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LOVE
TRIUMPHS
OVER DEATH!

A Special Easter Message by Gordon Robertson

The Golden Rule

by BILL MARKHAM

Co-Host, *The 700 Club Canada*



In Luke 6:31 (NIV), Jesus states, **“Do to others as you would have them do to you.”** This verse is often referred to as

the “Golden Rule” and is a principle that is central to the teachings of Jesus. It is a simple yet powerful statement that encourages individuals to treat others with the same kindness and respect that they themselves would want to receive. It is a reminder that our actions towards others have a direct impact on their well-being and that we should always strive to treat others with dignity as those created in the image of God (see Matthew 25:40).

One of the key benefits of following the Golden Rule is that it promotes a sense of community and interconnectedness. When we treat others with compassion, it creates a positive environment in which people feel valued and respected. This, in turn, fosters stronger relationships and a sense of unity. Jesus would add that it would be this kind of love that would set us apart as His disciples (see John 17:23).

The Golden Rule encourages us to think beyond ourselves and to consider the needs and feelings of others. It challenges us to put ourselves in someone else's shoes and to imagine how we would want to be treated in a similar situation. By doing so, we can develop a deeper level of empathy and understanding towards others.

Let us strive to live out this principle in our daily lives and to make the world a better place—one act of kindness at a time.

From Trials to Triumph

How help for others was birthed through one woman's journey



Dr. Carolyn Bailey Lewis, an accomplished journalist, never imagined living in a nursing home. Yet, after a spinal cord tumor left her paralyzed, that's exactly where she found herself.

“I've been in six nursing homes and seven hospitals in over 26 years,” she told *Healthy Living* host Lorie Johnson, adding that she still receives care for therapeutic reasons. “I never asked Him why. I just asked, ‘Lord, *what?*’”

And that still small voice of His answered. “I heard clearly, ‘You're a journalist. Write the story. ... You're an insider. Tell the story of what you know from an insider's point of view, a lucid insider's point of view about nursing home care, to help other people.’”

And that encounter with God is what propelled Dr. Lewis to write *Love and Loss: The Storied Nature of Nursing Home Care*. “Through my pain and postponement ... came purpose.”

She emphasizes that advocacy and volunteering are crucial to those in nursing homes. “Go volunteer. Someone needs you. They need to talk to you. They need for you to read to them. Play music. Music is such a healing part of therapy for people ... especially with dementia. ... Call Bingo numbers, or whatever you can do, but it's important.” She points out that many people never visit their loved ones, explaining: “I think it's because people see their own mortality.”

So, be the person who *will* visit—who, in spite of any fear or uncomfortableness, will enter the lives of those in nursing homes with the everlasting love and light of Christ Himself.

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LOVE TRIUMPHS OVER DEATH!

HOW JESUS OVERCAME EVERYTHING
TO OBEY GOD, DIE ON THE CROSS, AND RISE AGAIN



by GORDON ROBERTSON
PRESIDENT AND CEO, CBN

When we read the Gospel accounts of Jesus' Last Supper with His disciples, both Matthew and Mark conclude their narratives by saying: *And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.*

The hymn they were singing was Psalm 118, the last psalm in the Hallel—the Great Praise—which is sung at every Jewish festival. Although Jesus knew He was facing torture and crucifixion, He sang in verse six: *“The LORD is on my side; I will not fear. What can man do to me?”*

As I contemplated this, I thought, “Well, man can bind You, falsely accuse You, put You on trial, spit on You, pull out Your beard, crown You with thorns, beat You, mock You, strip You, nail You to a cross, then thrust a spear into Your side. That’s what man can do to You.”

And yet Jesus sang, “I will not fear.” How is this possible?

As the Apostle Paul writes, *For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind* (2 Timothy 1:7). The opposite of fear is love! And the Apostle John tells us, *“There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear. ... But he who fears has not been made perfect in love”* (1 John 4:18).

We need to let go of all fear and be made perfect in His love.

Of course, there is one good fear, which Jesus describes in Matthew 10:28: *“Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.”*

This fear entails a holy awe and reverence—as we say in the Lord’s prayer, “Hallowed be Thy name.” Yet I was struck by how Isaiah 8:13 adds to that hallowing: *The LORD of hosts, Him you shall hallow; let Him be your fear, and let Him be your dread.*

I wondered what Isaiah meant by “dread,” and I found the answer in Genesis 31:53, where Jacob makes a covenant with his father-in-law, Laban. The New King James Version says, *Jacob swore by the Fear of his father Isaac.* The Hebrew word for fear in this verse is *pachad*, which is more than just awe.

Commenting on that passage, Jewish rabbis have said that this dread is what came upon Isaac when he

realized that he was about to be sacrificed.

