

PLAIN TRUTH®

inside

CHRISTIANITY WITHOUT THE RELIGION®

Chaos or Community? p2

God Words p5

Undeserved Award p7

Quotes & Connections p8

Who We Are...



Where We Are Going

By Greg Albrecht

CWR/PTM is a diverse team—our diversity provides strength and cohesiveness, by the grace of God. We each play individual roles, yet we are one team.

The body of Christ is one, yet composed of many individual members. We realize that teamwork involves the joint and collective efforts of a like-minded group who subordinate some of their own interests in favor of the greater good of the team. **Teamwork** is the concerted and singularly focused efforts of individuals who coordinate their work toward their common, targeted objective.

As Friends and Partners of

CWR/PTM, we are part of the body of Christ. Some of us attend brick-and-mortar churches and are members of specific denominations ...some of us do not attend any building on a regular basis and we are not affiliated with any denomination. Regardless of our earthly affiliations or lack thereof, we are all brothers and sisters in Christ, working together as **teammates** on the CWR/PTM team.

As individual members of the CWR/PTM team:

1) We know our collective purpose. Our goal is to serve others in the name of Jesus. We are service-driven. Our goal is to pass on his grace, love and mercy to others, in

the same way that it has been given to us.

We come together in the worldwide media ministry of CWR/PTM so that **we may do more together than any one of us could do alone**. We know that God's grace was not given to us so that we could tuck it away in a closet or bury it in a hole in our backyard. God's grace was given to us so that we might in turn give it to others, and that is our purpose as a media ministry. **We pass on what God has already given to us.**

Together we serve—we reach out to those who have been spiritually abused and abandoned.

We minister to those who are spiritually sick and blind, spiritually homeless, spiritually naked and famished. We minister to those who are spiritual prisoners. This is our vision—**our high honor and privilege—to serve others in great need, for we ourselves have been forgiven, loved, nourished and embraced by Jesus.**

2) We each have a role and a task. We know what we can do individually to contribute and help achieve our collective purpose. **As members of the team**, we “play our positions” in the roles where we have been placed. We do what we can where we are for the good of **our team**.

We are committed to one another and **our team**—most of all, we are committed to the Captain of our

Continued from page 1

salvation, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We work in harmony in Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and God's commitment to us is the glue that holds us together.

By God's grace we are imbued, empowered and enabled to have the same attitude as that of Christ Jesus:

Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of others (Philippians 2:3-4).

3) We will never give up. We will tenaciously persevere toward our goal. We are highly motivated—so highly that our motivation is from “on high.” We are driven and empowered and enabled by Jesus, our risen Lord, who lives within us. In Christ we will accomplish our objective come hell or high water.

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? As it is written, “For your sake we face death all day long: we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.” No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us (Romans 8:35-37).

All good teams sacrifice—as a unit and as individuals. We are self-sacrificial in our giving—we are generous and we are selfless.

4) Our past mistakes, errors, fumbles and miscues are behind us. Only one thing matters—what we are doing now and tomorrow. Because Jesus encourages us, we have courage. **We are given Christ-centered courage so that we might stand with him and stand together during difficult and lonely times.**

5) Our focus is on Jesus Christ. He is our core, he is our center—he is our all in all. **Without Jesus we are nothing. With him we are everything.**

Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus (Philippians 3:13-14).



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A Demeaning and Cynical Accusation of Our Team

Some accuse ministries and churches of “only” asking supporters to “pray and pay.” While there is no doubt that prayer and financial support is important, it is not the only role we have as we serve on **the team of CWR/PTM.**

Can you imagine someone accusing a stay-at-home mother, not working outside the house, of “only” being a mother, without honoring her work in cooking, cleaning, nurturing, encouraging and teaching her children? **Only** being a mother?

Just as it completely devalues a stay-at-home mother by saying she has little to do, it minimizes and makes light of all the teammates, Friends and Partners in the ongoing ministry of CWR/PTM, by saying they “only pray and pay.”

Only praying and paying? Can you imagine someone making fun of the self-sacrifice of a soldier or anyone involved in law enforcement by accusing them of being impressed with “just” being a soldier, policeman or policewoman for the sheer vanity of wearing a uniform? What about the service, the protection and the laying down of one's life? When we serve in the name of Jesus, as valuable and self-sacrificing **teammates on the CWR/PTM team**, we are deeply involved and committed to Jesus, far beyond “only” praying and paying.

Prayer is vitally important in all of its facets and dimensions. One part of our prayer life, **as team members of CWR/PTM**, is prayer for the continuing work of our collective ministry. We pray for all those we serve, all those whose lives are being changed and positively uplifted, in and with and toward Jesus Christ.

And yes, we pray that adequate and necessary financial resources are available enabling the work of Plain Truth Ministries to continue, grow and flourish. So yes, our financial generosity (our paying if you like) is vitally important as well.

Pray and **pay** are “p” words—there are many other words that begin with the letter “p” that help describe how we yield to Jesus Christ in all facets of our lives. There are so many other ways, beyond *praying* and *paying*, in which we are involved in the gospel of Jesus Christ.

We **participate** actively in the gospel, by discussing our beliefs and in passing on the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ to friends and family. We **proclaim** the gospel in all that we say and do—we proclaim the gospel by reflecting the Light of the world, Jesus Christ, who shines his light within us that we might reflect it to others. We **persevere** in our role as team members. We never give up. There is no “quit” in our vocabulary.

Who We Are

Who are we? We are old and young...we are male and female, black, white, brown and mixed.

Where are we? Members of **our team** live around this world, though most of us are located in North America. We live in apartments, duplexes and private homes. We live in assisted care facilities. Some of us are homeless and live in cars or trucks.

