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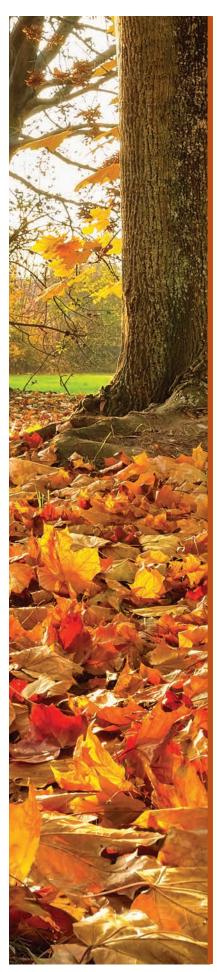


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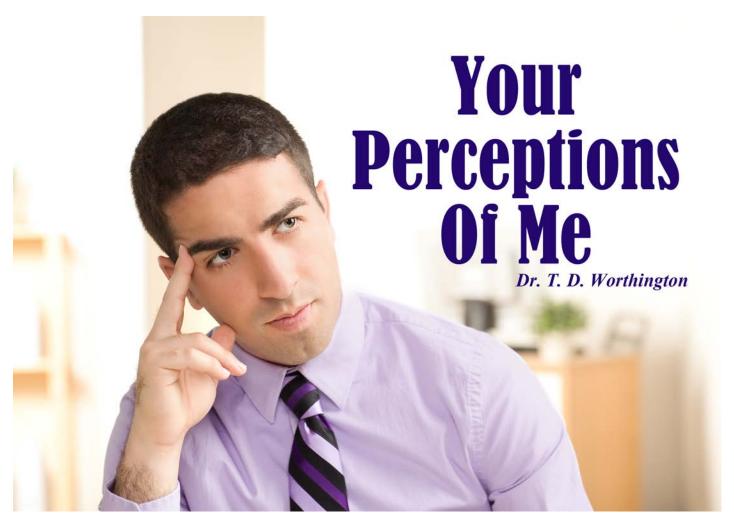
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If my neighbors saw me walk out of my house today with my Bible under my arm, and if they conclude that I am most likely a Christian; I would be pleased with their perception of me. If they think I am honest, hardworking, and a patriot; that would also please me. However, if they should think that I am a crook, lazy, a racist, or a traitor; then that would bother me. You see, I care what people think about me. I don't care enough to compromise my convictions, but I do care.

I Samuel 16:7 says, "man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart." We know the person we are on the inside is important, but that verse does not mean that the outside is not important.

As Jesus was traveling to the villages of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, "Whom say the people that I am?" (Luke 9:18) Why would He care? That seems like a strange question for God to ask. Yet, He cared because He knew it was important to His ministry, and it was important to the people He was trying to minister to.

The disciples said that some say you're: "John the Baptist; but some say, Elias; and others say, that one of the old prophets is risen again. He said unto them, But whom say ye that I am?" (Luke 9:19-20) I am afraid that people today would not have such complimentary answers. I think you would agree that what people think about Jesus is important, and not just what was in His heart.

What about you and I? We all wonder what people think of us every now and then, but sometimes it is to extract a compliment. It may also be to satisfy our curiosity. Usually, it is not to assess if there is something in our lives that we might need to change. In fact, some will even say, "I don't care what people think of me." In most circumstances, that would be a foolish statement. Perceptions are important. They are not always right, but they are still important. If I see someone dressed like a harlot or a hoodlum, I might assume that's what they are. My assessment might not be correct, but that would still be my first assessment.

A person's perception of you is not just based upon how you look, it is also about how you act and what messages you communicate in your words, actions, attitudes, and demeanor. Sometimes we have to modify our behavior so that the perception others have of us is what we want it to be. In short, knowing how you come across to other people is important. It was important to Jesus, and it should be important to us.

Most Christians, as a matter of testimony, accept that other peoples' perceptions of them do matter. Not everyone though. Some just say "I am who I am, like it or lump it, I don't care." There is a place for that. Certainly, we can take it too far and become paralyzed by trying to keep everyone happy, or keep the wrong people happy. But there is also great danger. It's almost like being a drunkard. Most people don't care what others think about them when they are drunk. Caring about what others think can help you navigate and maintain valued relationships in life.

