones, paralyzed ones too, a great multitude, all gathered near the pool... waiting! Yes, waiting; for what? All waiting for a mysterious moving of the waters in which one might be healed; that is, if one could get himself/herself into the waters at just the right time.

What a great picture of helpless, lost humanity! Folks hoping to be healed of sin’s great disease and consequences are waiting without strength. “When we were yet without strength in due time Christ died for the ungodly” –Romans 5:6. We all are dead in trespasses and sins, walking on earth in the devil’s playground –Ephesians 2:1-3. And there is a great multitude waiting. Most place their trust for salvation in a lot of worthless things: Christian friends, baptism, false religious systems, etc. This particular man had spent his entire 38 year life in a helpless condition, unable to even roll over into the water; totally disabled!

When Jesus asked him if he wanted to be healed, his complaint was that no one would put him into the water. Others, not so disabled would rush to get in first. Isn’t that just like the efforts of humankind? If salvation were according to our spiritual disability, the sinner with small sins could get saved easily. It would not be possible for the one totally incapacitated by sin’s deadly sway to be healed or saved. Others, more righteous than us might be able to achieve heaven’s shores before us. By human reasoning, this would be perfectly fair. But God’s grace is available to all who believe! Aren’t we glad that Jesus died for helpless people; little sinners and big ones? –Romans 5:8. The man was helpless, but wanted to be healed. Like him, we must want to be healed in order to be saved.



Rev. David J. Bauer  
BRM Director

**Only God’s power can grant real healing from sin’s deadly disease – John 5:8-9.** Jesus then gives this man (and us) the command to “Arise!” “Arise!” This is a command for a new life; Jesus calls us to a brand new life in Him. One can only imagine the atrophy of this man’s bones and muscles after 38 years of helplessness; walking was not even a possibility. “Take up your bed and walk!” Jesus’ command did not allow even the possibility of a relapse. It is indicated that the man did not really know who Jesus was at the time. How strong could his faith have been in the command of this unknown man? And yet he obeyed Jesus, arose, took up his bed and walked. One totally paralyzed can walk only after he has been made whole. We have the strength to walk with the Lord only after we have been made whole from the effect of sin’s great devastation. Only Jesus can do this! He did, and he does it today too!

**Only God’s power can give us works of righteousness –John 5:13-14.** After being interrogated by religious leaders more interested in why this man was carrying a bed on the Sabbath day, the man returned to the temple where he found Jesus again. Jesus’ command to him is a stark reminder of what is required of us all: “Behold, you have been made whole; sin no more, lest a worse thing come unto thee” –V. 14. “You have been made whole...” When we are whole in Him we are complete; nothing can be added to completeness! “And you are complete in Him who is the head of all principalities and power” –Colossians 2:10.

Yet we must heed God’s call to righteousness. Jesus reminded the restored man of his obligation to “sin no more...” When the Scriptures talk of God’s free grace and mercy toward us in our helplessness, they further remind us that we are “His workmanship created in good works...” –Ephesians 2:10. We need to be “careful to maintain good works...” –Titus 2:8. We are to “awake to righteousness and sin no more...” –1 Corinthians 15:34. We are now “redeemed from iniquity” and are a “...purified, special people zealous of good works” –Titus 2:14.

Healed from hopelessness; Let us walk with our Lord and be a blessing!

## Words of Wisdom Dr. Charles Svoboda



Rev. Chuck Svoboda  
1919 - 2014

### “Trials & Testing”

The Christian life can be full, satisfying, and truly blessed, but it has never been easy. In addition to sharing the sufferings and sorrows common to all men, Christians must often endure trials and hardships inflicted upon them because of their relation to Christ.

Trials bring blessings –James 1:3. Eventually the Christian will find that all things will work together for good by the grace of God. He will find renewed strength, trusting in God. He can understand that all such experiences are intended to develop him in the Lord. Believers are not to create trials deliberately –V. 1:4. Allow trials to come into your life naturally. Just live by faith and you will experience trials.



### “Delicious Low-Fat Chicken Salad”

- 1 Whole Cooked Rotisserie Chicken  
(Purchase at super mart, Costco or Sam’s Club)
- 1 Regular Bottle of Ranch Low-Fat Dressing
- 1 Cup of Low-Fat Sour Cream
- ½ Sweet Onion Finely Diced
- 5 oz. Slivered Almonds or Chopped Pecans
- 5 oz. Dried Cranberries

Allow Roasted Chicken to cool. Strip off and discard all skin. Remove all meat from the bones. Use Cutting Board to dice Chicken meat up into ½ inch cubes (approximately).

Thoroughly mix Chicken Cubes with all ingredients in large salad bowl. Cover and chill in refrigerator for several hours. Makes 4-5 lbs. of Chicken Salad.

Scoop with a large spoon and serve on bed of Lettuce, or Croissants. Yum!

--Recipe by Pastor Dave Bauer



## Helpful Hints

### All this time you've just been putting Bounce Fabric Softener sheets in the dryer!

Put a sheet or two in your pockets when working or playing outside. It keeps yellow-jackets away. Other insects and mosquitoes as well just veer around you.

A Bounce sheet takes the odor out of books and photo albums that don't get opened too often.

Eliminate static electricity from your television (or computer) screen by lightly rubbing with a sheet.

Put a Bounce sheet in a vacuum cleaner in or near the bag for a fresher smell in the house.

Prevent thread from tangling. Run a threaded needle through a sheet of Bounce before beginning to sew.

