

Charisma Digital Now Available on iPad

Digital magazines are gaining momentum in the iPad age. Now, Charisma Media is delivering news, information and inspiration to Spirit-filled believers through the Charisma Media iPad app.

The Charisma Media iPad app is the fruit of nearly two years of research, development and approval processes with Apple. With the launch of the new app, Charisma Media's vision for reaching the nations for Christ through advanced technology charges ahead on yet another platform. Readers can download the iPad app free and subscribe to Charisma Digital to read *Charisma* anywhere they go.

"When I launched *Charisma* magazine 30 years ago, I never dreamed I'd one day read it on a large-screen mobile device like the iPad," says Steve Strang, founder and CEO of Charisma Media. "We've always been at the forefront of Christian movements with our editorial perspective. With *Charisma Digital*, we're on the cutting-edge of Christian media delivery as more consumers read their news on portable devices."

For readers, this new digital platform offers an opportunity to experience *Charisma* magazine on a whole new level. Readers can navigate through interactive

pages loaded with rich media and experience the convenience of *Charisma* on the world's most popular tablet device. A new report from the The Magazine Publisher's Association (MPA) reveals that tablet owners are reading more thanks to the rise of digital magazines. In fact, 66 percent of people who read magazines on tablet devices and e-readers expect to spend more time with digital issues in 2012—and 90 percent say they are reading as much, if not more, magazine content since buying a tablet.

“Interactive digital magazines like *Charisma Digital* are ideal for tablets and e-reader devices—devices on which the next generation of charismatic Christians are consuming media,” says Marcus Yoars, editor of *Charisma* magazine. “With *Charisma Digital*, you can tap into Spirit-filled news, inspiring features and teaching articles that help equip you to make a difference in your world.”

For advertisers, *Charisma Digital* presents a new opportunity to reach a growing market of savvy consumers. The MPA survey reveals that 59 percent of consumers want to buy directly from advertisements and 79 percent say they want the ability to purchase products and services directly from editorial features. Nearly 75 percent of those surveyed say they typically engage with digital magazine ads.

“Digital magazines are taking the medium to the next level,” says

Christopher Kevorkian, executive vice president of Digital at the MPA.

“While various research has long proved that print magazines drive

purchase behavior, digital magazines hold the promise of creating a

direct link between purchase intent and actual transaction. The study

proves that consumers look to magazine media to create that opportunity.”

How to get *Charisma* on your iPad:

1. Subscribe to *Charisma Digital* online at [www.charisma.com](#) and create your username and password for full access to *Charisma Digital*.*

2. Open the iPad Newsstand store.

3. Search for “Charisma” or “Charisma Media.”

4. Download the free Charisma Media app (Internet connection and iTunes account required).

5. Sign in with your *Charisma Digital* username/password and download individual issues, with more added every two weeks.

[Click here](#) to get started.

*By subscribing through iTunes, users currently can't access all issues of *Charisma Digital*. (This will be fixed shortly.)

Are You Willing to Wrestle

Principalities and Powers for Jesus?



After more than a decade of watching the war on Christmas rage—we've seen everything from battles over "Xmas versus Christmas" to a ban on nativity scenes and beyond—I've concluded that we have to keep fighting.

The war on Christmas is, after all, a war on Christ. Jesus advocates for us before the Father (1 John 2:1). The least we could do is advocate for Him before man. (This is where you offer a good, hearty "amen!")

Honestly, I get a bit weary of reporting on the twists and turns of the atheistic, humanistic (and other "istic") affronts launched against all things Christian during this time of year. And you may get a bit weary of reading about it. But we must not only read about the war on Christmas—we must also engage in it.

The truth is, the spirits behind the war on Christmas don't stop battling after we take our dying Christmas trees to the end of the driveway.

Steve Hill Battles Back From Cancer


Evangelist endures "toughest year of my life" but says Jesus has healed him



The evangelist perhaps best known for the Brownsville Revival in Pensacola, Fla., Steve Hill battled melanoma for more than three years—and refused to give up despite what sounded like death knocking at his door. Now he’s preparing to run back to the battle line with the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Steve Hill Ministries’ staff in June called for 48 hours of focused prayer and fasting on behalf of the evangelist who founded Heartland Church in Las Colinas, Texas, after the battle for his life intensified. What the staff didn’t tell the world at that time was that doctors had given him three days to live.

Are You Reasoning Yourself Out of Prophetic Wisdom?

God has given us the ability to reason—but too much mental reasoning blocks spiritual discernment and breeds plenty of confusion. 

With that in mind, is it possible that you are reasoning yourself out of prophetic wisdom that could be blocking your spiritual growth, your blessings, and even the full manifestation of your destiny?

I’ll admit it. I am analytical. I tend to reason through every possibility before making a decision. But I also pray after my thoughtful analysis and ultimately submit my plans to the written Word and the Spirit’s leading (which always agree).

A Humble Warning to the Spiritually Proud Preacher

- ✘ The first and worst cause of error that prevails in our day is spiritual pride.