Consider for a moment what might happen if you released all your inhibitions and did whatever you wanted regardless of how it affected others? Your friends would probably feel like you don't care about them. You may also have trouble at work, especially if your job involves interacting with people. Whether you are a waitress, banker, or teacher, your work would probably suffer.

A failure to take an account of the perceptions other people have of you may well cause you to fail at an interview, receive a poor performance review, and not be accepted as part of the team. Such a failure may even render your Christian testimony powerless. All because your self-perception is different from the perception others have of you. Most people just make the assumption they come across the way they think they do. This can be a costly assumption. You could be wrong. Never make assumptions about how you think others perceive you.

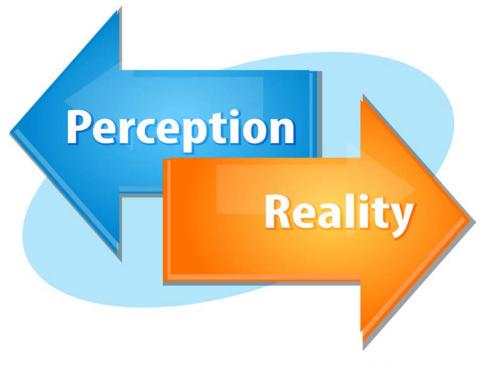
Of course, if their perceptions are wrong, then you may not have to change anything about who you are, you just have to change the ways you are communicating who you are. The ultimate truth is that is absolutely okay – even beneficial – to be aware of and care about others' reactions to you, so long as you don't lose sight of your true self. But if you think you do place too much value trying to please others, then it's time to turn the focus on strengthening your sense of self.

Of course, it is also important to consider your perception of others. Your perception of others can often

tell you a lot about yourself. If I should ask one man "Hey, what do you think about Bill?" He might say: "Oh, he's a great guy." I may ask another of his perceptions of Bill, and he might say, "I think he's a creep."

The same may be true for you and I. Our perceptions are often based on our own feelings. For example, if you see someone as annoying and difficult, it could be because you are that way yourself. Perhaps you are seeing others based on your past experiences and background. Perhaps this person reminds you of someone, or is in the same position as someone who hurt you. Perhaps they were raised differently than you, maybe not better or worse, just differently. So, you judge them based on your own personal history.

The way you feel about me may tell you a lot about yourself. We also like to believe that our perception is completely objective and impartial. But let's be honest. It usually isn't.





That's one reason we are warned about judging; we never have all the facts.

Many years ago, Elihu Burritt wrote, "No human being can come into this world without increasing or diminishing the sum total of human happiness, not only of the present but of every subsequent age of humanity. No one can detach himself from this connection. There is no sequestered spot in the universe, no dark niche along the disc of nonexistence, to which he can retreat from his relations with others, where he can withdraw the influence of his existence upon the moral destiny of the world. Everywhere, his presence or absence will be felt. Everywhere, he will have companions who will be better or worse because of him.

It is an old saying, and one of the fearful and fathomless statements of import, that we are forming characters for eternity. Forming characters? Where? Our own or others? Both. And in that momentous fact lies the peril and responsibility of our existence.

Who is sufficient for the thoughts? Thousands of my fellow beings will yearly enter eternity with characters differing from those they would have carried thither had I never lived. The sunlight of the world will reveal my finger marks in their primary formations and in the successive strata of thought and life."

Wow! What a convicting thought. The perceptions others have of me, and in some cases the perceptions I have of them, can have eternal consequences.

Let's just be honest with ourselves: people are going to constantly evaluate us and form perceptions about us. Now, I will not compromise to make it happen, but I really want you to like me and respect me. I want you to know that I love the Lord, and that I love you. I want you to know I love my wife, the church of Jesus Christ, and my country. I want you to believe that I am forgiving, loyal, generous, kind, patient, thoughtful, confident, and considerate.