Collect cat or dog hair. Rubbing the area with a sheet of Bounce will magnetically attract all the loose hairs.

Wipe up sawdust from drilling or sand papering. A used sheet of Bounce will collect sawdust like a tack cloth.

Eliminate odors in wastebaskets, laundry bags, hampers or trash cans. Place a sheet of Bounce at the bottom of the container.

Gifts can be sent to our PO Box or made online with any kind of a charge or debit card using the **Paypal button** on the left side of our website pages. It is so simple to use! **Remember: Bible Related Ministries keeps Church doors open and we put good men in our pulpits! We are supported 100% by individual and church donations.**

For information on planning a legacy, Give Terry Balko a call at 404-229-1645 or email Mr. Balko for forms and details at [terry@terrybalko.com](mailto:terry@terrybalko.com). Three out of seven families have NO plan at all! To be NOT PLANNING is NOT a very good plan!

**Leave a legacy for your family & favourite ministries. Don't let your hard earned life-savings go into a probate bureaucracy!**

## Bible Related Ministries

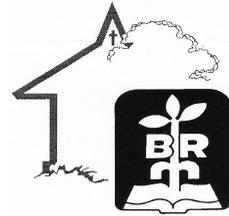
[www.BibleRelatedMinistries.org](http://www.BibleRelatedMinistries.org)

[www.MinistryAdventure.org](http://www.MinistryAdventure.org)

Post Office Box 272 - Hinsdale, Illinois 60522

Ph: 708-579-3800/3801

E-mail: [djbauer1@juno.com](mailto:djbauer1@juno.com)



# Bible Related Ministries Newsletter

Rev. David J. Bauer, Director



## 2017

*"The Lord's mercies never cease, because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning: Great is Thy faithfulness."*  
—Lamentations 3:22-23

[www.BibleRelatedMinistries.org](http://www.BibleRelatedMinistries.org)

[www.MinistryAdventures.org](http://www.MinistryAdventures.org)

Like us on Facebook

**P.O. Box 272**

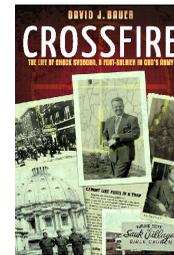
**Hinsdale, IL 60522**



Rev. Dave Bauer  
&  
Dr. Jim Rodgers'  
August Itinerary



- Aug. 6, 13 Mt. Prospect Bible Church, Mt. Prospect, IL  
10:30 a.m. Dr. Jim Rodgers
- Aug. 6 Devon Church, Chicago, IL  
9:30 a.m. Rev. David J. Bauer
- Aug. 17 Pacific Garden Mission, Chicago, IL  
12:00 noon Rev. David J. Bauer



**From Cicero Gangland, to Enemy Gunfire, to Church Organization, to Arbitration in Churches... and beyond! The Chuck Svoboda Story & Bible Church History!**

----- **CROSSFIRE** -----

Author David J. Bauer - Grace Acres Press  
Crossfire is currently available for a \$13 Donation  
[www.BibleRelatedMinistries.org](http://www.BibleRelatedMinistries.org)  
Box 272, Hinsdale, IL 60522  
708-579-3800/3801

### The Lighter Side -

A man and his wife were sitting in the living room and he said to her: "Just so you know, I never want to live in a vegetative state dependent on some machine. If that ever happens, just pull the plug."

His wife then got up and unplugged the TV.

A Sunday school teacher asked her little children, as they were on the way to church service, "And why is it necessary to be quiet in church?" One bright little girl replied, "Because people are sleeping."

A ten-year old, under the tutelage of her grandmother, was quite knowledgeable about the Bible. Then, one day, she floored her grandmother by asking, "Which Virgin was the mother of Jesus? The Virgin Mary or the King James Virgin?"

## BRM Field Report #Eight

We have been on the go during the summer months. There is a variety of ministry opportunities for us as we serve churches and pastors.

Our BRM Associate, Rev. Steve Barack has been serving as Associate Pastor since January 2 in Lisle Bible Church in the western suburb of Chicago. Through an unusual set of circumstances, Steve has been installed as Senior Pastor of Lisle Bible Church. Rev. Bauer had the joy of giving the charge to the new pastor (Steve) at his formal installation on July 30.

Rev. Bauer and Dolores recently had an opportunity to minister at the First Baptist Church of Downers Grove. Rev. Don Zimmerman called our office to schedule in a preacher for July 9. We were able to fill that date and renew our fellowship with several dear friends who are members there.

Leadership families have left a couple of supporting churches recently, because of their disappointment with the pastor. Wouldn't it be more productive to pray for the pastor, that God would change him? We have seen God do some wonderful work in pastor's hearts, and know that it is possible.

In another instance, we observed some important changes in the attitude and behavior of a local pastor. In his heart he wanted to be the pastor the church needed. He prayed for God to change him and give him strength to do God's will in ministry. God did, but a couple of folks still left the church. Probably they just didn't want him as pastor, even with a willing heart for ministry. Sad indeed...

Mt. Prospect Bible Church and Redemption Bible Church have recently voted unanimously to merge congregations. On August 13, BRM will rejoice with the celebration of the two churches becoming one: Redemption Bible Church—Mt. Prospect!

Another of our loyal BRMers, Mrs. Juanita Dyson, entered into the presence of the Lord on July 5. Juanita was a long time member of Summit Bible Church. She is now with the Lord, reunited with her late husband, Gordon. —2 Corinth. 5:8

Thanks for prayers & support for our ongoing ministry.

In His Service,

Rev. David J. Bauer —Psalm 18:30