

Ukwati unabwezeretsedwa

Webster Winga ndi Stelia Bernard anakwatirana mu December 2016, ndipo patatha chaka ndi miyezi mwana wa mwamuna Kelvin anabadwa komanso anali ndi ukwati wa ku tchalitchi.

M'maonekedwe zonse zimaoneka ngati zili bwino pa banja la chichepere limeneli. Stelia akufotokozza za nkhani yawo ya miyoyo yoonongeka komanso zimene zinachitika chaka chatha.

“Timakhala moyo wobvuta kwambiri. Sitimalemekezana wina ndi mnzake. Panalibe chikondi chenicheni pakati pathu. Ukwati wathu unakadalitsidwa ku tchalitchi, koma panalibe chimene chimaonetsa madalitso umenewu! Aliyense wa ife amangokonda za m'dziko. Timangokhala ngati mbuzi, kukhala modzikonda.”

“Ku mbali yanga, ndimakonda kuyenda juga, kunama, ndi kumenyana ndi mwamuna wanga Webster.”

Stelia anayamba kugwiritsa ntchito njira ya makono yochezera pa lanya, izi zinatsogolera ku zinthu zolakwika kwambiri. Uchimo udzakutengerani kutali kumene simumafuna kupita! Uchimo udzakupangitsani kulipira kwambiri kuposa m'mene mumafunira. Izi ndi zimene Stelia anzipeza pasanapite nthawi.

Posakhalitsa Webster anapeza choona chokhudza moyo wobisika wa mkazi wake. Atayesera kulangizidwa, mkazi wake anathamangitsidwa napita kumudzi kwawo. Stelia akuti, “Panalibenso chiyembekezo chakuti tikanabwereranso kukhala pamodzi ngati banja.”

Mulungu anali ndi dongosolo



Webster and Stelia with their son.

lina pa banja limeneli. Tsiku lina Webster anakumana ndi munthu amene amalalikira za uthenga wabwino ndi chikhululukiro cha machimo komanso moyo wa mwa Kristu Yesu.

Pakumufunsa Webster kuti kunyumba kuli bwanji, zinadziwika kuti zinthu sizinali bwino, munthuyu anamupempha kuti adzamuyendere kunyumba kwawo.

Webster anauzidwa za m'mene Mulungu anatumizira Mwana wake ku dziko kudzamufera, ndi cholinga chakuti moyo wake ukapulumsidwe ku chilango cha uchimo ndi kuti akhoza kukhala pa ubale wabwino ndi Mulungu. Kuonjezera apo, kuti mothandizidwa ndi Mulungu akhozanso kubwezeretsedwanso ndi mkazi wake ngati banja. Chikhululukiro ndi chotheka ndipo chimabweretsa

zotsatira.

“Amuna anga anauzidwa za m'mene Yesu unabwezeretsera moyo wa mzimayi amene anagwidwa ndi chigololo mu Yohane mutu 8, m'Baibulo. Mwamuna wanga anakhudzika ndi zimenezi ndi kuzindikiranso za uchimo wawo. Izi zinapangitsa iwo kupereka moyo wawo kwa Yesu Kristu monga Ambuye ndi Mpulumutsi wake. Umu munali mu July 2021,” Stelia akutero.

Munthu amene amagwiritsidwa ntchito ndi Mulungu kubwezeretsa

banjali, anatumiza ndalama kwa Stelia kuti abwere kwa Webster kuti akumane nawo onse pamodzi.

“Ndinakanitsitsa kuitanaku ... koma mayi anga anandithandiza kumvetsetsa kuti ndipite kukakumana ndi abusawa.” Nditafika ku malo kumene anatiuza ine ndi amuna anga, ndinamunyoza munthu ameneyu—ndikunena mumtima mwanga kuti sangathe kundipempherera ameneyu” Stelia akupitiriza, “Anandifunsa kuti ndikambe mbali yanga, koma nditatero andiuzza kuti sindinakambe zonse. Ndinachita mantha.”

“Kenako tinasonkhana ndi anthu ena ndipo anayamba kupemphera. Ndinayamba kumva kutentha thupi langa lonse ngati moto.” Ndinayesa kuthawa, koma abusawa anandikhudza pamutu, ndipo ndinagwa pansu. Ziwanda zinayamba kulankhula kudzera mwa ine. Zinatulutsidwa mwa ine. Zinali zochitika zoopsa kwa ine.”

Kenako, pamene Stelia anakhazikika m'maganizo; uthenga wabwino wa chikhululukiro cha machimo ake anafotokozeredwa komanso moyo mwa Kristu Yesu. Zinali zachidziwikire kwa iye kuti anayenera kupempha Mulungu kuti amukhululukire ndi kuika chikhulupiriro mwa Yesu kuti akhululukidwe.

Stelia anapereka moyo wake kwa Yesu Kristu nthawi yomweyo kuti akhale Ambuye ndi Mpulumutsi wake. Stelia akuti, “Ndinachita izi ndi kuthekera kwa chisomo cha Mulungu!” Tsopano zilakolako zonse zoipa zinapita, ndife osangalala ngati banja, kukhutitsidwa ndi zochepa zimene tili nazo, timakondana zedi, kulemekezana, ndipo mtendere wa Kristu ukulamulira m'mitima yathu.”

“Mau a Mulungu mu Baibulo amatithonzoza ife mu Aroma 8:35-37 'Ndani amene adzatilekanitsa ife ndi chikondi cha Kristu? Kodi ndi masautso, kapena zowawa, kapena mazunzo, kapena njala, kapena umaliseche, kapena choopsa, kapena lupanga? ... Pakuti ine ndatsimikizika ndi mtima wonse kuti ngakhale imfa, kapena moyo, ngakhale angelo, kapena ziwanda, ngakhale zinthu zilipo, kapena zili mtsogolo, kapena mphamvu zina, ngakhale kutalika, kapena kuya, kapena chilichonse m'chilengedwe chonse, sizingathe kutisiyanitsa ndi chikondi cha Mulungu chimene chili mwa Kristu Yesu Ambuye athu.”

● Onani tsamba 2

Kusangalatsa ana Page 5



Experience outweighs knowledge

BY ILSE BEUKES

IN 2006 I had the privilege to climb Mount Kilimanjaro.

Part of our preparation was to hear the account of, and receive some valuable tips from, a man who had done the climb the year before.

Even though it gave us a better picture of what to expect, the experience at the end of the day far outweighed just talking and dreaming about this adventure.

In the same way, we can grow up hearing about other people's experiences of faith and God, but until we set out ourselves to find God, we will never really understand what they are describing.

We can grow up in a Christian home, go to church, and hear about other people's relationship with Jesus, but it is not the same as having the life changing experience ourselves when we surrender our lives to Christ, ask His forgiveness for our sins and make Him the Lord of our lives.

Then we will start to understand what Christians mean when they say they: feel washed clean and new; have unquenchable joy; experience inexplicable peace; and feel that everything is suddenly more beautiful.

In Jeremiah 29: 13 God says, “You will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart.” What a wonderful promise! We do not have to be satisfied with “hearsay” of what other people experience, but when we look for God we WILL find Him and experience Him ourselves. Christianity is not a set of rules and Bible stories, but a relationship with a living and loving God.

Don't you want to make that choice today, to invite Him into your life and experience an intimacy with Him for yourself? See how on page 8.