Genesis 22:7-8 sets the scene: *Isaac spoke to Abraham his father and said, ...“Look, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?” And Abraham said, “My son, God will provide for Himself the lamb.”*

Abraham was referring to Isaac, and he was also referring prophetically to Jesus. Keep in mind that Isaac was not a little child, but a full-grown man, and Abraham was well over 100! So Isaac didn't have to obey, yet he submitted himself to be bound as the sacrifice. Why? Because he feared the God of his father. He didn't resist because obeying God was more important to him than his own life.

So when Jesus sang, “I will not fear” in Psalm 118, He was trusting in God's will for His life. He was trusting God to raise Him on the third day, for as He sang in verse 17 of that same psalm, *“I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the LORD.”*

He was trusting God's plan for our salvation, which Jesus revealed in John 3:16: *“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.”*

Jesus was filled with such love for us that He willingly chose the cross—so we can enter into His marvelous victory over sin and death and enjoy life with Him today here on earth, and forever in heaven.

God bless you!

Excerpted from a teaching at CBN Staff Chapel. Scripture is quoted from the NKJV.

*The LORD is on my side; I will not fear.
What can man do to me?*

~PSALM 118:6

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THE 700 CLUB CANADA

What to Do with Trouble

by LORIE HARTSHORN

Co-Host, *The 700 Club Canada*



We all face hard things in this life. In our broken world, troubles are guaranteed. Jesus said in John 16:33 (NIV), **“In this world**

you will have trouble.” So, what are we supposed to do with the troubles that we face? There are three simple phrases in Romans 12:12 that give us a great formula for how to face trouble: **Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.**

First, we are told to **be joyful in hope**. To choose joy and have hope in the middle of difficulty is a way to engage and not avoid the situation. Jesus pointed out that we will have trouble, but He didn't stop there. His next sentence is the reason why we can remain joyful: **“But take heart! I have overcome the world.”** Knowing Jesus has overcome the troubles of this world means that we don't have to let our troubles overwhelm us. We can have an attitude of joy and a perspective of hope because we trust in the One who has overcome.

Second, we must be **patient in affliction**. This is a reminder that the trouble you are facing will come to an end. It doesn't have to define you today, and it doesn't have to determine your future. Patience is a posture of trust once again. Rather than having the need to fix things, we can go through trouble with patience by putting our trust in God and not in ourselves. How do we do that?

The third phrase says be **faithful in prayer**. Prayer is the way that we find joy, patience, and hope when we are going through troubles. Prayer is the key to allowing God to be God and for us to trust Him with our worries and fears.

Whatever trouble you are facing today, remember that Romans 12:12 has the answer.

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MIRACULOUS MOMENTS

While on her way to church, Katie was hit head-on by a drunk driver. She was trapped in her car until people stopped to help. Watch her incredible testimony!



MAN SURVIVES FIERY EXPLOSION

Jimmy was investigating a gas leak at his family cabin when it ignited and exploded. He wasn't expected to survive the blast, but see how prayer changed everything.



MADE IN GOD'S IMAGE

Angela struggled with her self-image for years—and an eating disorder was the result. See how her mindset changed when she learned about God's perspective.



FULL BANK ACCOUNT, EMPTY HEART

Eric worked tirelessly so he could buy whatever he wanted. Then guilt set in, and he was ready to change. See what followed his surrender to Christ.

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- The Miracle Channel
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A WILL MATTERS

Jesus had much to say about money and possessions. As we intentionally pursue Him, we grow in our desire to follow Jesus in all areas of our life, including this one. We learn to be good stewards of all we have, yet too many don't consider how it will be used when our lives are over. **We need to be as thoughtful and as good a steward of our resources when passing them over as we are in our lifetime.** A good plan can help you create a Will that speaks to your life and your faith. **Advisors with Purpose can help.** Their services are free and confidential. There is no obligation, and no one will sell you anything.

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The 700 Club Canada Hosts Answer **YOUR** Questions Is Suffering a Part of God's Plan?

BILL: The obvious answer is no. God created a perfect world. Suffering is a result of human beings going against God's plan—like driving the wrong way on a one-way street. That being said, God can turn our suffering into an opportunity to realign our lives, share hope with someone else, or build up our faith. In 2 Corinthians 12:8-10 (NIV), Paul says, **“Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. But he said to me, ‘My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.’ Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ’s power may rest on me. That is why, for Christ’s sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.”** So, is suffering a part of God's plan? No, but if we let Him, God can take our suffering and transform it into purpose.

WEEK OF *Prayer*

APRIL 24–28

During this most important week, we will be praying for you. Together, let's believe God for your needs. We have seen incredible answers to prayer and life-changing miracles during these special times of intercession. What God has done for others, He can do for you.

Watch for our **Week of Prayer** mailing and take a step of faith by sending in your prayer requests. Let this be your declaration of faith that you are believing God for your miraculous answer.



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