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THE GOMIX SPRING SHARE-A-THON BEGINS MARCH 7TH!

Carolina La Carolina Magazine

Serving The Eastern North Carolina Christian Community March 2016

CarolinaLIFE ... becomes

PathPointe
Magazine

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PathPointe

Dear Ministry Partners,

Change does not always come easy and I suppose that is a good thing. If it were easy, we might be tempted to change things unnecessarily.

CarolinaLIFE has been published since April of 2000, but next month we will change our name to better reflect our expanding geographical coverage. Our new name will be PathPointe Magazine.

Living up to a legacy isn't always easy. Especially when that legacy encompasses over 1.3 million magazines distributed over the past 16 years. But change also comes with an opportunity which can drive us toward even higher levels of ministry.

CarolinaLIFE was a good descriptive name for our magazine, but it has become inaccurate over time. As we have endeavored to reach new places where we might make a difference, God has honored our commitment to preach, teach, publish, and broadcast His Word.

Over the coming months, several new features will be added. We are also creating a website which will allow us to offer additional content that cannot be included in the print version.

As I get older, I tend to resist change; however, sometimes it just makes sense. I trust the changes we are making will only serve to enhance the enjoyment of your monthly magazine.

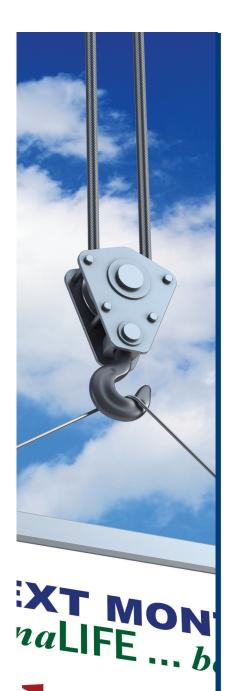
T. D. Worthington



March 2004

February 2016





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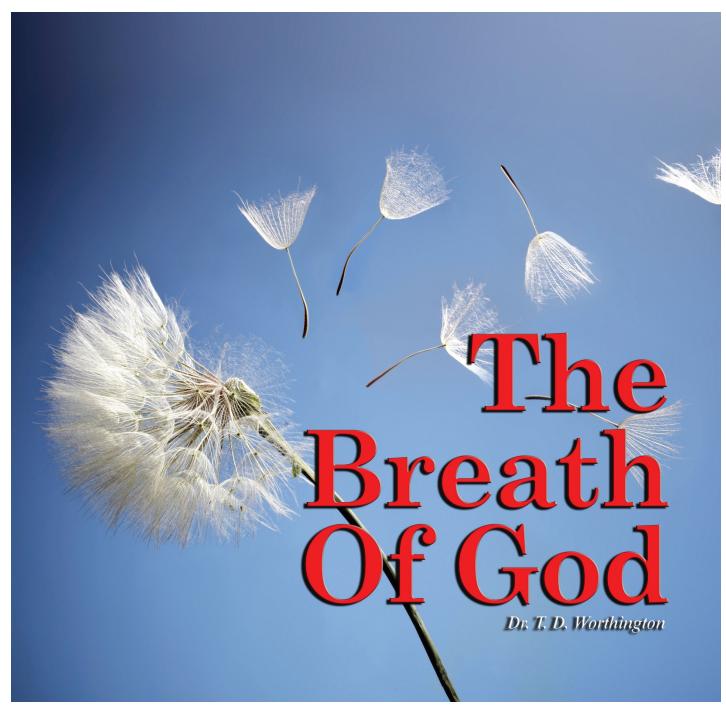
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Have you ever wondered why man is so smart? Oh, I know man can do some pretty foolish things, yet he is still more intelligent than any other creature on earth. Most animals conduct their lives the same way they did back in the Garden of Eden, but not man. Man has developed new ways to build houses, to grow his food, travel, and communicate. How is it that mankind can be so creative? Even the most evil and wicked men are capable of amazing intellectual achievements.