Ilse Beukes up Mount Kilimanjaro

BACK PAGE

LASTING LEGACY
CHRISTIAN ATSU

★ Stelia's story in ENGLISH on PAGE 4

Ukwati unabweze- retsedwa

● Inapitiliza ku tsamba 1

Kuyang'ana m'mbuyo pa moyo wake Stelia akuonamo cholinga, pakuti akuonjezera, "Ndikuchonderera inu nonse amene mukuwerenga izi, thawirani kwa Mulungu pa chipulumutso chanu." Iye ndi wakutha kuthandiza mu mabanja, koma pamwamba pa zonse, chipulumutso ndiye chozizwitsa chachikulu kuposa zonse. Mu zonse zimene tadutsamo, Ambuye analola mabvuto onsewa kuti tione ubwino ndi ukulu wake. Tikuyamika Mulungu chifukwa cha mtumiki wa Kristu mwa Mulungu amene anamugwiritsa ntchito pa ife, kuti tipulumutsidwe ndi kuyanjanitsidwa kwa Mulungu komanso banja lathu kubwezeretsedwa."

Pomaliza, Webster ndi Stelia akuti, "Timalimbikitsidwa ndi 1 Petro 2:1-3, ndi kukhala mwa iye (Yesu Kristu) ndi kukula mwa uzimu, pakuti ndimezi zimati, "Choncho, lekani zoipa zonse, chinyengo chilichonse, chiphamaso, nsanje ndi kusinjirira kulikonse. Monga makanda obadwa kumene amalirira mkaka, inunso muzikalaka mkaka weniweni wauzimu, kuti mukule ndi kukufikitsani ku chipulumutso chanu, pakuti mwalawadi kuti Ambuye ndi wabwino."

She wanted to be a killer, now she talks about love

Rita Chaima



Rita Chaima was a suicidal, depressed woman with a bitter hatred for people who did not share her Islamic faith.

"I hated people who weren't Muslim," she admits. "I wanted to kill them." Videos made by ISIS inspired her. "I loved to see them bleeding. I was seeing videos of decapitation and loved it."

In fact, Chaima almost joined ISIS in Syria. "I was told by a friend that if I went I would finally have what I don't have here," she says.

What Chaima did not know at the time was that she was really searching for love. She did not receive any love or affection from her father. "He never told me that he loved me," she says. "I didn't feel loved by anyone."

"As a little girl, I would always ask myself, 'What am I doing in this world?' All I saw was a cruel world and I didn't want to be a part of it."

Bit by bit, Chaima slipped into a deep, dark pit filled with hatred and hurt. The older she got the deeper she fell until finally she came face-to-face with death. "I started to be really bad," she says. "I was hurting a lot and I hurt people because of it. I tried to kill myself three times. I was doing drugs. I was smoking. I just wanted to destroy myself."

Influenced by bad friends, Chaima fantasised about joining ISIS and committing heinous acts of terrorism. "They would talk to me

about terrifying things. I fell into a trap. I felt weak. I started to feel really alone."

One thing and one thing only stood between Chaima and her unfolding plan to become a terrorist - her love for books. "I loved to read," she smiles. "My mother knew it. She brought me books and there was a Bible in there and she didn't know it. I started to read the Bible to prove to Christians that they were wrong but turns out I was wrong!"

Chaima could not stop turning the pages of the forbidden book. She was amazed by the story of Jesus's compassion and forgiveness and how He had died to save the world from sin.

"The grace of Jesus Christ started to touch me," she marvels. "I was reading things like 'pray for your enemies,' 'love them,' and I was someone who wanted to kill them," she says. "Intellectually, I wasn't someone who wanted to accept Jesus, but Jesus had started to work in my heart."

At first, Chaima resisted the urge to give her life to Jesus. She still wanted to hang on to the bitterness and anger that she felt. Finally, these became such a burden she could no longer carry them by herself. She knew she needed Jesus.

"One day, my Heavenly Father told me through the Scriptures that He loved me. I started crying. It was amazing."

Soon after, she surrendered her life to Jesus.

"There came the time where I had to explain to my family that I had become a Christian," she says. "I announced this to my father. That's when the persecution started. They all stopped talking to me. For months, I was alone in my room. It was like a prison."

Chaima knew her history of

depression and suicidal thoughts were no good for her and she feared the isolation would trigger them again. But to her amazement, the depression never returned. "I read the Bible a lot, and I knew Jesus was there with me, encouraging me," she says. "The Holy Spirit was really there. I felt it. I knew it."

After connecting with other Christians through a church, Chaima expressed her desire to be baptised (the outward sign of her inward confession). However as her pastor baptised her, she began to writhe, kick, and scream, "No! No! No!" Immediately, the pastor laid his hands on her and prayed for her. The evil spirit that had taken a hold of her body left and she was filled with peace.

Chaima talks about the supernatural encounter: "I don't even remember what I did. I had to see the video of my baptism. I was completely crazy, the demon was crazy, it wasn't me. I kicked my pastor as he was trying to baptise me."

She continues, "After the baptism, I felt a heavy weight completely disappear. All my convictions in Christ, they started

to be alive in me. I wanted to talk about Jesus to everyone, even the people who influenced me into wanting to do terrorism."

"I wanted to go and see them and tell them that they are wrong and that love is waiting for them. I want to say: 'It may seem crazy what I am saying but I've been where you are. I assure you, Islam is not the truth! Look for God with all your heart and you will find Him. Maybe you do not have a relationship with God, maybe you are just following rules, but following God is an adventure, it is something unique. That's what I'm experiencing.'"

Chaima is amazingly steadfast and firm in her faith, despite so much loss: "Today, my family has abandoned me. I am alone. I have no home. But I have a new family and they are all around the world and they are my family in Christ. This has been the best gift God has given me. I can see the grace (undeserved love of God) of Jesus Christ all through my life. He saved me from suicide, depression, from all of this. Tomorrow, I do not know where I am going to sleep but I do know that Jesus will take care of me."

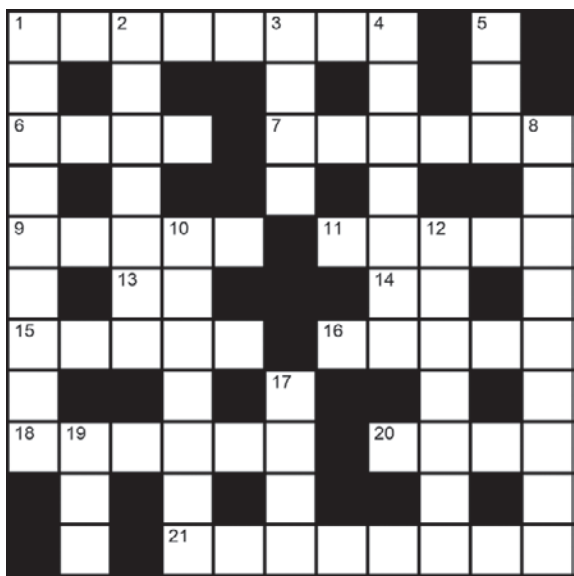
Coffee Break CROSSWORD & SUDOKU

ACROSS

- 1 Subordinate set
- 6 Shaved part of the neck, perhaps
- 7 Albania's capital
- 9 Open-mouthed
- 11 Type in data
- 13 Mexico's continent: abbr.
- 14 "Catch Me ___ You Can"
- 15 Follows an order
- 16 Asparagus stalk
- 18 Inter, as a pharaoh
- 20 Plank imperfection
- 21 US casino capital (3,5)

DOWN

- 1 Island nation in SE Asia
- 2 Double-winged aircraft
- 3 Horse feed
- 4 Vegetable that looks like a white carrot
- 5 Money in Japan
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- 10 Employees' due monetary unit
- 17 Bird seen in hieroglyphics
- 19 Granny, to a Brit.



