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# TAKING THE **WHOLE WORD** TO THE **WHOLE WORLD**

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*Jesus* HAS MADE A  
MARVELOUS, WONDERFUL PATH  
*back to Himself*  
THAT WE CAN WALK  
*every day.*

J. VERNON MCGEE





# WHERE THE RUBBER MEETS THE ROAD

## HOW CAN I BE CLOSE TO GOD?

Dr. J. Vernon McGee

When the book of 1 John was written, Jesus had already ascended back to heaven. But we're told, *"Having loved His own, He loved them right on through to the end,"* and He wants them to have continued fellowship with Him even though He is now back in heaven and we're down here on the earth.

John is talking to you and me. He spans the nearly twenty centuries, looks down on us today, and says, *"We want you to have fellowship with Him, and this is the way it's done."*

*That which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ.* -1 John 1:3

John tells us we can have fellowship with God! One of the most glorious prospects before us today is that we can have fellowship with the Father, with the Son, and with one another.

*But God is holy and I am a sinner, how can I have fellowship with Him?*

People have tried to do this in three different ways. Make sure you get to #3.

### METHOD #1 | BRING GOD DOWN TO MAN'S LEVEL

*If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth.* -1 John 1:6

That's strong language. I'm too polite to say it so bluntly, but John isn't. If you and I say we have fellowship with God but walk in darkness, we are liars.

We must deal with the sin in our lives. My friend, if you are going to walk with God, you are going to walk in *light*. And if there is sin in your life, you are *not* walking with Him. You cannot bring Him down to your level.

*But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son [keeps on cleansing] us from all sin.* -1 John 1:7

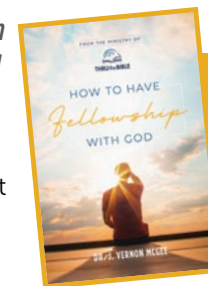
He died to save us from the guilt of sin. I *have been* saved—that's justification. I *am* being saved—that is sanctification.

### METHOD #2 | BRING MAN UP TO GOD'S LEVEL

The other side says man has reached sinless perfection and is living on the same high plateau as God. John deals with that, too:

*If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.* -1 John 1:8

This is even worse than being a liar; you're deceiving yourself. My friend, who do you think you deceive when you say you have no sin? You deceive *yourself*, and I guarantee you are the only one. You don't deceive God, your neighbors, or your friends. John says the truth is not in a man like that because he can't see he is a sinner. Yet a great many folk try that route in their effort to bridge the gap between themselves and a holy God.



Download your free copy of "How to Have Fellowship with God" for a deeper discussion of this important topic.



## METHOD #3 | CONFESS

Since you cannot bring God down to your level or yourself up to His level, what are you going to do? John gives us the alternative:

*If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.* -1 John 1:9

The word "confess" means "to say the same thing." This is important. You are to say the same thing God says. When His Word says something you're doing is sin, you are to get over on God's side and look at it. And the only acceptable answer is, "You are right, Lord. I say the same thing You do: It is sin." Rationalizing it isn't an option, either. If God says it is sin, it is sin, and we must confess the same thing God says about it. That is what it means to confess your sins, and it is one of the greatest needs we have. This is God's way for a Christian to deal with the sin in his own life.

The Lord Jesus washed the feet of His disciples. Today, even from heaven, He's still washing feet because "having loved His own, He just keeps on loving them right down to the very end" (see John 13:1). Today He's girded with a towel of service: "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9). We have to go to Him for cleansing again and again, saying, "Look, Lord. Here are my feet; please make me clean. I want to walk with You, I want to love You, and I want to enjoy You. I want to have fellowship with You."

Go to the Lord, my friend, and open your heart and talk to Him as you talk to no one else. Tell Him your problems. Tell Him your sins. Tell Him your weakness. Confess it all to Him. Say to your Father that you want to have fellowship with Him and want to serve Him. He has made a marvelous, wonderful path back to Himself we can walk every day!

Jesus longs for our fellowship.

## » MY TURN

FROM *J. Vernon McGee*

"It's possible to walk in darkness, and think you are all right.

"I once went squirrel hunting in Tennessee. I was deep in the woods when it started to rain. I crawled into one of the caves in the hillside and sat there in the dark for about 30 minutes. It was cold, so I gathered some leaves and put a match to them. I soon had a small fire going. With this new light, I looked around the cave and discovered I wasn't alone. I have never been in a place with as many spiders and lizards as were hunkered there around me. Over in one corner was a snake all coiled up, just looking at me. My friend, I got out of there in a hurry.