We are retired and semi-retired. We are widows and widowers. Some members of our team are physically well while others suffer on a daily basis with maladies, sickness and disease.

Some members of **our team** work in factories; others work in offices. Some work on farms, some work in retail establishments.

We have doctors, dentists and lawyers **on our team**—we have teachers and professors and students—we have artists and musicians. We have electricians and plumbers. We have janitors and gardeners and cooks and chefs and mechanics and construction workers.

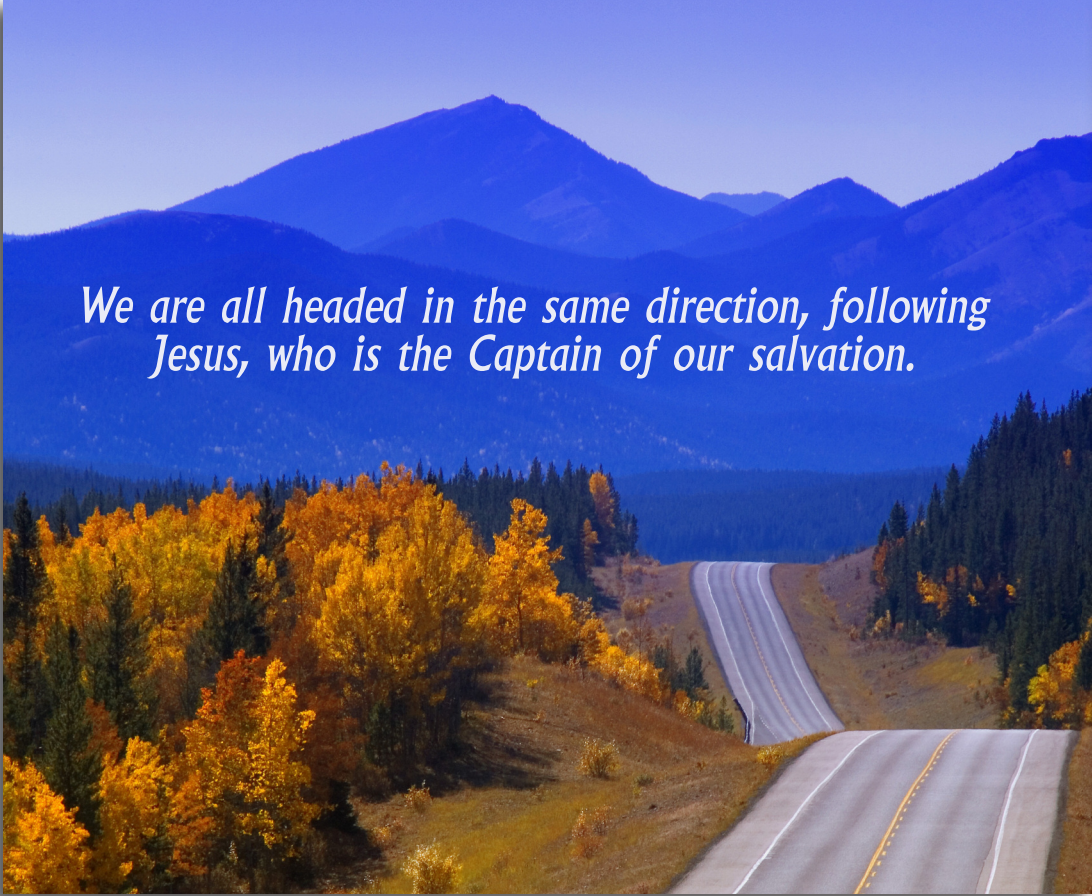
Some of **our team** serve in harm's way in the military and others serve as police officers and a few serve in select law enforcement capacities, such as the FBI.

We have airline pilots, retired and active, and we have long haul truck drivers, retired and active. We have pastors and priests and counselors and social workers **on our team**. We have elected officials **on our team**. **And most of all, YOU are on our team!**

Our 2019 Pep Talk

As the player-coach of **our PTM team**, here's my locker room motivational talk, encouraging and inspiring us all before we charge out the door, headed for the field, to engage in the our collective work in this New Year of 2019:

You and I are part of a special team. We have each made a commitment to do what we can on this team, and we are all united as one. As a team we



We are all headed in the same direction, following Jesus, who is the Captain of our salvation.

work together. Our ministry is accomplished by a team, and each one of you is a vital part of our team.

Don't excuse yourself from active involvement in our team because you think your role is not important. Don't start thinking that your contributions to this team are so small that they are meaningless. Don't underestimate what you mean to this team!

*We need each and every one of you! We move forward as a team. We accomplish our goals and objectives as a team. **We are PTM.***

*We are all headed in the same direction, following Jesus, who is the Captain of our salvation. **We are PTM, and we are His.***

We don't ask our teammates to do what we are capable of doing. We don't worry about how our teammates may not be doing their job or contributing their fair share.

*We don't have time to bog down criticizing others and neither are we out to impress anyone with how great we are individually. **We are PTM.***

*We are all for one and one for all. **We are PTM.***

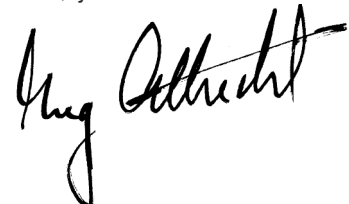
In the name of Jesus, thank you for your service. Thank you for being the hands and feet of Jesus in

this world. Thank you for reaching out through the many media ministries of CWR/PTM to serve so many around this world, in the name of Jesus.

And now finally, before we collectively take the field of 2019 together, before we face its challenges and adversities, I pray for you, with the apostle Paul:

I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God (Ephesians 3:16-19). □

Serving with you, your brother in Christ, your teammate in him,



Greg Albrecht