Designed to know God

BY GREG LAURIE

IT isn't that unusual to hear about another rock star who overdosed or another Hollywood celebrity who has checked into a drug rehab unit — or, tragically, has committed suicide.

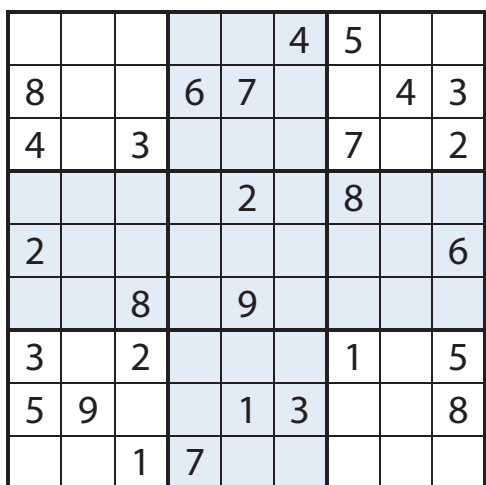
It's hard for us to understand how people living in a Tinseltown world could be miserable. But they have the same problems we have. The difference is they have a lot of the things that we dream of, yet they see the emptiness and futility of it all.

King Solomon saw this as well. He wrote, "I have seen all the things that are done under the sun; all of them are meaningless, a chasing after the wind." (Ecclesiastes 1:14)

We all were born with an emptiness inside. No earthly relationship will fill it. No amount of sex or possessions will fill it. Nor will knowledge or morality or even good, clean living.

We were designed to know God. And until you come into a relationship with Him, you will keep coming up empty, time and again, just as Solomon did.

SOLUTIONS PAGE 7



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Let them hear His voice

Psalm 29:1-11

Malaria can kill

Every two minutes a child under five years old dies from malaria in Africa; according to studies reported by UNICEF, in October 2019.

This is shocking news. We all know malaria is so dangerous, and worldwide nine out of every ten deaths from malaria occur in Africa.

Medson Matiasi suffered from epilepsy and so his life was difficult, especially when growing up in poor circumstances and with limited medical help.

To make matters worse, he also became seriously ill with Malaria.

He remembers the laboratory report saying ‘four plus’, which indicated a very severe infection. His parents had rushed him to hospital. There after some time he did recover—but sad to say, not from the epilepsy.

Later, his parents took him to the witch doctor for healing. However, the witch doctor was unable to help him.

Somebody suggested Medson needed to look to God for healing. Medson thought this was ridiculous. Because from childhood he had laughed at the whole idea of believing in God, much less to be helped by God.

“When I saw people assembling together singing and praising God, in my heart I was laughing at them, and asking myself ‘Why are they singing, and praising someone who they don’t see or can even hear his voice.’ I had no belief that God exists,” Medson Matiasi says.

Like many of us, with no hope in life, Medson turned to stealing and fighting. He says, “I did not respect my parents, nor did whatever they told me. I had lots of questions like, ‘Who is God? Where did He come from? Where did He live? And, who were His parents?’ I wanted to know all these questions before I could believe in God,” explains Medson.

One day he heard a preacher who explained that God truly does exist, and through Jesus Christ His Son is able to forgive sin (all wrong doing).

The Bible text the speaker was using was Romans chapter 10 verses 9 to 10, and verse 13. Medson says, “I reasoned to myself that if God can save me from the punishment for my sin, and forgive my sin, then maybe He also can heal me.”

Gradually, he began to understand the truth about God, about Jesus and His death and resurrection, about the salvation from sin and its consequences. Further, he realised that all this ‘good news’ was really true.

“Later on I was so touched

and convicted of the need for sin forgiveness that I gave my life over to God and accepted Jesus Christ to be my Lord and my Saviour,” confesses Medson.

“I have accepted Jesus Christ into my life. I have confessed with my mouth, and believe that God really raised Christ from the dead. I believe in His words. And I have full confidence that God can do what he promises. I want His will to be done in my life; for Him to mold me in the way he wants me to be,” says Medson.

“God has changed me to stop stealing and never to fight, and not to abuse other people. Now God has given me a heart for reading His Word, the Bible and for fellowship with other believers,” Medson says.

“Some of my relatives now depend on me at our home. In times of difficulty I look to Jesus Christ alone for Him to help me to overcome,” says Medson.

Luke chapter 18 and verse 27 says, “Those who heard it said, Then who can be saved? But he (Jesus) said, What is impossible with men is possible with God.”

Also in John chapter 10 verses 9 to 11 Jesus says, “I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly. I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.”

Medson recommends these verses to us to think deeply about. He is depending on Jesus Christ and not on himself, or on any church, or even in any religion to save him from the judgement of his life of wrong doing. Medson is only trusting Jesus Christ, and nothing less than Him and His mercy.

Medson Matiasi nearly lost his life to malaria. God allowed this to happen, so that through his illness he would be confronted by the claims of Jesus Christ, and in Christ find true life with a secure future after the death of his body.

Medson realised it was not his epilepsy which needed to be cured, but the sin sickness of his soul. He found the cure for his sin in Jesus Christ.

None of us enjoy perfect health for all of our lifetime. We all face the death of our body sooner or later. Diseases like malaria can strike us down both young and old alike. So what about after death, have you any certainty for peace with God? Who do you trust for forgiveness and to give you true life?



Malungo angaphe

Mphindi ziwiri zilizonse mwana wosachepera zaka zisanu zakubadwa amamwalira ndi Malungo mu Africa; malingana ndi kafukufuku wa UNICEF, mu October chaka cha 2019.

Iyi ndi nkhani yodzidzidwitsa. Tonse tikudziwa kuti Malungo ndi oopsa, ndipo dziko lonse imfa zokwana zisanu ndi zinayi (9) mwa khumi (10) zilizonse zakudza kamba ka Malungo zimachitika mu Africa.

Medson Matiasi anadwala nthenda ya khunyu ndipo moyo wake unali ovuta, makamaka kukula mu nyengo yosauka komanso yokhala ndi chithandizo cha mankhwala chochepea.

Kupanga zinthu kuti ziipe kwambiri, iye anadwala kwambiri matenda a Malungo. Iye anakumbukira lipoti la ku laboratory likuti ‘four plus’, zimene zimaonetsera kudwala kwambiri. Makolo ake anathamangira naye ku chipatala. Patapita nthawi iye anachira—koma za chisoni kunena kuti, osati ku khunyu.

Kenako, makolo ake anamutengera kwa sing’anga kuti akamuchiritse. Komabe, sing’angayo sanathe kumuchiritisa iye.

Wina anapereka chiganizo chakuti Medson anayenera kuyang’ana kwa Mulungu ku machiritso. Medson anaganiza kuti izi ndi zopandapake. Chifukwa kuyambira umwana wake onse iye amaseka zinthu zokhudza kukhulupirira Mulungu, komanso kuthandizidwa ndi Mulungu.