God's Breath Gave Adam Life.

The Word of God clearly instructs us that it was God Who gave us this gift:

"But there is a spirit in man: and the inspiration of the Almighty giveth them understanding."

Job 32:8

"The Spirit of God hath made me, and the breath of the Almighty hath given me life."

Job 33:4

Perhaps these verses will help us understand. The breath of God, which gave man life in the Garden of Eden, also imparted to man a degree of divine wisdom. Apparently, other earthly creatures were made as knowledgeable and complete as they could ever be when they were created. Although the curse made some changes in their lives, most of the intellect imparted to them at creation has remained relatively unchanged over the centuries. However it is also



-

obvious that man's comprehension and knowledge was designed to grow. Of course it was a perverted quest for instantaneous intellectual growth that tempted Eve to partake of the forbidden fruit.

So, even today the human race is still benefitting from the creative genius our Almighty God imparted to us. Although we do not always use this gift wisely, the source of man's genius is still God Himself.

"And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul." Genesis 2:7

God literally breathed the breath into Adam. At that moment Adam "became a living soul." It is from the breath of God that we actually get our life. Our life was the breath of God coming into us.

So, we share the breath of creation with God, thus we also can share the consciousness of God. With this realization we know we are truly one with God in the most intimate way. How can one be closer than sharing their very breath? His breath is our breath, thus His life is our life. The breath of God is our breath and source of life.

We breathe with a prescribed regularity. Physicians will often monitor the rhythm of our respiration when diagnosing our health. Likewise, the rhythm of the universe is completely regulated by the breath of God. Breathing life into us means that we are infused with the rhythm of God's breathing. The breath of God is constantly providing a rhythm for our life much as the metronome provides rhythm for a musician. On occasion this rhythm is loud and clear, and at other times it may be in the quiet background. Sometimes we get ahead of God and need to slow down in order to let His plan for us catch up. At other times it seems He has to prod us along.

We see the evidence of this rhythm all around us. There is a prescribed rhythm in the entire creation. We can clearly see it in tides and seasons. Probably the most consistent rhythm of God's creation is the moon's cycle around the earth. So concise is the rhythm of the lunar cycle that God constructed the entire Jewish calendar around it.

Our dependence upon the breath of God underscores the personal relationship with our Creator. Adam would have never had life without the breath of God. We might assume his body would have eventually decayed and returned to dust. Breathing illustrates our complete dependence upon God.

God's Breath Still Gives Life.

God's breath is the very essence of life giving and life sustaining power. In Ezekiel's vision in the valley of dry bones, God's breath gives life to the nation of Israel:

"Then said He unto me, Prophesy unto the wind, prophesy, son of man, and say to the wind, Thus says the Lord God; Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live."

Ezekiel 37:9







The verb "breathe" refers to a blowing, a force of wind like a bellows blowing into a furnace or steam expanding from a boiling pot. In every instance it denotes a powerful event taking place.

The Breath of Jesus Gives Us Life.

As God gave breath to the first Adam, the Second Adam (*Jesus Christ*) gives us the breath of life.

"Then said Jesus said to them again, Peace be unto you: as my Father hath sent Me, even so send I you. And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said unto them, Receive ye the Holy Ghost." John 20:21–22

That single Greek word translated "He breathed" occurs only once in the New Testament. It literally means "He exhaled." It is important to understand when Jesus Christ breathes on someone, that action has a powerful affect. God's breath is what brought Adam life in the garden. So, Jesus was reenacting that scene for His disciples and teaching them about the life He gives when we are born again.

Carolina LIFE Magazine

As the first Adam was made alive by the breath of God, the last Adam makes his followers alive by that same breath of God. Jesus breathed upon his followers giving them new life and power. So, when we are born again and are indwelt with the Holy Spirit, it is from the breath of God.

In essence, we don't have life until we receive the breath of God. Adam didn't have life until he received the breath of God. Nor can we have life until we receive the breath of God. Yet, the moment Jesus breathes on us is the moment we live forever. We receive the Holy Spirit and the power of the resurrected Christ.