"When the light of the fire revealed what was in the cave, I could no longer be comfortable there. My friend, the light of God's Word reveals we are sinners. We can't have fellowship with God in darkness. Let God's Word bring you into the light and reveal what sin you need to confess so you can have fellowship with God."

**ARE YOU WILLING TO HUMBLE YOURSELF AND LET HIM SHOW YOU WHAT'S KEEPING YOU APART? TELL HIM SO.**





## FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS

The Impact of *Thru the Bible* Home Groups in India during COVID-19

George Philip, TWR Director of TTB-India

The COVID-19 pandemic affects our every thought, every decision, and every action every moment of the day. We have no idea what tomorrow may bring. We may wonder if the stories we see on television today will become our story tomorrow. Amid such turmoil, we long for comfort, stability, and hope. The Radio Home has become the source of comfort and hope for many. Radio Home enables every member to grow in His Word by discovering, discussing, and exploring truths, while making every effort to obey Him and the Holy Spirit even behind closed doors.

The lockdown that began on March 22 caught everyone by surprise, especially the church as it was not prepared for it. Very few churches that are tech savvy began to have online services, prayer meetings,

and Bible study, but only a limited number of people can access it. The majority are left with no one to take care of them. Of course, social media is flooded with Christian content now for those who can access it. But people are doubtful whom to believe, as there is more false information than true. When TWR-India started the *Thru the Bible* Home Groups, many churches were skeptical and suspicious. But today they are all convinced that in the present times and in the days

ahead, small groups would be ideal for a country like India. We truly believe the concept of *Thru the Bible* is a God-given gift to this nation for a time such as this.

Little did we know we would be in a lockout situation where even for the *Thru the Bible* Home Groups to meet is a challenge. The families that received a player and the Bible study in their heart language are thriving even in the midst of this crisis.

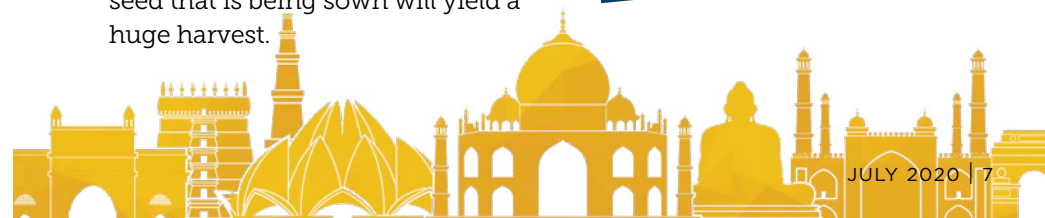
Recently a local pastor, Pastor Sunil, connected with our staff to share about the impact of the audio players we distributed to groups listening to the *Thru the Bible* study in the Malto language. They are so grateful for this resource, and they listen to it every day from 10PM to 2AM in the quietness of the night.

Our teams are in constant touch with the groups and the testimonies we are getting are heartening. We are so thankful to God.

We want you to know that your prayer investment is timely and the seed that is being sown will yield a huge harvest.



**SEE THE BACK COVER FOR  
WONDERFUL STORIES OF  
IMPACT FROM INDIA.**







## THE FIRE OF FAITH BURNS BRIGHTLY IN A SOUTH AFRICAN PRISON

As we travel on our knees through South Africa, we stop at Vereeniging Prison to meet with a group of listeners that join us on the Bible Bus each day. Here is their story.

*"We are a group in prison that enjoy your programs. We have a lot of time, so we've listened to many radio programs, but yours is the only one that takes us through each book of the Bible.*

*"You have now become our daily teacher. We are currently studying the book of Acts.*

*"We are grateful that you reach out to prisoners. Please pray for us to keep this fire of faith burning. It is easy to lose hope, but God's Word keeps us going."*

As you pray for these men today, also remember all those who rely on God's Word to get through each day. And as *Thru the Bible* goes out in the languages

of Zulu, English, Shona, and Afrikaans pray many more in South Africa will find the eternal hope found in a relationship with Jesus Christ.

This is an example of the email our World Prayer Team receives every weekday. Together, we are traveling the world on our knees, interceding for one country at a time. We invite you to join us in covering the entire earth with prayer every year.