I know that would sound like a real prideful Facebook Profile, and quite often I fall short of those lofty goals. Yet, it is the testimony I want to have, so I will work hard to have it. After all, your perceptions of me are very important.



Dr. Worthington has been in the ministry for over forty-five years and serves as President of Pathway Ministries and Christian Bible College.



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It's Harvest Time!

Our *Fall Share-A-Thon* begins on October 10th, and once again we are calling on the faithful family of *GoMix Christian Radio* to help meet our goal of \$250,000.

"Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already unto harvest."

I John 4:35

As Jesus speaks about the whitened fields ready for harvest, it is a reproach to all who refuse

to labor for our Lord. It also serves as a challenge for every Christian to be actively involved in the Master's service. important to remember that we are the workmen for the harvest. God has us. If we don't do the job, it won't get done. That is the mission of GoMix Christian **Radio.** It is a mission you have joined by becoming a Faith Partner, and we hope you will continue through this Share-A-Thon as well as others in the future with your prayers and financial support.

This is harvest season. We see the evidence of that all around us. It would be such a wonderful thing if the burden of God's cause in the earth should so weigh upon our souls that all of God's children would actively serve in the field of harvest. Obviously, all of God's children will not obey, but we are most grateful for all those that will.

If you haven't done so yet, please consider mailing your *Pre-Share-A-Thon Contribution Card* to us with your financial gift. You may also give online at *www.givegomix.org* or call our studio at *1-877-747-8887*. Your faithfulness and support are greatly appreciated.

For Additional Information:

GoMix Radio

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A Blessed Nation

As it approaches the season of our *Fall Share-A-Thon*, hundreds of people will respond by financially supporting *GoMix Christian Radio*. Isn't that an astonishing thing when you think about it? Why would we do that? I'll tell you why! It is because that's what Christians do. We do it to honor Christ.

You see, wherever those nail-pierced hands are raised, there you will find mercies and abounding goodness poured out from God Himself. Look around the world, and you will see it. Look at the prosperity of nations that have embraced Christ. Wherever Christ is faithfully preached, you will find schools, hospitals, homes for orphans, and care for the poor and weak. You will also find outreach programs to encourage the Saints and to win the lost. These things come as a result of our relationship with Jesus Christ.

Most Christians believe we are living in the afterglow of God's blessings in America. This nation must turn back to the God of our fathers. Our Share-A-Thon reminds us that America needs Christian Radio; and Christian Radio needs Faith Partners just like you.

We must proclaim from the roof tops the heavy price we shall pay if we continue to ignore God. What happened to our schools when we kicked God out? What happens to neighborhoods when Christian principles are ignored? What happens to our economy when God's economic principles are not followed? What do you think will happen to our nation as God is thrust more and more to the sidelines of society and government?

"Blessed is that nation whose God is the Lord" [Psalm 33:12]. By default, that leaves the nation whose God is not the Lord, without the blessings.

Please help us continue to share the message of hope to a world in need. You can be assured that our Lord is using your love, prayers, and financial support to help us.



It seems like several times a week I have a new shock. On Saturday mornings, I usually go to the dollar store and the grocery store. I wanted to get a card for my aunt's birthday, and there wasn't anything but Thanksgiving cards at the first store I went to. The other cards were gone or picked over. Then when I went to the grocery store, Diet Dr. Pepper had almost doubled in price. I couldn't believe it. I wonder how many of our supplies will be available in the near future,

and if we can get them, will be able to afford them? I will never forget having to scrounge for bathroom tissue when COVID struck.

Well, we all talk about how expensive things are and how much gas is costing us. Then we turn on the news and get our ears full of all the heartbreak going on in the streets of our country. If we give our opinions, we may be investigated by the FBI. In many cities, law-abiding citizens are

not protected from lawbreakers, and honest people dare not leave their homes at night. It is not even safe in the daytime in some areas. Sadly, we all know that as time progresses, things like this will eventually spread to all areas of the country. I think of how fast things have changed in the last few years. The cost of living has soared, our freedoms have decreased, and morals have plummeted. I can only tolerate watching the news and thinking about these things in short

bites. I have to remind myself that I have a hope that the world needs. This hope is the answer. Romans 15:13 says, "Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost."