We Breathe Out The Breath of God.

Life sustaining respiration not only involves breathing in, it also involves breathing out. The moment we become Christians we breathe in the breath of God, but breathing involves taking in and also letting out, inhaling and exhaling. In the natural world, we are breathing in oxygen and breathing out carbon dioxide. Oxygen comes from a source outside of us, while carbon dioxide is created and expelled from a source within us. Furthermore, breathing is essential for the balance of life on Earth. We must have oxygen to live, but the plants need the carbon dioxide we exhale. This rhythm provides a constantly renewing delicate balance in the atmosphere.

We breathe out the life giving breath of God when we tell the story of Christ to others. When we pray we are also breathing out the breath of God. When we share the Word of God or words of encouragement and hope, we are exhaling the breath of life. God calls us to speak for Him. We were created to talk about God. We're to share

God's breath by speaking words of life, blessing, and healing to others.

Jesus breathed on the disciples. He exhaled the resurrection power. But, this simple action conveyed a much larger message. He was breathing on them to create an effect. He was breathing the life-giving, spiritempowering breath of God.

The Message of Easter.

"And when Jesus had cried with a loud voice, He said, Father, into Thy hands I commend my spirit: and having said thus, He gave up the ghost."

Luke 23:46

As Jesus died on the cross, He exhaled His last breath. Yet, three days later He passed from death to life and would breathe His first breath in the resurrection. And because of that miracle, we can also pass from death to life.

So, the story of Easter is about Jesus' last breath on the cross and the first breath of the resurrection. The story of Easter in your life can be your last breath as a sinner, and the first breath as a born again follower of Christ.

Jesus gave His spirit, His breath, His life to the Father on the cross. And the Father gave it back to him better than it was. Our Lord will do the same for you and me. Anything we give to God, you can be assured He will give back something better.



Dr. Worthington has been in the ministry forty years and serves as President of Pathway Ministries.







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and obligations that must be met.

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life and the uselessness of money

beyond the grave. It has been said

that it makes no sense to be the

richest man in the cemetery.

The great evangelist D. L. Moody once wrote, "Somebody has said that getting riches brings care; keeping them brings trouble; abusing them brings guilt; and losing them brings sorrow. It's a great mistake to make so much of riches as we do."

As Christians, we all need God's wisdom in our approach to money.



Although there are many worthwhile ministries needing our assistance, we ask that you prayerfully consider supporting *GoMix Christian Radio* with our **Spring Share-A-Thon** being held March 7, 2016, through March 18, 2016. Our *Pre-Share-A-Thon Drive* is now taking place. Please prayerfully consider giving your best gift by using the form on the

back cover of this magazine, giving online at www.gomixradio.org, or giving by phone at 1-877-747-8887. As always, we thank you in advance for your consideration and efforts to continue sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ through GoMix Christian Radio.

For Additional Information:

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Although *CarolinaLIFE Magazine* will be renamed <u>PathPointe</u> next month, *Radio Bits* will continue to bring you updates and encouragement about our broadcast outreach.

In the first issue of *Radio Bits*, published in April of 2000, we announced our first "Free Music Friday" promotion. Over the years we have placed several thousand CD's (and in the early days, cassette tapes) in the hands of our listeners. That successful program still continues during the summer and Christmas seasons.

We also saluted one of our first Business Underwriters. **Gardner's Red & White** in Stantonsburg, NC, was honored in the first edition of *Radio Bits*. Although the business is no longer in operation, for years they supported the ministry of Christian radio.

Other businesses listed in that first magazine that continue to support us today include: **Deacon Jones Auto Dealerships** and **Griffin Exterminating**.

We also shared comments from listeners in Rocky Mount and Kinston who tuned in to our only station in operation at the time, WAGO-88.7 in Snow Hill. At the time we were known as "GoMix Christian 89". Some of our long-time listeners may remember.

