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Associates

Caroline Hood

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Pamela Fisher of PGF Designs

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GUIDE OF THE SMOKIES



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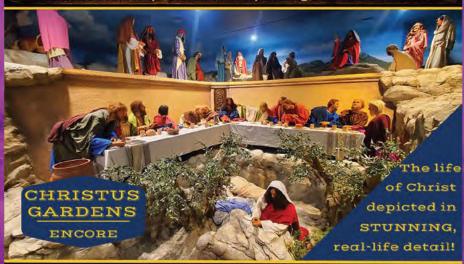
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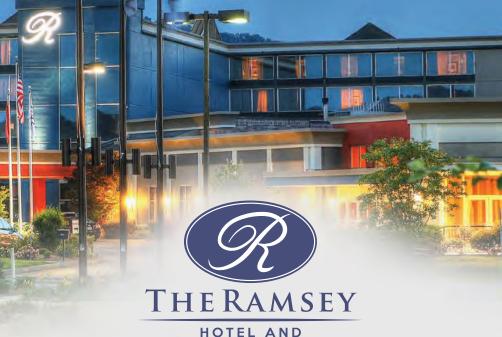
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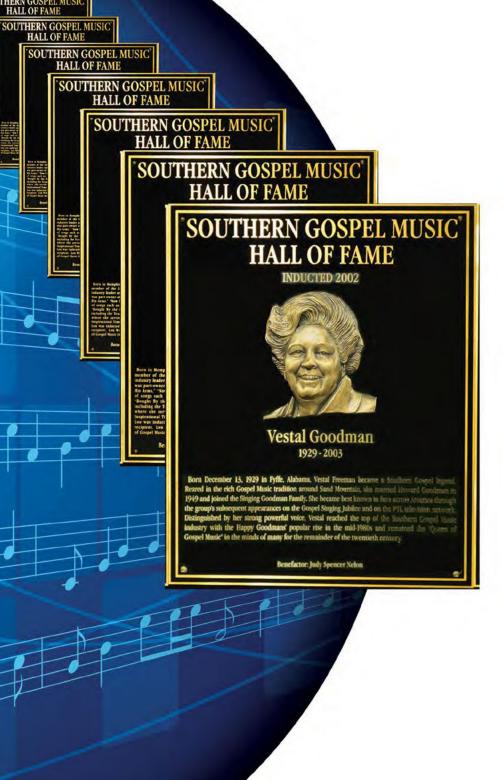
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God can use any testimony, no matter how mundane, to inspire people.

Walking with someone when you cannot agree on the direction or goal is frustrating, yet that's exactly what we sometimes try to do with God. In the Scriptures, He gives us guidance for life. But then, when we don't follow it, we're surprised to see that He's walking in a different direction than we are.

Scripture uses the term "walk" to describe the course of a person's life. For instance, Noah walked with God by having a relationship with Him through faith (Gen. 6:9). And John's gospel uses the phrase "walk in the Light" (1 John 1:7) to explain what is required of those who want to follow Jesus.



To walk with the Lord in His Light, we must confess and forsake sin, pursue righteousness, and obey His commands. We can't claim to walk in the Light if our life is characterized by the darkness of a sinful lifestyle or we're hold-

ing onto anger, bitterness, or resentment toward others. Are you trying to carry old baggage into your walk with the Lord? The attitudes, habits, and conduct that were yours before Christ must be abandoned in order for you to walk with God.

For more biblical teaching and resources from Dr. Charles Stanley, please visit www.intouch.org
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What is Truth?

by WILL GRAHAM

What is truth? It's something many people are asking today, but it's not a new question. In fact, 2,000 years ago, Pilate asked the exact same thing of Jesus during His trial.

Many believe that truth is relative. What is true for you is not necessarily true for me. However, the Bible has a lot to say that directly contradicts much of what the world believes about the matter.

First, truth isn't an idea or an opinion, but a Person. "Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me" (John 14:6, ESV). All truth comes from God, because He personifies truth. As we delve into His Word and are attentive to the Holy Spirit, we can and should know The Truth Himself.

Second, the truth isn't always popular. Remember, Jesus was truth incarnate and they crucified Him. The truth can be offensive because it tells us what is wrong with us. Imagine going to the doctor and being told you have cancer. You may not like it—you can disagree and get angry—but it's the truth, and ignoring it can lead to death.

Finally, the truth will set you free. "So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, 'If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free" (John 8:31–32, ESV). Jesus goes on to say that those who are in sin are slaves to sin, but those who find hope in Him are released from bondage. "So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed" (John 8:36, ESV).

What is Truth? Truth is Jesus, His death and resurrection. Truth is the Word of God, the Bible. Truth may not be popular, especially in our world today, but it will set you free ... and not just for today, but for eternity!



WILL GRAHAM—the grandson of Billy Graham and the oldest son of Franklin Graham—is an associate evangelist and vice president with the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association. He also serves as executive director of the Billy Graham Training Center at The Cove.

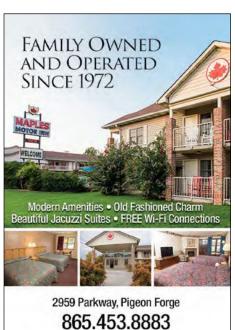














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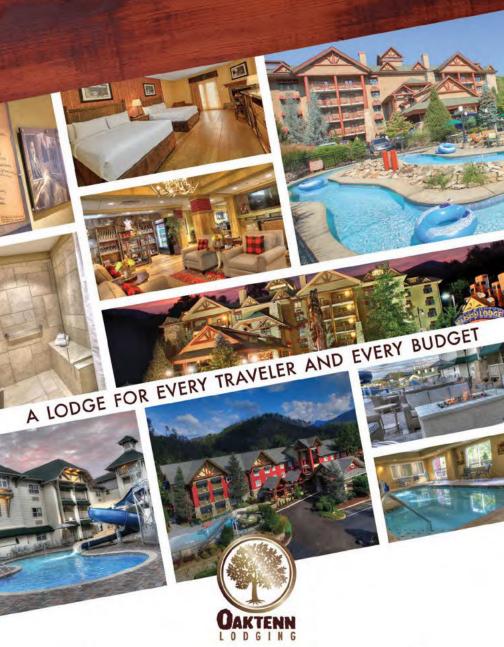
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