

Faithful to Share the Message

THE 700 CLUB CANADA

Peace in the Storm

by Bill Marкнам Co-Host, The 700 Club Canada



One of my favourite stories in the Bible is the story of Jesus calming the storm (Mark 4:35-41). As I was reflecting on

this, considering our global "storm" named COVID-19, I was convicted on a few fronts.

In verse 38, the disciples ask, *"Teacher, don't you care if we drown?"* They ask the One who created the entire world for humanity if He cared! The very fact that He was with them in the boat proved beyond a shadow of a doubt that He did. When you are tempted to think that God doesn't care, remember that He has done everything in His power to be with you.

In response, Jesus asks in verse 40, "Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?" The disciples had witnessed the miracles of Jesus. He had transformed their lives. He had demonstrated that He was unstoppable. Yet they allowed a storm to speak louder than the One who created the heavens and the earth. Who or what are we choosing to focus on and believe in today?

Finally, after Jesus calms the storm, they ask one another in verse 41, *"Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey him!"* What struck me is that the storm was an opportunity for Jesus to be revealed in a greater way and for faith to be built up. *"Who is this?"* He is Jesus. The One who calms the storm, the One who sets the captives free, the One who heals and delivers, the One who promises that God is going to restore all things.

I guess the only question left is... **do you believe it?** *Scripture is quoted from the NIV.*

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CBN NEWS

ADDICTED TO PROCESSED FOOD?

It may not be your fault

In his book, *Hooked: Food, Free Will, and How the Food Giants Exploit Our Addictions*, Pulitzer Prize winner and investigative reporter Michael Moss claims food companies intentionally make their products addictive.

But can today's "ultra processed" foods really be as



Sugary and salty foods can "excite" the brain.

addictive as alcohol, cigarettes and drugs?

Biologically, says the author, we have deep instincts that "make us incredibly vulnerable to overeating." For example, our bodies are designed to naturally crave sugar, fat and salt. Processed food is packed with highly condensed amounts of each, much more than in home cooking.

"They get the brain excited," Moss explains. "It sends a signal saying, 'I love that. Can I have some more of that?"

To feed that craving, food manufacturers can add some 56 different types of sugar to their products, creating an expectation that everything we consume should taste sweet.

The processed food industry also spends a lot of time and money engineering just the right texture in their foods and drinks. Smooth, bubbly, crunchy, or an irresistible blend of different textures can trigger our brains to crave more. The greater the consumption, the more money made.

So now that we understand the tricks of the trade, how do we defend ourselves? Moss says the opposite of processed foods is whole foods, which generally are found around the perimeter of the grocery store, such as in the produce, fish, meat, and dairy departments. Whenever possible, cook at home from scratch. It doesn't have to be complicated or time-consuming.

Not just a stunning exposé, *Hooked* will show the way to better eating habits—for a lifetime.

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The Great Commission in Canada

Faithful to Share the Message

by Andrew Burditt President, The Christian Broadcasting Associates



Like most people in society, who I am is the result of my upbringing. My family, my friends, and my experiences all helped to shape the person that I am today.

I was raised in The Salvation Army, which has a heart for holiness, mission, and evangelism. My faith journey was not

unlike many in that it contained hills and valleys, but I always knew that God was there, ready for me when I was ready for Him.

I have been very fortunate throughout my career to work for wonderful organizations and various national charities. These positions supported some very important causes, but I felt that God was calling me back to a faith-based environment. This didn't happen right away, and I prayed that God would provide clarity about my future and would reveal His plans for my life. I had to be patient and, ultimately, God provided me with the opportunity to provide leadership to The 700 Club Canada.

The 700 Club Canada has a mandate to share the Gospel message across Canada. It follows that God also has plans to grow the organization, its mission, and its impact.

God is a faithful God. As Christians, we are unified in that knowledge, and I thank God for you, who have partnered with The 700 Club Canada, and helped share the message of His love.