God has truly blessed us over the years to continue to grow this ministry for His glory. We thank each and every one of you that helped play a part as a Faith Partner, Business Underwriter, and prayer partner. Our goal, with your help, is to continue the work the Lord has called us to do.



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Watching a baby discover his body is such a wondrous thing. The first time he sees his fingers brings a sense of awe. What is this I have on my arm? The sense of wonder never ceases to amaze me.

I was watching my grandson the other day in the church nursery, and he was doing his best to get his foot in his mouth. All I could do was laugh. I wondered what he was thinking. Maybe, "Oh, this is something new. I have already felt it, now I want to taste it." As I was pondering the difficulty my grandson had putting his foot in his mouth, I wondered how hard that would Carolina LIFE Magazine 8

be for me. Do you think I could put my foot in my mouth? Most definitely!

I am able to manage the amazing feat more often than I would like to admit. I guess you have figured out, I can't really put my foot in my mouth, but I say things I shouldn't all the time.

Have you ever asked someone when the baby is due, and there wasn't a baby? If you want to experience a look of disgust, that question will do it. There is no graceful way out. The foot is deep into the mouth by now. I can feel myself choking. I have learned not to ask that question unless I am absolutely

certain there is a baby. Fortunately, I have learned there are many questions you just don't ask. My foot doesn't taste good, so I try to avoid those embarrassing moments.

"Put a sock in it" paints another vivid picture. I can see myself with this nasty sock in my mouth. We all know what this phrase means, but it was officially coined in 1919 to mean "leave off singing, talking, or shouting." Obviously, talking too much is a problem which has been around a long time. I have had that difficulty for as long as I can remember. I hope I have gotten better with age, but I still







battle the problem. When I do talk too much, I end up saying things I shouldn't. Proverbs 10:19 reminds us it is wise to keep our mouths shut. With a multitude of words, we sin. There are many ways we sin with our mouths.

Another familiar saying will help us with that sin problem. We just need to learn to "bite our tongues." Ouch! The pain we experience from biting our tongues does not compare with the pain others experience by our words. James 3 compares our tongues to a fire. A little flicker can grow and burn a whole town or mountainside. Our tongues can ruin people's lives and our

relationships. They can hurt people's feelings and discourage them. Words may be forgiven, but they cannot be taken back.

The phrase "my lips are sealed" should be practiced by us all. I asked my class a question about the tongue in devotions last week. "How many problems did you have last week that did not relate to your mouths?" They experienced very few difficulties that did not start with their tongues. So many times we could avoid pain and suffering if we would just think before we speak. Whether we are lashing out or spreading gossip, it is senseless. For some reason, we feel we have to tell just one person. Surely, he would never tell anyone. But guess what! He only told one person, too! You know where that story leads. If you know someone who truly will tell no one, he is priceless.

James 3:10 also speaks about the person who speaks blessing and cursing out of the same mouth. He says this ought not to be.

"Out of the same mouth proceedeth blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not so to be." James 3:10

If we are different on Sunday than we are on Monday, we are hypocrites. We should not be praising God with our voices at church and yelling or fussing at our families when we get home. When we go to work, our words should glorify Christ the same as they would at our church services.

James 1:26 teaches us,

"If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridleth not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is vain."

James 1:26

The bottom line is if we don't control our tongues, we are fooling ourselves. James 3:2 states:

"...If any man offend not in word, the same is a perfect man, and able also to bridle the whole body."

James 3:2

In this verse James informs us that a perfect or mature man doesn't offend with his tongue. So those of us who think we are mature Christians must ask ourselves, are we controlling our tongue or does it control us? The Scripture says we are deceived if we think we are more than babes in Christ if we can't control our tongue and the venom that comes out of it. In fact, our religion means nothing.

May we be challenged. Let us use our tongues for good. As we use fire to warm our hands and cook our food, we can encourage one another and lift each other up. May we not offend in word or deed. Put out the fires of gossip when you hear them, and say a kind word to the hurting.

"Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers" Ephesians 4:29

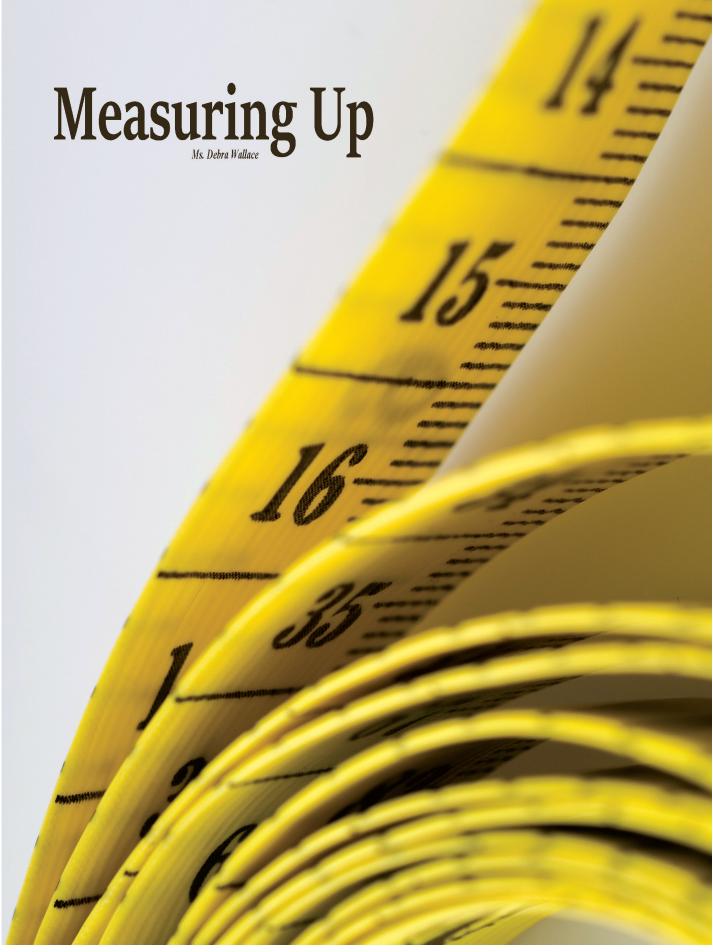
Take the challenge. When necessary, let us avoid putting our feet in our mouths, put a sock in it when we need to, and bite our tongues at all times. Be a mature Christian and keep our lips sealed, except to spread the words of virtue and praise. Let's start today!



Mrs. Worthington has five children and eight grandchildren. She serves as Principal of Pathway Christian Academy in Goldsboro.









A few weeks ago, I went on a fishing trip with my daughter's family. We arrived at Newport News, VA, around 5:30PM. Thirty minutes later we had unloaded the boat in the James River and we were fishing. Man oh man were we fishing! Within seconds of our bait hitting the water, the croakers were biting, and we were reeling them in as fast as we could. Oftentimes, we were reeling them in two at a time! In a little over an hour we had caught 100 croakers, and that's not counting the ones we let go because they didn't measure up. Those were just too small to keep. The next day the croakers didn't bite as much. Yet, when we headed home after five hours of fishing, our two-day catch totaled 252 croakers!

Speaking of the fish not "measuring up"... have you ever felt like you didn't measure up? I have, and I am somewhat confident you have, too. As for me, I struggled with thoughts of inadequacy for most of my non-Christian years. After becoming a Christian, I figured I would have never again had thoughts of not feeling good enough, smart enough, attractive enough, and so on. However, that has not been my experience at all. Instead, I find I still have thoughts of not measuring up. These thoughts do not occur as often as before, but I do have them... and if I was a betting woman, I'd bet you do, too.

But how can this be? Especially since God's Word declares that through Jesus Christ all Christians measure up. Could it be because Satan is determined to make Christians believe the worst about

themselves? certainly believe this is a part of the answer. That's why it's important remember Satan is the father of lies, and there is no truth in him (John 8:44). However, I believe the main reason Christians are afflicted with thoughts of not measuring up is because we've forgotten who we are in Jesus.

