

## LETTING GOD FIND YOU

by Herb Montgomery  
Director | Speaker



When You said, “Seek My face,” my heart said to You, “Your face, O LORD, I shall seek.” (Psalms 27:8)

Every person “moved to seek the Savior” does so only because “Christ is drawing the soul by His love” (*Christ Object Lessons*, p. 45). There has been much talk this year concerning the need for God’s people to seek Him as never before. To this I say, “Amen!”

However, I want to add a word of caution. Do not think for a moment that in so doing we are taking the initiative. As David stated above, if we are moved to seek God’s face as never before, this is evidence that our hearts are responding to God’s work because He is drawing us to seek His face as never before. God is seeking us much more than we are seeking Him, for “salvation does not come through our seeking after God but through God’s seeking after us” (*Ibid*, p. 189). Notice the principle that “the sheep that has strayed from the fold is the most helpless of all creatures. It must be sought for by the shepherd, for it cannot find its way back. So with the soul that has wandered away from God; he is as helpless as the lost sheep, and unless divine love had come to his rescue he could never find his way to God” (*Ibid*, p. 187.3).

Please, don’t misunderstand. I do not want to discourage anyone from seeking God’s face, but there is a danger in thinking that in our seeking there is some merit. God is the initiator. We are the responders. If we are calling out to God, it is only because He first is calling out to us.

As this new year begins, rather than making outlandish promises that you know you won’t keep, try surrendering instead. There are two reasons to do this. First, “your promises and resolutions are like ropes of sand. You cannot control your thoughts, your impulses, your affections. The knowledge of your broken promises and forfeited pledges weakens your confidence in your own sincerity, and causes you to feel that God cannot accept you . . .” (*Steps to Christ*, p. 47). The second reason is that it is not through mustering more spiritual energy that we experience a deeper closeness with God, but through simply not resisting. “The sinner may resist this love, may refuse to be drawn to Christ; but if he does not resist he will be drawn to Jesus; a knowledge of the plan of salvation will lead him to the foot of the cross in repentance” (*Ibid*, p. 27).

This new year, when God asks you to spend more time with Him, surrender.

When God moves you to pray, surrender.

When God moves your heart to reach out with love to some soul in need, do not resist. Surrender. For it is in these precious moments, not

that we find God, but we allow Him to find us.

“The question arises, ‘How do we submit ourselves to God?’ It is simple. Look at your life; see what things pertain solely to the present, natural life, those things that you do by nature. Take a survey of the things that you are addicted to, which you know are not Christ-like, but which cause you condemnation, even by your own heart. Now you have doubtless done this; you have also repeatedly tried to overcome them and put them away, but have not been able to do so. But you sincerely desire to be rid of them. You would rather have Christ than your own ways. Therefore you say, ‘Here, Lord, take me as I am; I give myself into Thy hands, for Thee to do with me as thou wilt; take all these evils from me by the power that rests in Thee alone. Just as I am, without one plea, But that thy blood was shed for me, And that Thou bids me to come To Thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.’” (E.J Waggoner, *Baptism and Its Significance*, p. 1) †

### Thoughts to Ponder—

“It is no part of Christ’s mission to compel men to receive Him. It is Satan, and men actuated by his spirit, that seek to compel the conscience.

Under a pretense of zeal for righteousness, men who are confederate with evil angels bring suffering upon their fellow men, in order to convert them to their ideas of religion; but Christ is ever showing mercy, ever seeking to win by the revealing of His love. He can admit no rival in the soul, nor accept partial service; but He desires only voluntary service, the willing surrender of the heart under the constraint of love. There can be no more conclusive evidence that we possess the spirit of Satan than the disposition to hurt and destroy those who do not appreciate our work, or who act contrary to our ideas.”

(White, *The Desire of Ages*, p. 487)

# MINISTRY UPDATE

## New releases for 2008!

The new year has commenced and activity abounds. This year, as funding permits, it is our hope to release many more heavily requested resources. The following is a short description of the projects we are currently working on and hope to release in 2008.