“Pamene ndimaona anthu akusonkhana pamodzi, kuimba ndi kulemekeza Mulungu, mu mtima mwanga ndimawaseka, ndi kumadzifunsa ndekha ‘chifukwa chiyani akuyimba, ndi kuyamika wina wake amene sakumuona komanso ngakhale kumva mau ake.’ Ndinalibe chikhulupiriro chakuti Mulungu alipo,” Medson Matiasi akutero.

Monga ambiri a ife, opanda chiyembekezo m’moyo, Medson anayamba kuba ndi ndewu. Iye akuti, “Sindimalemekeza makolo anga, ngakhale chilichonse chimene amanena. Ndinali ndi mafunso ambiri munga, ‘Mulungu ndi ndani? Anachokera kuti Iye? Amakhala kuti Iye? Ndipo, Makolo ake anali ndani?’ Ndima funa nditadziwa mayankho a mafunso onsewa ndisanakhulupirire mwa Mulungu,” akufotokoza Medson.

Tsiku lina anamva mlaliki amene anafotokoza kuti Mulungu alipodi, ndipo kudzera mwa Mwana wake Yesu Kristu ali ndi kuthekerwa kwa kukhululukira machimo (kulakwitsa konse).

Ndime ya m’Baibulo imene mlalikiyo amagwiritsa ntchito inali Aroma mutu 10 ndime 9 mpaka 10, ndi ndime 13. Medson akuti, “Ndinaganiza ndekha kuti ngati Mulungu angandipulumutse ku chilango cha uchimo wanga, ndi kukhululukira uchimo wanga, ndiye mwinanso akhoza kundichiritisa.”

Pang’ono ndi pang’ono iye anayamba kumvetsa choonadi chokhudza Mulungu, chokhudza Yesu ndi imfa yake komanso kuuka kwake, chokhudza chipulumutse ku uchimo ndi zotsatira zake. Kuonjezera apa, iye anazindikira kuti za ‘Uthenga Wabwino’ ndi zoonadi.

“Kenako ndinakhudzidwa ndi kuvomereza za kufunika kwa kukhululukidwa kwa machimo, ndipo ndinapereka moyo wanga kwa Mulungu ndi kulandira Yesu Kristu kukhala Ambuye ndi Mpulumutsi wanga,” akuvomereza Medson.

“Ndinavomereza Yesu Kristu m’moyo mwanga. Ndinavomereza ndi m’kamwa mwanga, ndi kukhulupirira kuti Mulungu anaukitsadi Kristu kwa akufa. Ndimakhulupirira m’mau Ake. Ndipo ndili ndi kutsimikizika mtima kuti Mulungu akhoza kupanga chimene walonjeza. Ndikufuna chifuniro chake chichitike m’moyo wanga; kwa iye kuti andiumbe m’mene iyeyo akufunira,” akutero Medson.

“Mulungu wandisinthana ine kuti ndisiye kuba komanso kuti sindidzachitenso ndewu, ndiponso sikuchitira zoipa anthu ena. Tsopano Mulungu wandipatsa mtima owerenga Mau Ake, Baibuloli, ndi kukhala m’chijanano ndi okhulupirira ena,” akutero Medson.

“Ena mwa abale anga tsopano amadalira ine kwathu. Mu nthawi yovuta ndimayang’ana kwa Yesu Kristu yekha basi kuti andithandize kugonjetsa,” Medson akutero.

Pa Luka mutu 18 ndi ndime 26 mpaka 27 timawerenga, “Koma akumvawo anati, Tsono ndani angathe kupulumutsidwa? Koma Iye anati, Zinthu zosatheka ndi anthu zitheka ndi Mulungu.”

Komanso mu Yohane mutu 10 ndime 9 Yesu akuti, “Ine ndine khomo; ngati wina alowa ndi Ine, adzapulumutsidwa, nadzalowa, nadzatuluka, nadzapeza busa. Siikudza mbala, koma kuti ikabe, ndi kupha, ndi kuononga. Ndadza Ine kuti akhale ndi moyo, ndi kukhala nawo wochuluka.”

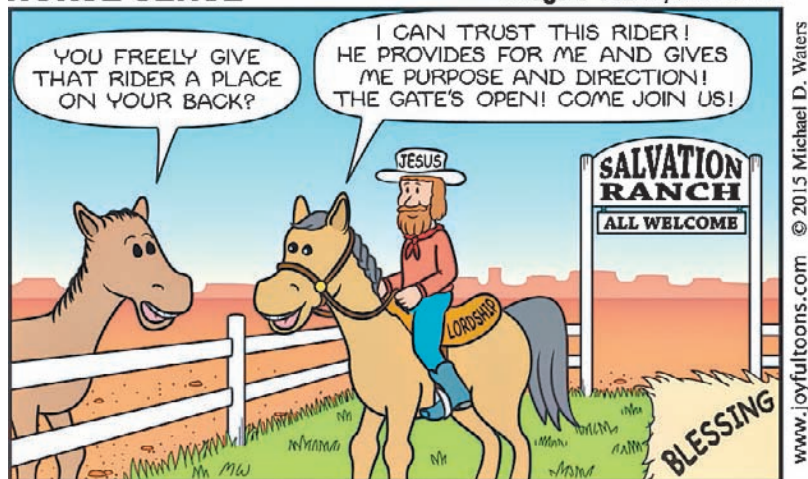
Medson akutipatsa ndime zimenezi kuti tizilingalire mozama. Iye akudalira pa Yesu Kristu koma osati pa iye yekha, kapena pa tchalitchi chilichonse, kapenanso chipembedzo chilichonse kuti apulumutsidwe ku chilango ku moyo wake a kuchita zoipa. Medson akudalira pa Yesu Kristu yekha basi, ndipo osati chinachakenso koma Iye ndi chifundo chake.

Medson Matiasi pang’onong’ono akanataya moyo wake chifukwa cha Malungo. Mulungu analola izi kuti zichitike, ndi cholinga chakuti kudzera m’kudwala kwake atsutsidwe ndi choonadi cha Yesu Kristu ndi kupeza moyo weniweni wa tsogolo labwino thupi lake likadzafa.

Medson anazindikira kuti si khunyu lake limene limafunika kuchiritidwa, koma matenda a uchimo a moyo wake. Iye anapeza machiritso ku uchimo wake mwa Yesu Kristu. Palibe wa ife amene amakhala mu moyowu osadwala. Tonse tikumana ndi kufa kwa matupi athu pompano kapena nthawi ina. Matenda ngati Malungo akhoza kugwira tonse wamng’ono ngakhaleenso wamkulu. Koma nanga mukadzamwalira, muli ndi si kukaika kwa mtendere ndi Mulungu? Kodi mumakhulupirira ndani pa chikhululukiro chanu ndi kukupatsani moyo weniweni?

HORSE SENSE

A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



We are bringing you good news, telling you to turn from these worthless things to the living God, who made the heavens and the earth and the sea and everything in them. — ACTS 14:15 NIV

Do all good people go to heaven?

BY GREG LAURIE

THIS may come as a surprise to some, but there will be people in Hell whom others would define as good people.

On the other hand, there will be people in Heaven who lived bad lives, but they turned away from their sin.

You can be a good person, relatively speaking, but you're not good enough. You may think you will get to Heaven on your own good works, but they will never be good enough for a holy God, so of course you won't. That's how you might end up in Hell.