Where do we go from here, and more importantly, what does God want us to do? Mass communication has always been an effective way to share the power of the Gospel story and to encourage others to live a life that helps prepare for the coming of Jesus Christ. However, as society adapts to technology and changes the way in which it consumes media, we must also be willing to adapt accordingly.

Our message will never change. I trust Him, and I look forward to following God's path for The 700 Club Canada as we plan for the future and seek to take advantage of the resources at our fingertips—all with the goal of introducing people to Him and bringing them into a relationship with Jesus Christ.

Matthew 28:19-20 contains what has come to be known as The Great Commission: *"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing*

them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age" (NIV).

Thank you for helping us to fulfill The Great Commission in Canada. Together we can do great things for the kingdom of God! May God bless you.



THE 700 CLUB CANADA Really Free!

by Lorie Hartshorn Co-Host, The 700 Club Canada



Jesus gives us a promise in John 8:36 saying, "So if the son sets you free, you will be *free indeed.*"

Different translations capture this statement by Jesus in other ways such as "you will be truly free," "absolutely free" or "really free." So the question for you and me is, do I really believe that I've been set free?

Maybe you believe in Jesus but still struggle with habitual sin in your life and you believe you can't change. Or you've never truly experienced joy and you're content with a fatalistic view of this life. Maybe your Christian experience has felt more like a duty than a journey of freedom.

I believe that underneath our inability to experience freedom is a faulty understanding of the Gospel. Too many are content to believe in a Gospel that says we've been given a status update and a ticket to heaven, but in this life, we shouldn't expect freedom. That will only come when we get to heaven. But Jesus' word to us is, *"if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed."* The Gospel message is that He has the power to free us.

Transformation often begins in the mind. Thank Jesus for setting you free: His shed blood on the cross and His resurrection from the grave accomplished your freedom. You don't have to live in bondage to any sin. You can live with joy and peace in your heart you are really free!

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AIRING EVERY FRIDAY

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The 700 Club Canada Hosts Answer YOUR Questions

Is it okay to write in my Bible?

BILL: That's a good question. I think it's rooted in the concept that the Bible itself is sacred. Hebrews 4:12 does say the Word of God is "living and active, sharper than any double-edged sword." So, it is the living and the active Word that is sacred, not the ink on the paper. For this reason, I actually think you should write in your Bible. I have found this a really great way to engage with the Word of God. One of the best gifts I ever received was a wide-margin Bible. All through school, I made all kinds of notes about what God spoke to me. I believe that you build precept upon precept, layer upon layer. You can go back and add new layers each time you add notes.

SHINING THE LIGHT **OF THE LORD**



The answer to every spiritual problem is to look at the Lord face to face.

by Gordon Robertson Chairman of the Board, CBA President and CEO, CBN

he Bible tells us in Proverbs 14:34, Righteousness exalts a nation. Today, North America is at a place where the righteous who are called by God need to shine. This is not a time for us to retreat. This is not a time for us to hide our light under a bushel. This is definitely a time to shout it from the housetops, because the world needs us.

Now more than ever, we must shine brightly! As Jesus tells us in Matthew 5:14, "You are the light of the world."

This is part of the Sermon on the Mount—which, as Christians, we take as our constitution of what it means to live in the kingdom of God. For the Jewish people, their spiritual constitution is found in Leviticus chapters 19-21.

It begins, "You shall be holy, for I the LORD your God am holy."

This call to holiness is also in the New Testament: As



He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, because it is written, "Be holy, for I am holy" (1 Peter 1:15-16).

These are the words of the Apostle Peter—who was with Jesus at the Mount of Transfiguration, denied Him three times, and was restored. And he tells us to be holy.

The Hebrew word for holy means "set apart." We want to be holy every moment of every day—in the world but not of the world, set apart for service to God, motivated by righteousness, and taking every thought captive to Christ.

We know that any nation that follows the precepts of God's Word will be blessed.

So let's pray that we would be a light, showing from our hearts and through our deeds that we want to be known as a holy people and a righteous nation. God bless you. Excerpted from a teaching at CBN Staff Chapel. Scripture is quoted from the NKIV.

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