## Bible Studies!

It is our goal to release the first ten lessons of a new series of Bible studies built for busy people. The aim of these lessons is to reach our current postmodern culture with the message of God's love as seen through the lens of our Adventists beliefs in a current and culturally relevant way

## A New Book!

The long awaited, much requested manuscript by Herb Montgomery is almost finished and will be going through editing and design this spring. The title is still to be announced.



## Morning Devotional for Sharing!

Have you ever wanted to share the insights you've gained from Renewed Heart Ministries? It is our hope to aid you in this by releasing a small book of morning devotionals that is small enough to share with your family and friends. This concise booklet will be a compilation of the weekly E-sights many have enjoyed via their e-mail throughout 2007.

## Life Unlimited on DVD!

Many have requested the Life Unlimited series on DVD, but as yet we have not been able to supply this request with a professionally recorded set. As funding permits we will be filming and editing the truly life changing Life Unlimited series for DVD release in 2008.

## Updates to the Website!

We will also be introducing a weekly podcast subscription as well as streaming video presentations in the resource section of our Website.



## Promotional DVDs!

These will be short three-minute promotional DVD you can share with your church, family, and friends to introduce them to the life changing free resources offered by Renewed Heart Ministries.



## Four-Day Training Program on How to Share the Gospel!

Last summer it was requested that we begin holding seminars that help train church members to share their faith in a Gospel-centered way. This four-day intensive class will have limited registration, which will be announced on our Website. It is our hope to use the new Bible study series in conjunction with this training series. Registration will be a first-come, first-served basis; and the location and dates will be announced. Sorry, no pre-registration.

Once again, these are our visions for 2008 as funding permits. Please feel free to request more information if you would like to give toward any of the projects listed above. We at Renewed Heart Ministries wish you God's richest blessings this new year. May the work Jesus began of "lightening the Earth with His glory," soon be finished through the revealing of His love through us.

## Our Sins Purchased

Christ “gave Himself for our sins.” That is to say, He bought them, and paid the price for them. This is a simple statement of fact; the language used is commonly employed in referring to purchases. “How much did you give for it?” or, “How much do you want for it?” are frequent questions. When we hear a man say that he gave so much for a certain thing, what do we at once know? We know that that thing belongs to him, because he has bought it. So when the Holy Spirit tells us that Christ gave Himself for our sins, of what should we be equally sure? That He bought our sins and that they belong to Him, not to us. They are ours no longer, and we have no right to them. Every time we sin we are robbing the Lord, for we must remember that Christ has purchased not merely the specific acts of sin that we committed in the past, but the sins that are in us and that break forth. In this faith there is righteousness.

## He Has Bought Us, Too

This follows from the fact that He has purchased our sins to deliver us from ourselves. Our sins are a part of ourselves; nay, they are the whole of us, for our natural lives are nothing but sin. Therefore, Christ could not buy our sins without buying us also. Of this fact we have many plain statements. He “gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from all iniquity.” (Titus 2:14) “Ye are not your own; for ye are bought with a price.” (1Cor.6:19) “Ye were redeemed, not with corruptible things, with silver or gold, from your vain manner of life handed down from your fathers; but with precious blood, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot, even the blood of Christ.” (1Pet.1:18,19, R.V.)

## Accepted in the Beloved

How often the Gospel worker hears some one say, “I am so sinful that I am afraid the Lord will not accept me;” and even people who have long professed to be Christians often mournfully wish that they could be sure of their acceptance with God. The Lord has given no ground for any such doubts. The question of acceptance is forever settled by what we have just read. Christ bought us, together with all our sins, and He has paid the price. That shows that He has accepted us. Why does a man go to the shop and buy an article? Because he wants it. If he has paid the price for it, having examined it to know what he was buying, does the merchant worry he will not accept it? Not at all; the merchant knows that it is his business to get the goods to the purchaser as soon as possible. If he does not deliver the goods to the purchaser, he is guilty of fraud. The buyer will not indifferently say, “Well, I have done my part, and if he doesn’t care to do his, he need not—that’s all; he may keep the things if he wants to.” No. He will visit the shop and say, “Why have you not given me what belongs to me?” He will take vigorous measures to come into possession of his property. Even so it is not a matter of indifference to Jesus whether we surrender ourselves to Him. He longs with an infinite yearning for the souls that He has purchased with His own blood. “The Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.” (Luke 19:10) God has “chosen us in Him before the foundation of the world,” and so “He hath made us accepted in the Beloved.” (Eph.1:4-6) (*The Glad Tidings*, Waggoner pp. 18-19)

