

Heart to Heart

*Bringing our hearts to Him,
Receiving His Heart for us!*

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In This Issue

[Powerless Victim? Never!](#)

[Looking Through God's Eyes](#)

[Do You Care Too Much?](#)

[From We to Thee](#)

Upcoming Seminars

Freedom Weeks

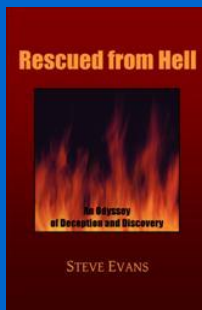
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Dear ,

Welcome to the upside down, inside out world of the kingdom. These are just a few inversion stories. Jesus' teachings on the parables of the kingdom abound in them. If our head isn't spinning at times, are we really being transformed? Repentance means "turning around."

Steve

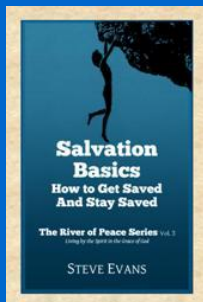
Powerless Victim? Never!

One way you can always get a victory...

None of us have the power, even through prayer, to effect all outcomes as we desire. God can't even do all that He would like to do (save everyone for instance). Nevertheless we are vested with enormous power to transform any situation on earth. How? Simply by being the person at the center of any "unwanted" situation who is giving it all to God and then staying in the place of freedom and delight, worshiping God in all things and for all things. When things get bad that's where I head!

Remember playground merry-go-rounds? I think of it as climbing to the center of one. At first this terrified me as a child. It seemed like the absolute wrong way to go, because I was already in danger of being thrown off. Whenever the big boys would tease us little kids by spinning it faster than we wanted to go--I just clung to those outer rings in terror. Then came the day I watched in amazement as one of them climbed past me to the center. He let go and laughed! **He was in perfect ease--at the vortex of danger.** Eventually, I summoned up the "faith" courage to climb up there too. How marvelously it transformed the whole experience!

When events are swirling around you, seemingly out of control and certainly not as you would desire, make every effort to get centered and surrendered by holding on to some promise of hope (my handholds that pull me to the center are Romans 8:28 and Romans 8:39). Let go **all** care **except** being in the center of His will and then feel the freedom and uplift of His Spirit as He takes charge over the situation through you to work His will. The results may not come immediately, but His

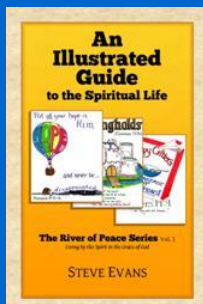


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Hot off the Press!

peace and a confirming sense of Holy Spirit empowerment will.

Doesn't it hurt to be in pain and problems? Every time! But it's a bother only on the way to the center. The pain is actually what makes me want to start climbing. Once I get re-centered it is easy to thank God even for the pain.

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 ESV

Looking Through God's Eyes

His perspective is so much better than ours...

"Perceptions are everything" is a phrase from psychology, meaning that we always respond to the world (and other people) as we perceive it to be--real **or** imagined.

The way we perceive people and situations to be, the way we perceive our options to be, the way we perceive our duty to be are things that inevitably rule over us. **Reality may be very different** from what I perceive to be true about it, but I have to respond to life on my best (partly guessed) understanding of what is going on and what I am meant to do in response.

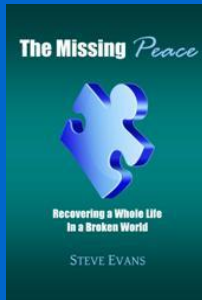
We all have heard stories about truly irrational paranoia: the idea that there is a conspiracy of people "out to get you." The person trapped in such a demented condition is absolutely convinced that their every (mistaken) impression is true and no one can tell them differently. Sound familiar?

The truth is that all of us are **trapped in a milder form of mis-perception**. God (the invisible Other Person) is saying things to us about our life and our world **as He sees it from His perspective**. That perspective is Reality in the most powerful meaning of the word. Our perceptions can't hold a candle of truth to His greater Light.

Yet, we choose to disbelieve. If we fully embraced His perspective on our reality **in every moment** we would be singing non-stop with the angels! Having our perceptions overturned by His Word is what the on-going conversion process to the life of faith is all about.