"Blessed be the God and Father

of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ: According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love: Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will, To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved. In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace; Wherein he hath abounded toward us in all wisdom and prudence;" **Ephesians 1:3-8**

Ephosians 100 o

In his book, "Victory Over the Darkness", Dr. Neil T. Anderson



says, "The more you reaffirm who you are in Christ, the more your behavior will begin to reflect your true identity!"

Understanding our identity in Christ is absolutely essential to our success at living the victorious Christian life. For this reason, I'm going to copy this page and read it every day until I know that I know that I know in God's eyes... I DO MEASURE UP! I encourage you to do the same.

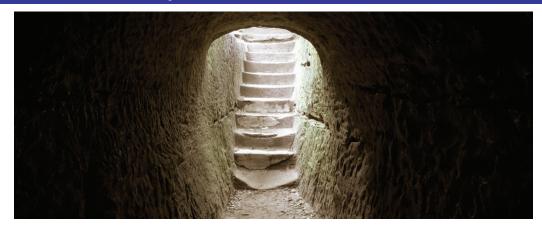


Debra Joy Wallace is a Christian columnist and speaker. More information is available at www.debrawallace. com.





And Finally...



Easter...

I love Easter because of a new tradition my mom started a few years ago. The family gathers at her home for a meal. While everyone is finishing eating, Mama closes the blinds all over the house and goes outside to hide eggs for the children and adults. She comes back in and gathers us all at the back door and issues instructions for the hunt. Once outside, we all scatter in search of the eggs, which contain candy and money. The memories of the different antics and laughter last well past Easter. Who knew adults could become kids again at Easter? I highly recommend adults hunt Easter eggs. You'll love it!

J.J.

My favorite holiday is Easter. I feel like it's an overlooked holiday that deserves more attention. I'm not really talking about the secular side of Easter, although I do think even egg-hunts and the Easter bunny can be symbolic and point us to the real meaning of Easter. But the part about Easter I love most is the feeling of springtime as a symbol of the atonement and resurrection of Jesus Christ. I get a happy feeling of renewal and joy whenever I think about Easter because, to me, it's a holiday that's full of hope and light. That's what I feel like Easter is all about – Hope.

L.M.

Easter is a holiday of hope, light, and peacefulness. It makes me humble and reminds me that I have been blessed with the miracle of forgiveness, being completely cleansed of my sins, and one day I get to return to my Heavenly Father. I couldn't ask for a greater miracle and that is worth celebrating!

C. B.

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Personally, I call Easter the season of love because it reminds me of the greatest sacrifice ever made in the name of love. Anyone who hasn't tasted the sweetness of God's love has no other choice but to compromise on certain values to be able to receive some fraction of affection from someone else. Such people resort to holding back a piece of them so that when things go south (which at most times do), they would have something to prove that they could still move on without them. But love is about putting all your cards on the table; holding nothing back. Our God demonstrated that perfectly when He gave us His only begotten and beloved Son to die in our place so we could live. It is said that love is sacrificial because it involves risking it all with no guarantee. Jesus was scorned by the ones He came to save, but that didn't deter Him from accomplishing what He had to do. That selfless kind of love is still touching lives and healing nations today.

J.P.

"Older Americans Month"

We'd like your help for an upcoming edition of "And Finally..."

May 2016 is Older Americans Month! Write to us in 150 words or less and tell us about an elderly person in your life. The deadline for submission is March 15th, 2016.

You can send an email to: Attn: CarolinaLIFE
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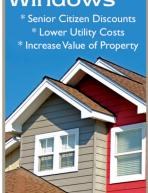


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If you have not already contributed, please consider a generous gift to help us continue our ministry.

Why not do it today... or tomorrow!

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Your Spring Share-A	-Thon will be	held from	March	7-18,	2016
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