## TESTIMONIES . . .

*"Thank you and praise God for your ministry! My husband and I were at \_\_\_\_\_. We were so blessed by the message God has given you to give to us. My husband and I had a huge heart-to-heart confessing to each other and to God. Your message, the message from God, picked us up from the depths of darkness that our previous choices had put us in. By God's love, grace and forgiveness our marriage is stronger now and our home is happier. We pray that God continues to use you to spread His message and that the hearts that hear will be blessed."*—B & B

*"You, dear brother have been a blessing to so many people because you have surrendered your heart to Jesus to allow Him to speak through your voice to explain the love and character of our wonderful heavenly Father. I am but one in that long list of recipients. Thank you from the bottom of my heart."*—TW

*"Thank you for allowing yourself to be used by Christ. Your report of the meetings you held and the results were very thrilling."*

*May God continue to use you to share His love!"*—LP

*"My husband and I are rather new Adventists. Having been raised \_\_\_\_\_, we both had pretty severe images of God and have been profoundly blessed by the Extravagant Love series. I personally had been petrified of the tribulation, believing that I surely would suffer terrible*

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***"You, dear brother have been a blessing to so many people because you have surrendered your heart to Jesus ..."***

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*things because of my sinful past. Your message has helped me get over that. We have many friends and have been trying to show them a better image of God . . . We even bought 12 sets of Extravagant Love to share with them... Please keep up the great work for our awesome God! God bless you and your ministry"*—DB

*"Your weekly E-sight was so great! I did a lot of forwards on that one! Also thanks so*

*much for the picture of Christian! What an absolutely beautiful child! May God bless all of you as you raise him for God's glory! You're in our prayers and love."*—J & K

*"My friend was touched by the message of renewed heart ministries at cuc. Today in conversation on msn he sent me the link for the Website. I am right now currently listening to the online sermons with my family, and already from the first two sermons, I am extremely blessed. I thank God for speaking to me through this ministry, and I pray he may continue to bless your ministry."*—DC

*"To hear your experience and come face to face with a God that loves me so much that His very existence was threatened got through to me. God bless you, Herb!"* — KC

*"I was introduced to your Website by a wonderful guy . . . I listened to each sermon several times, in my car on my way to work, at home, jogging! Yesterday, going to church, I listened to the sermon "The Awakening." I was moved by the message and I can't get it out of my head. Thank you so much! May God continually bless your family and your ministry!"*— Anon. †

## CALENDAR

### **January 10-13, 2008**

Pullman Community Worship Center  
Pullman, WA  
509.332.8782

### **January 18-19, 2008**

Charleston SDA Church  
Charleston, WV  
479.754.0675

### **January 25-26, 2008**

Penn Valley SDA Church  
Penn Valley, CA  
530.432.2479

### **February 8-9, 2008**

Campion SDA Church  
Loveland, CO  
970.667.7403

### **February 15-24, 2008**

Penn Valley SDA Church  
Penn Valley, CA  
530.432.2479

### **February 29-March 1, 2008**

Westchester Korean SDA Church  
Yonkers, NY  
347-683-0157

### **March 7-8, 2008**

Sunset Oaks SDA Church  
Rocklin, CA  
916.771.3869

### **March 14-23, 2008**

Woodside SDA Church  
Sacramento, CA  
916.549.5656

Renewed Heart Ministries provides many of its resources free of charge. In order to provide this service, we are dependent on the contributions of our supporters. If you would like to make a one-time gift or offer monthly support,\* please send your contributions to the following address:

Renewed Heart Ministries  
P.O. Box 1211  
Lewisburg, WV 24901

Contributions can also be made online at:  
[www.renewedheartministries.com](http://www.renewedheartministries.com)

*\*All donations will receive a tax-deductible receipt.*

Be sure to check out RHM's free resources at:  
[www.renewedheartministries.com](http://www.renewedheartministries.com)