Being good doesn't get you to Heaven. The Bible tells us, "For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard" (Romans 3:23 NLT). But it also says, "There is one God and one Mediator who can reconcile God and humanity—the man Christ Jesus. He gave his life to purchase freedom for everyone" (1 Timothy 2:5–6 NLT).

Jesus himself said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me" (John 14:6 NLT).

There's only one way to Heaven, and that is being forgiven by God. Heaven is not for good people; it's for forgiven people.

So, the real question is this: Are you forgiven?

Have you said to God, "I know I'm a sinner. I know I don't deserve to go to Heaven, but you've offered me this wonderful promise that I can go there some day. I want to. So, I want to believe in You"?

That's really what it comes down to. You have to admit your sin and believe that Jesus died on the cross for your sin. Turn from that sin. Ask God to forgive you of that sin and begin to follow Christ. When you do, you can know with certainty that you'll go to Heaven.

Have you done this? He's just a prayer away.

MTIMA wanu usavutike. Khulupirirani Mulungu; khulupirirani Inenso. M'nyumba mwa Atate anga muli zipinda zambiri. Kukanakhala kuti mulibemo ndikanakuwuzani. Ine ndikupita kumeneko kukakukonzerani malo. Ndipo ndikapita kukakukonzerani malo, ndidzabweranso kudzakutengani, kuti kumene kuli Ineko, inunso mukakhale komweko. 4 Inu mukudziwa njira ya kumene Ine ndikupita."

Tomasi anati kwa Iye, "Ambuye ife sitikudziwa kumene Inu mukupita, nanga tingadziwe bwanji njirayo?"

Yesu anayankha kuti, "Ine ndiye njira, choonadi ndi moyo. Palibe munthu angafike kwa Atate popanda kudzera mwa Ine."

— Yohane 14:1–6

Ukali opanda chifundo

"Ukali Opanda Chifundo" ndi m'mene Billy Machilika akudzifotokozera za khalidwe lake la ukali pamene ankasuta Chamba. "Ndinkasuta mpaka zaka zambiri," Billy akufotokoza, "Sindinali munthu wa mtendere koma akusowetsa mtendere ndipo anthu ambiri amasowa mtendere chifukwa cha khalidwe langa loipa mtima loyambitsidwa ndikasuta chamba."

Billy anabadwa tsiku la Christmas mu chaka cha 1984 ku Blantyre, Malawi. Iye anakulira kumeneko asanabwere ku Zomba. Ndi

zomvetsa chisoni anali mu goli losuta chamba pamene amafuna kupeza mtendere m'maganizo. Iye akuti, "Kupanda kusuta ndinalibe mpumulo. Ndimapeza mtendere wa kanthawi, koma wabodza ndikasuta."

"Ndimamwanso mowa zedi, ndimakhaliwa m'malo omwera mowa. Machimo enanso (kuchita ndi kuganiza zoipa) zinayambanso kuonekera chifukwa cha kuledzera kwanga." Billy anafotokoza za kuwawa kumene mkhalidwe wake wa chiwerewere unabweretsa kwa akazi amene anali nawo mu maubwenzi ndipo makamaka mkazi wake komanso ana. Iye akukumbukira, "Ndimatha ngakhale kutuma mkazi wanga kukandigulira chamba." Iye samakhudzika kuti zimenezi zimabweretsanso mavuto akulu kwa makolo a mkazi wake.

Billy akuvomereza, "Mkazi wanga ndi ana amazunzika, kumva kuwawa chifukwa cha mkhalidwe wanga oipa umenanso unasokoneza (maphunziro a ana) ndi madera ena m'miyoyo yawo, chifukwa ndalama zimene ndimapeza zimakathera ku mowa ndi akazi."

Billy akuvomereza zoipa zambiri m'moyo wake. "Ndimakonda kumuza mkazi wanga kuti sitingapange bizinesi popanda mankhwala a

kwa sing'anga. Timadzicheka ndi malezala m'matupi mwathu kuti tithire mankhwala amene cholinga chake chinali kuti tidzipeza phindu ku bizinesi komanso chitetezo ku ndalama zathu." Tsiku lina mu chaka cha 2020 Billy anamva choonadi chokhudza iye mwini ndipo zinamusowetsa mtendere zedi. Munthu wina anamufotokoza za chimene uchimo uli—monga m'mene Baibulo limafotokoza.

Munthu ameneyo amalalikira kuchokera pa Agalatiya mutu 5 ndime 19 mpaka 21, imene imati, "Ndipo ntchito za thupi zionekera, ndizo dama, chodetsa, kukhumba zonyansa, kupembedza mafano, nyanga, madano, ndeu, kuduka, zopsya mtima, zotetana, magawano, mipatuko, njiru, kuledzera, mchezo, ndi zina zotere; zimene ndikuchenjezani nazo, monga ndachita, kuti iwo akuchitachita zotere sadzalowa Ufumu wa Mulungu."

Billy anazindikira kuti iye anali kapolo weniweni wa uchimo ndipo kuti anali opandiratu mphamvu kudzikana kupanga choipa, kapena kusintha njira zake. Komanso anayamba kuopa imfa ndi kumakhala ndi maloto a imfa yake yomwe.

Mu mwezi wa November pa 20, chaka cha 2020 iye anaganiza zochita chinachake chokhudza bvuto limeneli. "Ndinali wotsutsika chifukwa cha moyo wanga wa uchimo, ndipo ndinapita ku malo amene munthu amene amandiuza za uthenga wabwinoyo

amakumana ndi anzake otembenuka mtima. Uthenga unalalikidwa umene umalunjika za moyo wanga wauchimo komanso m'mene ndinalili osatha kudzisinthana ndekha moyo wanga popanda Kristu." Billy anamvetsetsa choonadi ndipo anazindikira kuti

Yesu Kristu anali ndi mphamvu kumusintha iye komanso kumukhululukira iye zolakwa zake zonse—ndi kumuthandiza komanso kumatsogolera m'moyo wake wonse!

Pakuika chikhulupiriro chake mwa Yesu, ndi kuvomereza iye ngati Ambuye wake komanso Mpulumutsi, Billy pomwepo anapulumutsidwa kumachimo ake onse! Yesu ali ndi mphamvu yokhululukira machimo chifukwa iye analipira kale ndi mwazi wake chilango cha uchimo. Baibulo limati, "mphotho ya uchimo ndi imfa." (Aroma 6:23)

"Kuyambira tsiku limenelo kulemera mu mtima mwanga komanso m'thupi mwanga zinachoka," akuteru Billy, "ndipo ndinayamba kukhala pa chiyanjano

ndi anthu otembenuka mtima. Koma anzanga akale amati ndinasiya kumwa mowa ndi kusuta chifukwa ndinalibe ndalama! Ena amandilimbikitsa kuti ndiyambirensa ndi kudziikanso mu ukapolo ndekha ndi moyo wanga wakale."

"Ndinawauza kuti, Iye amene ali mwa ine, Mzimu wa Yesu Kristu, ndi okwanira."

Billy wapeza Mpulumutsiyo Yesu Kristu kukhala okhulupirika kwa iye ndipo, "Iye (Yesu Kristu) akupitiriza kukhala Ambuye athu kufikira tsiku la lero," Billy akuchitira umboni.