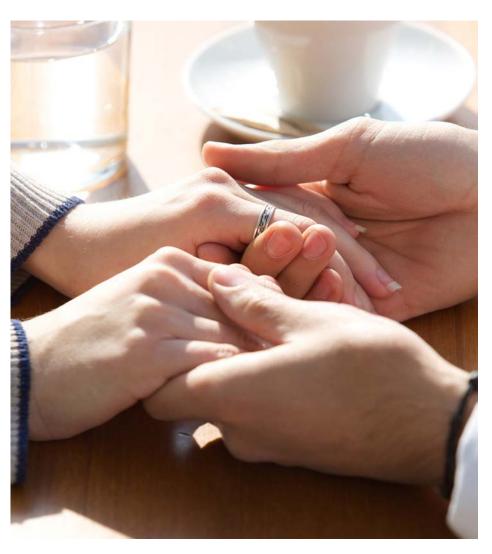
Jesus is the answer! But isn't He always? As Christians, we know that Jesus saved us, and He is always here for us. Our Heavenly Father warned us in His Word that things will get worse as we get close to His coming, but He would always be here for us. Isaiah 41:10 states, "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness." Whether we are on top of the mountain or filled with discouragement, God is our strength.

Shouldn't we be sharing with other people this strength that we have? I guess that is the question. Do we care enough to let others know about our Savior? There is a song written by Bill Cates that asks that very question. It is a beautiful song. The words of the song are:

I look around in the place where I live, and I see people with so much to give. Yet there are those who are dying to know, just that somebody cares.

Do you really care? Do you know how to share? With people everywhere? Do you really care?

People lost in darkness, searching for the way, but do you know of someone, that you can help today?



Oh! Do you really care? Do you know how to share? With people everywhere? Do you really care? Do you really care?

Don't we understand? We have the answer. We can give people hope in this sin-cursed world. We can give them a purpose for living. We can give them the answer they so desperately seek.

It is easy to talk about how bad things are and to sit and worry about them. It is easy to say "Oh, my, and Oh, me." But when we get down to it, we are either too lazy, too scared, or too wrapped up in ourselves to share about our Savior. It is okay to take baby steps. We can start by drawing a circle around ourselves and the people in our immediate

family. We can make a difference in our homes and in our families' lives by being a Christian example to our children and spouses. Many times, our family members will then begin to influence people in their circles, and our circles get bigger. Let our circles grow, and let us see if we can make a difference in others' lives.

Let us show how much we care instead of just talking about it! Do you really care? Their souls depend on it!



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



Several years ago, our daughter had her second child, Cambrie. She was, of course, the most beautiful baby ever.... besides our other grandbabies! We were so proud of her and her big sister, Cora.

At the time, Glenn and I were so blessed to be able to go out to Texas on the day Cambrie was born and stay with my daughter, Rachel, for a few days after she came home from the hospital. But even in all the joy of a new birth, the Lord had to teach and discipline me. I hope it is okay to share it with you.

We spent most of the first day we got to Texas in the hospital waiting for Cambrie to be born. After the birth, we went to their house and spent the night. The second afternoon I noticed that due to the fact that Rachel had been on bed rest for the few weeks leading up to the birth, she was not able to keep up with some stuff at her house.

The laundry had built up, the dishwasher was full, toys were out of place... I don't have to tell you, especially if you're a mom. As a mom to Rachel, I felt like I had to get on the ball and get it all organized, cleaned, and everything in its place.

While I was busy cleaning and organizing, Glenn jumped on finishing Cora's "big-girl" room. It needed to be painted, bed set up, toys arranged, and so on. We were both as busy as bees trying to get things done before we had to head back to Georgia.

At one point, I sat down on the couch and little Cora came up to me and asked to play a game on my phone. I know, not the best thing for a child to be doing, but I had let her "help" all my nerves could take. After a few minutes, I said to her, "Mimi has to go do something, I'll be right back." She said, "No, Mimi. Just lean back." She knows me too well. Isn't it amazing what they pick up on? I busted out laughing. I later texted my daughter in GA and said, "I'm being held hostage by a 2-year-old." But, she was speaking a truth that I just didn't hear yet.