**GO TO [TTB.ORG/PRAY](http://TTB.ORG/PRAY) TO SIGN UP.**



# What's Happening at THRU the BIBLE



## The Wheels on the Bible Bus Go *Round and Round*

While much of the world has hit the pause button during the pandemic, the teams at *Thru the Bible* keep the radio program on the air, the website up, the World Prayer Today email and newsletters going out, your calls and letters answered, and prayer teams together. **Praise God for technology that allows our teams to stay connected as we continue our mission in taking the whole Word to the whole world.**





*And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work. –2 Corinthians 9:8*

How does *Thru the Bible* hope to reach the whole world with the whole Word? The same way you and I hope to live by faith—we only can do this by God’s grace. God makes “all grace” available to us as His children.

Of course, most Christians would acknowledge God can do anything. But more than an academic statement about God’s power, this is a passionate promise from God to us ... one that applies to every situation we face personally and that TTB faces as a ministry. Not only can God help us in every circumstance, He *wants* to! He wants us to have absolutely everything we need for every good work He calls us to do.

Some have said, “Where God guides, He provides.” If God is calling you to live a life of faith and to bear fruit and bring Him glory—He provides what you need to do it. Believe His promise for “all grace to abound to you.”

Thank you for standing with *Thru the Bible* as we together trust God to guide us to the opportunities to take His Word wider and deeper, to provide the resources to do it, and to keep us in His grace. Let’s pray this for each other.



Gregg Harris  
President, *Thru the Bible*

# WHY STUDY MICAHA?

Join in the studies on  
*Thru the Bible* **JULY 15—  
AUGUST 6** or anytime online,  
by podcast, or by mobile app.

**How do you please God?** The Old Testament prophet Micah answers that question—while raging conflict ravaged the nation and God’s people. This 6<sup>th</sup> minor prophet has a major lesson to deliver to Israel (and perhaps to us today!).

## KEY VERSE

*He has shown you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God? –Micah 6:8*



## CONNECTIONS WITH OTHER BIBLE BOOKS:

- **Micah lived at the same time as other prophets, Isaiah, Hosea, and Amos.**  
He likely was friends with Isaiah and wrote on similar themes. The book of Micah has been called a “mini-Isaiah.” Compare Micah 4:1-5 & Isaiah 2:1-4.
- **Matthew 2:6 quotes Micah 5:2** about the Messiah being born in Bethlehem.
- **Micah spoke out against those who looked religious but lived like hypocrites.**  
Micah sounded just like Jesus when He talked to religious leaders about their double standards (see Matthew 23).

*“For many people, Micah is the favorite of the minor prophets. With remarkable style and beautiful language, if you appreciate poetry and literature, you will appreciate Micah. He would have made a very good war correspondent. His writing is pungent, realistic, and personal and at the same time both trenchant and touching. You’ll find an exquisite beauty about this brochure which combines God’s infinite tenderness with His judgments.” –Dr. J. Vernon McGee*

**When Micah wrote, “Who is a God like You, pardoning iniquity?” (7:18),** he made a word play on his own name, which means “who is like the Eternal?”

**LESSON FROM MICAHA** | Claiming to be a godly nation yet being unwilling to live according to God’s Word will always lead to greater, deeper problems on a national scale.

# I Love to Tell *the Story*

## India's Home Groups Thrive in the Covid-19 Crisis

### “BLESSED FAMILY TIME”

A Radio Home leader from Kanpur says, “Every evening we sit and listen to the Word of God as a family. We also make the study available to our church members and friends to encourage them. I am happy that I have Radio Home at my place and my church members also appreciate this study. This time of quarantine is a blessing in disguise to my family as we are able to spend quality time studying the Word of God together, which we were missing earlier. I praise God for His great plan for our family.”

### “THIS IS OUR CHURCH NOW”

A Rathwi language producer said, “We are a poor and underprivileged community. But through this we are able to provide a wonderful Bible study to my people. The groups listen regularly and now during the situation with Covid-19, I can see that it is a great help to our believers. Many testify, ‘Now, this is our church.’”

### “RADIO HOME STANDS IN THE GAP”

A TTB Home Group leader from the Malvi language, Pastor Arjunsingh Osari, says, “I have a church at Manpur, but due to the lockdown we cannot meet. Nevertheless, the families in our congregation meet every night and study the Word of God using the audio player. It is amazing to listen to the Word in our mother tongue. We are assured that we can still worship God and be nurtured in the Word even if the church building is shut down. This could not have been possible without your help.”



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