For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. Isaiah 55:8-9 ESV

Ever seen the earth from the window of an airplane? Puts everything in a more orderly, beautiful perspective, doesn't it? Let's spend more time taking Him up on His Word and seeing our life through His eyes...

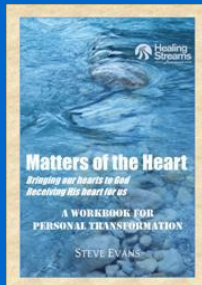


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Holes in the Heart

A life lesson learned on a
Honduran road.

A Warrior's Heart

Joyce fought Lupus and and

Do You Care Too Much?

This is one of the strangest feelings..

Jesus said it so it must be true: We have to learn to ***stop caring*** so much about our lives. He says we will lose our life unless we "care nothing" for it:

Those who love their life in this world will lose it. Those who care nothing for their life in this world will keep it for eternity. John 12:25 NLT

What can He be thinking? "Dying to Self" evidently takes many forms; so does denying oneself in order to follow Jesus.

- 1) I am to hate my Self.** That's me with my fallen nature in charge of me.
- 2) I am to love myself.** That's me as God created me to be--with Him in charge, keeping my soul at rest in Him.

Complicated? Only when we stop trusting everything about ourselves to Jesus. Let's look at one aspect that was troubling to me in times past:

When I was first born again I was in such a spiritual sweat to fix myself. I wanted to become fully alive. I wanted to experience the "glorious liberty of the children of God." So far, so good. However, I was trying to do it by my own efforts to "get" freedom. The problem was that I was ruining my life getting so stressed up about how far I was from the goal of liberation.

Then it dawned on me that Jesus wanted to give everything to me, so I settled down and gave up on trying to bring myself to life by allowing Him to do it for me. Whenever we "give up" by giving something over to the Lord, grace happens. ***I had to "stop caring" about me.*** And especially on caring so much about that particular aspect of being me.

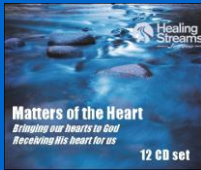
Now take this principle of "caring nothing" for your life and extend it in all sorts of directions including the lives of your loved ones. Remember the parable of the seed falling on the ground laden with thorns? It is a picture of our lives being choked by the good "cares" of this world, by caring too much about things that are best left to the care and cultivation of the Lord. ***So do it: stop caring so much about them!***

The "proof of the pudding" is in the peace of Christ. If you are losing His peace, you are caring too much about something He wants you to release to Him. Let Him care about it for you. It may seem like the strangest feeling at first, but it will lead you back to liberty and joy...

Give all your worries and cares to God, for he cares about you. 1 Peter 5:7 NLT

abuse and won.

Resources



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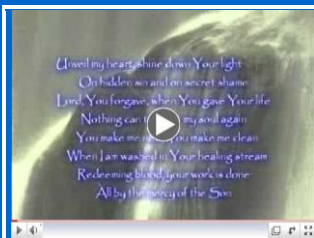
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Mercy of the Son with
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From We to Thee *Preparing for the Harvest...*



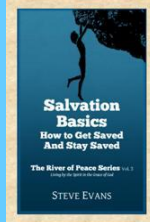
From the pages of our new
website forerunners4Him.org

has come a new book:

Salvation Basics: How to Get Saved and Stay Saved.

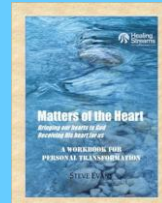
This is also the book that the men at the Mission have helped me to write. It has been through working with them that I have gained far more clarity (I believe) into the deeper issues of how to stay saved. Hey, we all know that getting saved is easy--it is staying in the joy of His salvation (Ps 51) that is the tricky part. Check out a sample at amazon.

We will supply this book at half price (for orders of 10 or more) to any group or individual wanting to distribute them to seekers and new believers!



Steve and Eunice

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host of stress related diseases, psychological disorders and addictions. Even so, our goal for people is not just escape from emotional stress and its consequences, but full entry into true Kingdom living--plunging into the river of Peace that flows all around us from the throne of Grace.

Let's all jump in!

Sincerely,

Steve and Eunice Evans

Healing Streams Ministry

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