We kept busy the whole time we were there. I barely sat down to just hold the new baby or enjoy my time there. I felt so compelled to help Rachel. We did get a lot of things done for her since she was going to be out of commission for a few weeks, but I still left feeling like I wish I could have done more.

The next morning, after we got home, I was sitting down with a cup of coffee and talking with the Lord. I was telling Him how overwhelmed I was feeling. He said, "Kim, just lean back. You have been working in the physical realm, but what they needed most is found in the Spiritual realm. Let Me handle it. My yoke is easy; My burden is light. The clutter you saw in the physical is merely a reflection of the clutter in the Spirit."

I knew right then that everything I had been 'doing' out in Texas was helping my daughter and her family... in the physical realm. The things we did there were all good things, even needed, but what she, her sweet family, ALL of us need more of is the Lord. I thought I was doing so much good, but I realized I did not give her what was most important and what she really needed... The Spirit of Life.

I know we all have people in our lives, maybe even ourselves, that need to be encouraged by the gifts the Holy Spirit brings. Those gifts are love, peace, joy, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. What better gifts could I have

brought or given to a new mother? She will get her house under control soon enough, but to have these gifts working in and around her while she is being a mother and wife are invaluable.

Many times, I have come on a "scene" where the person's physical needs seem to outweigh their spiritual needs. This is only a tactic of the enemy to get us off the track of what that person really needs. Any time we give them the spiritual gifts and tools from God to use in their daily lives, they will figure out the physical. He can and will show them the way. I just have to remember that HE is the answer.... not all my crazy, organizing ways!

God, help me to see You as the ONLY answer!



Mrs. Kim Mills has four children and five grandchildren and serves with Glenn Mills Ministries in Temple, Georgia.



And Finally...



Anonymous Blessings...

A year or so ago, I was checking out at the grocery store. When the clerk tallied up my items, I was about \$12.00 over my budget. I began to take things off my order so I could afford it. To my surprise, the man standing in line behind me pulled out \$20.00 and paid for the rest of my groceries. I was ever so thankful! He began to tell me that his mother had been in the hospital, sick with cancer. He then said, "I visit her every day and bring her flowers. I went this morning, and she got mad at me for spending my money on more flowers. She demanded that I do something else with that money. So, here, please accept this. It is my mother's flowers."

A.G.

I took my two teenage children to my favorite restaurant. It is an upscale restaurant, so we don't get to treat ourselves there very much. At the adjacent table was a young woman and an elderly couple. We did not converse and only saw them occasionally looking our way. They left just prior to our dessert arriving. The waiter then informed me that they had paid for our bill. I had never experienced anything like that before. It was a kind gesture I really took to heart. Moreover, it was special for my children to witness what happened and see how a small act can mean so much.

R.T.

I am a cashier at a fast-food restaurant. Like most businesses now days, we are always short of help. One night, I was tired at work. We were already short-handed on the schedule when we had two more employees call out sick. I tried to smile and be polite to customers, even though the working conditions were stressful. When a customer picked up her order at the window, she handed me \$20.00 extra and told me God wanted to bless me and she appreciated me doing a great job. I can't tell you how much that meant. Not only did it show that she cared, but it was also a great reminder that God is always with me.

L.B.

"Christmas Memories"

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

Write to us in 150 words or less and tell us about your favorite Christmas memory. The deadline for submission is

October 31, 2022.

You can send an email to: share@gomixradio.org Attn: PathPointe Magazine Or write to: Pathway Ministries PO Box 1895 Goldsboro, NC 27533















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Sometimes the journey can get a little tough. As we are faced with traveling an uncertain pathway, it is comforting to know that our Lord will give us light even in the darkest of places.

That light can give us direction, but it also displays our Lord's love and concern in each step we take.

Since 1998, our non-profit ministry has been sharing the light from our studios in Snow Hill, NC. We now broadcast on 10 separate radio channels, plus 3 unique world-wide internet streams.

Won't you help us continue our mission by supporting our Fall Share-A-Thon?

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