So said Jonathan Edwards, a preacher, theologian and missionary to Native Americans who lived in the 1700s. Edwards went on to say that spiritual pride is the main door by which the devil comes into the hearts of those who are zealous for the advancement of Christ—the chief inlet of smoke from the bottomless pit to darken the mind and mislead the judgment, and the main handle by which Satan takes hold of Christians to hinder a work of God. Powerful words!

If that was true in Edwards' day—and it was—then how much more is it true in our day?

Think about it for a minute. In Edwards' era, there were no megachurches, no Facebook pages where charismatic preachers could woo millions of “fans,” no global satellites to broadcast prosperity messages to the masses, and no Hollywood Christianity with all its trappings. In Edwards' era, rather, Europeans were fleeing to North America, in part, to gain freedom from oppressive religious systems.

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I'll admit it. I am analytical. I tend to reason through every possibility before making a decision. But I also pray after my thoughtful analysis and ultimately submit my plans to the written Word and the Spirit's leading (which always agree). Of course, I'm not perfect. But my purpose is to lean not on my own understanding—even when my own understanding seems plentiful in my own eyes (Prov. 3:5-6).

Because the human heart is deceitful above all things there is an ever-present danger of flowing in pride instead of flowing in the Spirit (Jer. 17:9). This is especially true when we consider ourselves well-versed, experts even, in any area. Knowledge puffeth up (1 Cor. 8:1), after all, and pride comes before the fall (Prov. 16:18).

If we rely solely on our own reasoning—our own understanding—we could find ourselves shipwrecked. But if we rely on the Spirit's wisdom—on His reasoning—we may find ourselves with a haul of blessings so big we can't contain them. Indeed, we can see this very principle in Scripture.

Breaking the Power of Vicious Circles and Demonic Cycles

✘ Have you ever felt like you are living in a vicious circle?

Even now you may be trying your best to solve a problem only to discover that every step you take is making the problem worse—or even creating new problems.

If that's you, stop and ask yourself—is this a vicious circle or a demonic cycle? In other words, is one trouble in your life leading to another because of the classic law of cause and effect, a law that can easily snowball for better or worse? Or are you wrestling against principalities and powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places? (Eph. 6:12)

Before we go on, let me state emphatically that every obstacle or setback we face in life is not rooted in demonic activity. Becoming super-skilled in spiritual warfare isn't going to solve all of your problems because all of your problems aren't originating demons. Getting hyper focused on identifying demons and tearing down strongholds can actually perpetuate the vicious cycle. What we magnify tends to manifest. Magnify the devil and he seems bigger in your eyes. Magnify Jesus and His glory inspires you to overcome by His grace.

Discerning the Call to Prophetic Intercession

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There's plenty of talk about prayer, prophetic intercession, standing in the gap, making up the hedge, prayer burdens, and, of course, spiritual warfare. But how do we discern the call to prayer? How do we recognize a proverbial prayer burden?

These questions may seem simple, but far too many saints have come to me carrying burdens they thought were their own when in reality they were feeling the weight of oppression over a person or a city. I know how they feel. It took me some years to learn to accurately divide soul and spirit.

The turning point for me was during a mission trip to Nicaragua. I woke up feeling severely depressed for no apparent reason. I felt down and out, like giving up, throwing in the towel, calling it quits and running home to pull the covers over my head. It felt like my best friend had just died. I sat there for about 20 minutes trying to figure out what was wrong with me and crying out to God to help me escape these oppressive feelings.

As I persisted, I heard that still small voice in my spirit saying, "Despondent. This is how the people of this nation feel. Pray." Despondence is a feeling of extreme discouragement, dejection or depression. Once the Lord gave me that insight, I joined with others in a circle to pray against the oppression with the weapons of our warfare, which are not carnal but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds (2 Cor. 10:4).

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Spiritual Abuse, Christian Cults and Controlling Ministries

It's irresponsible to loosely toss around emotionally charged accusations. Phrases like "spiritual abuse," "Christian cults" and "controlling ministries" can be very harmful. I wouldn't want to stand before Jesus and give account for misspoken words that carry the potential to tear down what He is building.

On the other hand, it's also irresponsible to turn a blind eye to spiritual abuse, Christian cults and controlling ministries. I

wouldn't
want to stand before Jesus and give account for supporting
ministries
that are tearing down what He is building.

When spiritual leaders are caught in sex abuse scandals, the
secular
and Christian media alike pen stories that offer the
detestable details
and dogged denials. But spiritual abuse, cultish churches and
controlling ministries are less often exposed than pastors who
coerce
teenaged boys and unsuspecting church secretaries to have
sexual
relations.

That's because victims of abusive church authority structures
may not
even realize what they are enduring until they escape its
grip.
Spiritual abuse is often subtle. Christian cult leaders don't
always
operate like Jim Jones. Controlling ministries tend to hide
behind the
guise of spiritual coverings. And far too many outsiders are
not willing
to even question the messages and practices of such churches.
It takes
lovers of truth with spiritual discernment to recognize the
sometimes-subtle signs of abusive churches. And it takes
courage to
confront it.