"Tikhoza kukhala ndi ndalama zochepa ngati banja, koma Kristu ndi zonse mu zonse, ndipo ndi okwanira kwa ife. Mwa Iye timapeza mpumulo wa miyoyo yathu."

Munthu amene anatsala pang'ono kuonongedwa ndi mowa komanso chamba komanso zotsatira zake kunali kusapeza mpumulo, tsopano ali ndi mtendere ndi mpumulo. Iye analibe cholipira kuti apeze moyo uyu watsopano. Inali mphatso yaulere kuchokera kwa Ambuye wake, Yesu Kristu.

"Pakuti pamene inu munali akapolo a uchimo, munali osatumikira chilungamo. Ndipo munali nazo zobala zanzi nthawi ija, m'zinthu zimene muchita nazo manyazi tsopano? pakuti

“

Mkazi wanga ndi ana amazunzika.

”

“

Yesu ali ndi mphamvu yokhululukira machimo

”



chimaliziro cha zinthu izi chili imfa. Koma tsopano, pamene munamasulidwa ku uchimo, ndi kukhala akapolo a Mulungu, muli nacho chobala chanu chakufikira chiweretso, ndi chimaliziro chake

moyo wosatha. Pakuti mphotho yake ya uchimo ndi imfa; koma mphatso yaulere ya Mulungu ndiyo moyo wosatha wa mwa Kristu Yesu Ambuye wathu." (Aroma 6:20–23, Baibulo)



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Moyo Wodabwitsa wa Yesu Kristu

Yesu anaikidwa ndi Mulungu pa utumiki wapadera padziko lino lapansi. Iye amadziwiratu zoti adzachite. Nthawi yamoyo wake pansi pano analalikira ndi kuphunzitsa choonadi cha Mulungu ndi ulamuliro. Anamasula anthu ku ukapolo wa tchimo. Yesu anamaliza cholinga chake pakufa pamtanda chifukwa cha machimo athu. Anatha kuchita zimenezi chifukwa cha chimene iye ndi—yekhayo, Mwana yekhayo wa Mulungu.

Kuwerenga Kwa Mau A Mulungu (Chonde muziwerenge ndimezi):

Mateyu 23:27-33; Marko 2:13; Luka 2:9-14, 22; 5:20; Luka 19:10; Yohane 1:18; 13:1-3; Afilipi 2:7, 8; Aheberi 2:14; 1 Yohane 3:5.

Yesu Kristu ndi Woposa Aliyense, Iye ndi Wopambana

MU mitu yoyambirira ya uthenga wabwino wake, Luka akufunitsitsa kutionetsa kuti Yesu ndi wopambana. Palibenso wofanana naye. Luka akuonetsa izi pakupereka mitundu itatu yokhudza kupambana kwa Yesu.

Mau amene anayankhula Mulungu pa kubadwa kwa Kristu amaonetsa kuti Kristu anali wopambana. Mulungu Tate anatengapo gawo pa kubadwa kwa Yesu. Ambuye Yesu Kristu anabadwa kudzera mwa mphamvu ya Mzimu Woyera (Luka 1:35). Mulungu anagwiritsa ntchito Angelo kuti alosere za kubadwa kwa Kristu kwa Maria, mayi wake (Luka 1:26, 27). Mulungu anatomiza mauthenga kwa anthu kudzera mwa Mzimu Woyera (Luka 1:41, 42, 67; 2:27, 28). Mulungu anatomiza Mngelo ndi woyimba a kumwamba kukayankhula ndi abusa pa zakubadwa kwa Yesu (Luka 2:9-14).

Yesu asanayambe utumiki wake, panali mboni zambiri kuikira umboni kuti Yesu analidi Mau a Mulungu ku dziko la Israeli ndi kuti Iye anali Mpulumutsi wawo wolonjezedwa uja. Yohane Mbatizi anayankhulapo za kubwera kwa Kristu (Luka 3:1-18) monga m'mene Chipangano Chakale chinaloserera. Panalinsu umboni wa mau wochokera kumwamba amene anali mau a Mulungu pa kubatizidwa kwa Kristu (Luka 3:21, 22).

Mbiri ya makolo ake a Kristu monga mwa thupi (Luka 3:23-38) imaonetsa kuti Yesu anayera kupeza m'ndandanda wa banja lake kwa Mfumu Davide. Yesu anali Mfumu yeniyeni ya Israeli. Anayeneranso kupeza mtundu wake kwa Abrahamu, zimene zikuchitira umboni kuti Iye anali Muyuda weniweni.

Kulimbana kwa Yesu ndi Mdyerekezi (Luka 4:1-13) zikuonetsa kuti Yesu ndi wolamulira

Mdyerekezi. Yesu anali ndi mayankho ku mayesero. Iye anabwera kudziko kudzathana ndi Mdyerekezi ndi tchimo (1 Yohane 3:8). Kuyesedwa kwake kunaonetsa kuthekerera kwake.

Luka analamba zinthu zingapo zimene zikuonetsa ulamuliro wa Yesu pa zinthu za moyo uno.

Ulamuliro wa Yesu

- Pa Mizimu Yoipa/Yonyasa — Luka 4:33, 36
- Pa Matenda Onse — Luka 4:38, 40
- Pa Chilengedwe — Luka 5:1, 7
- Pa kuyendetsa Miyoyo ya anthu — Luka 5:8, 11
- Pa kufotokoza ndi kutanthauzira Chilamulo cha Ayuda — Luka 5:33; 6:10

Chinthu china cha moyo wa Yesu, ndi kukhala kwake ndi Mzimu Woyera. Ubale umenewu ukupezeke mu uneneri (Yesaya 11:1, 2; 42:1; 61:1). Zikuonekanso mu kubadwa kwa Yesu (Luka 1:35), moyo wake (Luka 3:22; 4:1, 14 18; Yohane 16:14), imfa yake (Aheberi 9:14), ndi kuuka kwake (Aroma 8:11).

Yesu anakhala mu m'chiyanjano ndi Mzimu Woyera nthawi zonse. Anali wodzala, wodzadza komanso wopatsidwa mphamvu ndi Mzimu Woyera nthawi zonse. Moyo wake unali wodziwika ndi zipatso za Mzimu Woyera. Izi ndi zoonza chifukwa lye anali munthu wangwiro ndiponso mtumiki wa Mulungu wangwiro.

Mu Luka 3:22 tikuwereza za Mzimu Woyera akutsikira pa Yesu ngati nkunda. Izi zizinachitike pofuna kumudzadza ndi Mzimu Woyera, iyai, pakuti lye anali

wodzala, wodzadza kale ndi Mzimu Woyera. Koma kuti, Mulungu anamudzodza, moonekera kumusankha ku utumiki umene anauyamba, izi zitangotha (Machitidwe Atumwi 10:38). Choncho, kutsika kwa Mzimu Woyera pa Yesu unali mwambo umene unachitidwa ndi Atate ndi Mzimu Woyera.

Mbali yaikulu ya ntchito ya Yesu pa dziko lino lapansi inali kuphunzitsa za Mulungu. Mauthenga abwino ndi odzadza ndi nkhani zokhudza ziphunzitso zake, kuphunzitsa makamu a anthu (Marko 2:13), kuphunzitsa kagulu kakang'ono ka ophunzira ake (Yohane 13:3-10), komanso kuphunzitsa munthu m'modzimidzi

(Yohane 3:2-3; 4:9-10). Mbali yaikulu ya Mauthenga abwino yalemba ziphunzitso zake monga Chiphunzitso cha pa phiri (Mateyu mitu 5 mpaka 7), chiphunzitso cha pa phwando la pa Paska (Yohane 13-16), ndi uthenga wake okhudzana

ndi zozizwitsa komanso zizindikiro (Yohane 5-7).

Mu ziphunzitso za Yesu, mu Mauthenga onse abwino tikuona kuthekerera kwake ngati mphunzitsi. Anaphunzitsa m'mafanizo, miyambi, imene ili nkhani zosavuta kumvetsa zoti ngakhale ndi ana omwe angamvetse, koma mafanizowa amakhala ndi matanthauzo ozama.

Yesu anaphunzitsa ndi ulamuliro. Iye samangobwereza zimene anthu ena ananena kale m'kumauzanso ena zomwezo. Unali muyeso wa Chiyuda kunena kuti, "Rabbi, Mphunzitsi wakuti-wakuti ananena izi ... " Mosiyaniitsa, Yesu anaphunzitsa, "Koma ine, ndikunena kwa inu ... " (Mateyu 5:21, 22). Iye anayankhula ndi ulamuliro umene anthu anazizwa nawo (Mateyu 7:28, 29).

Ziphunzitso za Yesu zinali za mkhalidwe wapamwamba kwambiri kuposa aphunzitsi a nthawi yake. Mwachitsanzo, lye anaphunzitsa anthu kuti azikonda adani awo. Yesu anafotokoza choonadi chimene sichinadziwika

Muloweze ndime izi m'mtima mwanu:
Luka 4:18-19, Yesu anati,
 "Mzimu wa Ambuye uli pa lne, chifukwa chake lye anandidzoza lne ndiuzi anthu osauka Uthenga Wabwino: Anandituma lne kulalikira am'nsinga mamasulidwe, Ndi akhungu kuti apenyanso, kutulutsa ndi ufulu ophwanyika, kulalikira chaka chosankhika cha Ambuye."

KUPHUNZIRA MALEMBO OYERA

WOLEMBA: JOHN FINEGAN

Mkusindikiza kwa Nyuzipepala iyi ya Challenge Newspaper, tili ndi gawo lachisanu za maphunziro kuchokera m'Buku Lopatulika. Timaphunzira zosiyana zokhudza Yesu Kristu. Tikufunsa, "Kodi Kristu Ndi Ndani?" Cholinga chake ndi chakuti inuyo, owerenga, mudzilimbikitsidwa pakuwerenga choonadi chopezeka m'Baibulo, komanso kulimbikitsidwa kuwerenga Baibulo pa inu nokha. Mu mkusindikiza kwa Nyuzipepalayi kukubweraku maphunziro ena atsopano. Mulungu amalankhula nafe kudzera m'Mau ake, Malembo Oyera. Ndi chinthu chabwino kuti tidzakhale ndi nthawi ya kuwerenga zimene Mulungu akufuna kuti atiuze kudzera m'Mau ake. Izi ndi zofunikira kwambiri kuposa kumva uthenga kuchokera kwa alaliki ngakhaleenso ziphunzitso za zipembedzo.

ndi kale lonse. Mu Luka 16:19-31 Yesu anafotokoza za moyo wina munthu akamwalira, zimene zinali zoti zizinafotokozeredwe lye asanabwere.

Mau a Yesu anali a chifundo, chisomo ndi a chikhululukulo (Luka 4:22) komanso amaulula ku samalitsa kwake. Komabe, podzudzula mizimu yoipa amayankhula ndi mphamvu ndi mwachindunji (Mateyu 23:27-33).

Mau ake anali okhalitsa ndi opindulitsa. Mau ake sadzatha (Mateyu 24:35). Mau ake amabweretsa moyo wosatha (Yohane 6:63, 68) ndipo mauwo ndi muyezo umene anthu adzaweruzidira (Yohane 12:48).

Cholinga cha Kubwera Kwa Yesu pa Dziko Lapansi

Yesu anali ndi zifukwa zenizeni zokhalira munthu ndi kukhala padziko lino lapansi.

1. Iye anabwera ndi cholinga cha kudzakhala nafe ndi kukhala munthu ngati ife (Mateyu 1:23; Aheberi 2:14). Yesu anali ndi thupi komanso mwazi ngati ife.
2. Kubwera kwake lye anachita utumiki kukwaniritsa cholinga cha Mulungu (Afilipi 2:7, 8; Aheberi 10:5-7).
3. Kubwera kwake kunapangitsa lye kukhazikitsa chitsanzo kwa ife cha

moyo wa umulungu (1 Yohane 2:6).

4. Iye anabwera kudzaphunzitsa choonadi cha uzimu ndi kusamalira osowa (Luka 4:18).
5. Anabwera ndi cholinga chodzaonetsera Mulungu mwa lye (Yohane 14:9).
6. Yesu anabwera kudzaononga Mdyerekezi ndi ntchito zake (Aheberi 2:14). Kristu ndi chigonjetso chathu tsopano!
7. Iye anabwera ndi cholinga chodzadziwa m'mene moyo wathu umakhalira ndi kumva nafe chifundo ndi mavuto athu (Aheberi 2:17), 18; 4:15).
8. Kubwera kwake lye anakhazikitsa banja latsopano la anthu pakuwapatsa iwo moyo ndi kuwalungamitsa (Aroma 5:12-21).
9. Iye anabwera ndi cholinga chodzatifera ife chifukwa cha machimo athu ndi kupereka njira imene Mulungu angatikhululukire machimo athu (1 Yohane 3:5). Ndi Yesu yekha amene akanatifera ife, pakuti lye ndi wopanda tchimo.

Phunziro ili, kuchokera m'Buku Lopatulika, lidzapitirira mkusindikiza kwa Nyuzipepalayi kukubweraku, tikadzaona Maphunziro ena atsopano.

MUDZIYESE!

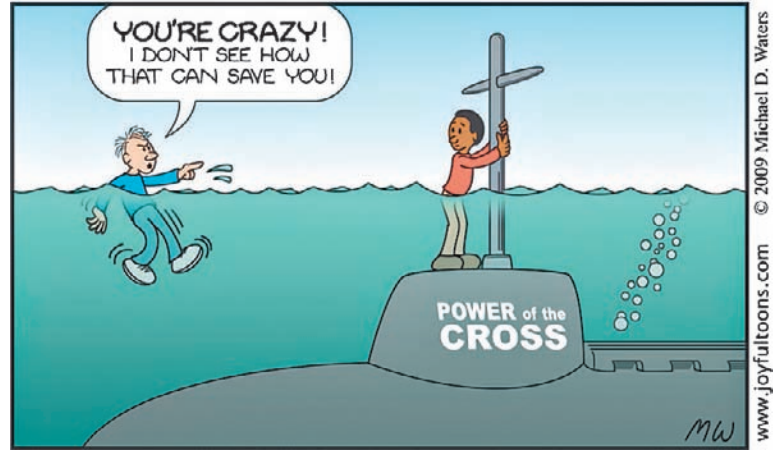
Tiyeni tilingilirebe za zonse zimene tawerenga m'phunziroli. M'munsi muno muli ndime anayi. Mawu ake a ndime zina ndi zoonza, koma ena ndi mabodza. Mutawerenga phunziro ili, werengani ndime yoyamba m'munsi. Mukatsimikiza kuti mawu ake akugwirizana ndi Phunziroli, lembani **ZOONA** patsogolo pake. Ngati sakugwirizana, lembani **MABODZA** patsogolo pake. Mukachita choncho, lembani **ZOONA** kapena **BODZA** patsogolo pandime ili yonse.

1. Kulimbana kwa Yesu ndi Satana (Luka 4:1-13) zikuonetsa kuti Satana ndi wofanana ndi Kristu m'mphamvu. _____
2. Luka 3:22 akufotokoza kuti Mzimu Woyera anatsikira pa Iye akuoneka ngati nkunda. Izi zinachitika ndi cholinga cha kudzodza Yesu, moonekera, ku utumiki Wake. _____
3. Mbali yaikulu ya ntchito ya Yesu pa dziko lino lapansi inali kudzakhala moyo wosalakwa. _____
4. Luka akutsatira za makolo a Yesu kuchokera kwa Ayuda ofunikira awiri ati Mose ndi Abrahamu. _____

Mutamaliza kuyankha mafunso onse, mungadziyese popeza mayankho enieni analembedwa munsi muno:

MAVANKHO : 1. Bodza, onaninsu Luka 4:1-13; 2. Zoona, Luka 3:22; 3. Bodza, Iye amaphunzitsa zokhudza Mulungu; 4. Bodza, Abrahamu ndi Davide, werengani Luka 3:23-38.

POWER OF THE CROSS A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. - 1 CORINTHIANS 1:18 NIV

SUBGROUP	Y	9	7	6	2	3	4	5	8	1
I	I	A	A	E	8	2	5	6	7	1
N	A	P	E	T	I	R	A	N	A	4
G	L	S	S	R	4	1	3	5	8	9
A	G	A	P	E	I	N	P	U	T	1
P	N	A	I	F	H	2	5	9	8	4
O	B	E	I	S	P	E	A	R	7	3
R	R	I	N	I	7	3	8	1	9	6
E	N	T	O	M	B	K	N	O	T	3
A	L	I	I	I	5	9	7	4	1	3
N	L	A	S	V	E	G	A	S	6	8

Christian Atsu of Newcastle United runs with the ball during the Premier League 2 match between Leeds United and Newcastle United at Thorp Arch Training Ground on March 15, 2021 in Leeds, England. (Photo by Serena Taylor/Newcastle United via Getty Images)

INSET: Christian Atsu. (Getty Images)



Leaving a lasting legacy

Rising from abject poverty in Ghana, Christian Atsu played for English soccer teams in Chelsea, Everton, Bournemouth and Newcastle before being signed to Turkish club, Hatayspor in 2022.

Tragically it was there that he lost his life in the earthquake in 2023, aged only 31. He left behind his wife, Marie-Claire Rupio, and two sons and a daughter. He also left behind a legacy of strong faith in Jesus.

“My faith is the most important thing in my life,” he told The Guardian. “I know I’m one of the lucky people God has blessed. I’m very lucky and privileged to be in such a position. I had nothing and

now I’ve got so much I have to give something back.”

Christian was a young teenager when he made the decision to follow Jesus for himself.

“I reached a level where my parents didn’t have to tell me I have to go to church, or do this or do that,” Christian said in an article for the Newcastle United website. “I realised that I have to make the choice. Parents don’t force their children to go to church. They make sure they bring you up in the way of the Lord, and then you make the decision yourself. That’s what I did.”

Following his death, tributes flowed in from around the world for the winger, who was once hailed as

the Ghanaian Messi.

His body lay in state for a week before his funeral, which included a military procession. He was buried in his hometown, Dogobome in Ada Foah, on Ghana’s south east coast.

Christian’s professional career began with Portuguese team FC Porto when he was 17. Two years later he joined Chelsea on a five-year contract and was immediately loaned to Dutch club Vitesse Arnhem, followed by Everton, Bournemouth and Málaga. Christian joined Newcastle United in 2016, where he stayed until 2021. He then joined Al Raed Saudi Football Club.

In September 2022, he joined Turkish professional league Süper Lig’s club Hatayspor. He played three league games and one in the Turkish Cup. The day before the earthquake, Christian scored the only goal at home to Kasimpasa in the seventh minute of added time.

He represented Ghana at the 2014 FIFA World Cup and four Africa Cup of Nations tournaments. His team was the runner-up at the 2015 Africa Cup of Nations, where he was awarded Player of the Tournament and Goal of the Tournament.

Despite Christian’s international success, however, he never forgot his roots or his family back home. “Whenever I go home, I am happy,” he told Arms Around the Child, for whom he was a global ambassador. “You never forget the person you were before you left. I survived but I don’t forget.”

He was one of 10 siblings and was only 12 when his father died. Just before his father died, he told Christian that he should worship God and help humanity.

Growing up in poverty was not easy for Christian, however and he found it hard to accept the cards he had been dealt.

“Sometimes I would complain to God a lot: ‘Why should I suffer like this? Why should some people have it easy?’ When I was growing, I would read the Bible, trying to understand everything. ‘Why?

Why? Why?’

“Then I realised that I was complaining too much. God’s power has to be manifested in my life for people to see how far He has brought me. The Bible says it is not by our hard work, by what we do, that makes us reach the level that we are now. For example, like me – it is not just by my hard work, though I am working hard, but it is the will of God, the grace of God, that has brought me this far.”

While in England, Christian attended church in Newcastle, stating that he was there to worship

God and enjoy the freedom it gave him.

“In the house of God I’m normal,” he said. “I don’t want a celebrity life. When I feel normal I feel free.”

After Christian’s death, former West Ham and Fulham defender John Paintsil paid tribute to his friend. “He helped a lot of people solve their problems, gave out to those in need,” he told BBC Ghana.

Despite his sports success, Ghana’s news outlets claimed that 95 percent of tributes about Christian were focused on his humanitarian work such as bailing out Ghanaians who had been jailed for stealing food.



Ghanaian soccer player Christian Atsu’s wife Marie-Claire Rupio (L) and children at his funeral at the State House in Accra, Ghana on March 17, 2023. (Photo by Kwame Adzaho-Amenortor/Anadolu Agency via Getty Images)

Could God love someone like me?

Kodi Mulungu angathe kukonda munthu ngati ine?

The Bible says: “... if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.” (Romans 10:9)

The Bible also says: “Yet to all who received Him, to those who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God.” (John 1:12)

If you would like more advice about spiritual matters or more information about Challenge - The Good News Paper (Malawi Edition) please write to (see address below):

Kodi Mulungu angathe kukonda munthu ngati ine?

Mau a Mulungu akuti: “... ngati uvomereza ndi pakamwa pako kuti Yesu ndi Ambuye, ndipo ukhulupirira mumtima mwako Mulungu adamuukitsa kwa akufa, udzapulumuka.” (Roma 10:9)

Mau a Mulungu akutinso: “Koma onse amene anamlandira lye, kwa iwo anapatsa mphamvu yakukhala ana a Mulungu, kwa iwotu akukhulupirira dzina lake.” (Yohane 1:12).

Ngati mufuna kulandira malangizo apadera okhudza zauzimu kapena ngati mufuna kudziwa za mbiri za Challenge - The Good News Paper (Malawi Edition) lemberani ku:

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