

Channeling Christ

✘ **Try this:** Turn on your television and flip through the channels. You're more likely to see sex, drugs and violence than you are positive images.

"The media has helped to shape the young minds with some negative/false images of what is acceptable for a teen to feel valued in society," says Stacey Spencer, founder of youth-oriented ministry Teen Tyme.

Revival Hits a Restaurant

The Holy Spirit is on the move in the small town of ✘ Brooksville, Fla., observers say.

With the local economy in shambles—including a 17 percent unemployment rate—even the ever-popular Starbucks restaurant closed its doors. Yet the Rising Sun Café, owned by John and Lisa Callea, continues to buck the trend.

Within a year of his conversion John arrived in Florida in 2005. He was penniless and divorced, but he remembered a message the Lord gave him in 2001: "The church is broken. It's become a business and has forgotten Me. I will build My church in the marketplace."

Measuring The Culture

✘ **The Obama administration** has revised portions of the “conscience clause,” which protected health care workers from being forced to perform procedures that conflict with their faith. The new regulations still protect medical workers’ rights not to perform abortions, but professionals can no longer refuse to provide contraception or to give in-vitro fertilization to lesbians or single women.

A **new survey** found that 61 percent of young people would ✘ like to be virgins when they get married. Another 63 percent said they would regain their virginity if it were possible, cites a OneHope survey of 5,108 teens between the ages of 13 and 18.

✘ **Sixteen-year-old** pop superstar **Justin Bieber** (below) was outspoken about his pro-life views when featured on the cover of *Rolling Stone*. Dubbed the “Tween evangelist” by *USA Today*, Bieber says he is a Christian and released a single titled “Pray” last year. His mother, Pattie Mallette, says Bieber recognizes his singing is “a gift—and a ministry.”


Economy Down, Food Pantries Up

2011 began bleak. With 13 million Americans unemployed, ✘ many middle-class families had to turn to an unfamiliar source to put food on the table: the church.

Many ministries such as Second Harvest Food Bank of Central Florida have recorded a 100 percent increase in the number of


soup kitchens and pantries that they start to collect and distribute donated food.

Healing on the High Seas

Don and Deyon Stephens know how to dream big. In 1978 they  imagined launching a ship that would provide medical care to the poor in undeveloped nations. Thirty-three years later, Mercy Ships, the ministry the couple founded, has expanded that vision to include the world's largest charity hospital ship.

“Jesus clearly, in the New Testament, gave us the great commandment and the Great Commission, so those are the bookends of Mercy Ships,” Don says. “Those are the two compass points that have helped me develop Mercy Ships.”

Filming a Wave of Faith

When Bethany Hamilton decided to hit the waves on Oct. 31,  2003, she had no idea one ride would forever change her life. Attacked by a 14-foot tiger shark, the then-13-year-old surfer lost her left arm and 60 percent of her blood. But according to Hamilton, she also gained an understanding of her purpose.

Hamilton not only returned to the surfboard but won several championships. She now travels the country telling others how her faith in Christ helped her overcome her challenging

circumstance.

Feedback April 2011

What's in a Name?

Thank you for continually producing an inspiring and anointed magazine. In addition to your magazine, however, your commitment to utilizing other forms of media such as your top-notch website and social media sites is to be commended. It is refreshing to see a Christian organization at the forefront of communication technology. Finally, the article "What's in a Name?" (February) by publisher Steve Strang really spoke to me and should be read by every Christian business owner. Thanks again for all that you do.

*Dr. George Burroughs,
Saraland, Ala.*

Filming God is a Challenge

The article by C. Hope Flinchbaugh, "Filming God" (February), is a discernment challenge for Christians. I wonder if there is a mandate for believers to follow unseen angel spirits when the Bible clearly warns that Satan comes as an angel of light. Galatians 1 warns us very clearly about angels. The [former] Toronto Vineyard church [now called Catch the Fire Toronto] is "another" gospel to me. God told us to "test the spirits" (1 John 4:1). Darren Wilson is on dangerous territory, I believe. Is Satan in the church deceiving Christians?

*Leonard Ostrom,
Cloquet, Minn.*

We Like Hitting the Target!

The January issue of *Charisma* is a major winner. Almost every article was exceptional, and so critical as well. Forgiveness is essential to being a Christian, and the applications were on target. I also really appreciated the refresher on the history of the Bible. Just wish I could remember all the fascinating details. Thank you for a wonderful magazine.

*Nora Jenae,
via e-mail*

Dick Eastman

Thank you for giving us an update on Dick Eastman and his wife, Dee (January online). Years ago I went to a conference in Los Angeles where Dick was the speaker. He gave all of us a prayer map. Oh, how it blessed me to know that I could pray for the whole world instead of only my little corner of the world. Thank you, Dick Eastman! I pray for your ministry.

*Daisy Collins,
Linn Creek, Mont.*

What is True Worship?

Will the Real Worshippers Please Speak Up?



The look and sound of worship in churches today is a far cry from what it was in past generations. We have great sound, tech-savvy video directors, lights and well-trained musicians that lead us into worship during our services. So why is there so much discussion about getting back to the heart of worship?

We've compiled the thoughts of seasoned and new worship artists at [www.worship.com](#) to help answer that. They share why it's important that everyone, from worship leaders to tone-deaf Christians, discover God's true intent for worship.

Check Out What's New This Month at

[www.worship.com](#) is loaded with news, commentary, videos, photo galleries and other resources to help you radically change your world. You won't find another place to get "all things" Christ and charismatic. Don't miss out—visit [www.worship.com](#) now.

Go to [www.worship.com](#) to find out what these and other respected worship leaders have to say about [www.worship.com](#).

[Worship Under Pressure](#)

Former Hillsong Church worship pastor **Darlene Zschech** candidly shares her struggles as a worship leader. She also discusses how understanding the anointing of God, already on the inside of us, will ease the pressure many worship leaders feel.

Praise vs. Performance



Recording artist and song writer **Paul Baloché**, known for writing songs commonly sung on Sunday mornings such as “Above All,” “Open the Eyes of My Heart” and “Your Name,” examines the difference between praise and performance.

Why I’m NOT a Musician

Matt Redman has been leading worship full time since he was 20 years old, singing and playing instruments. But Redman doesn’t call himself a musician; instead he says he’s a worship leader. He says there’s a big difference. Check out why.

Shaking Up the Routine



Veteran worship leader **Don Moen**, who released his first album in the early 1990s, tells of his journey as the music industry changed over the years and how he overcame redundancy and stagnation. His story will be an encouragement to seasoned worship leaders.

Facing Fear

Jesus Culture's **Kim Walker-Smith** shares how worship leaders can overcome fear and timidity. She knows all about the topic: Though she now sings before thousands, she ran offstage crying the first time she led a song.

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7 Ways to Make the Most Out of Fasting

Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen: to loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break every yoke? ... Then your light will break forth like the dawn, and your healing will quickly appear; then your righteousness will go before you, and the glory of the Lord will be your rear guard. **—Isaiah 58:6, 8**

First, fasting must be secret (Matt. 6:16-18). When we are fasting we must not let the slightest hint of it leak out. Only God needs to know.

The second thing is that fasting must be special. I question if it ought to be done regularly. I don't see fasting as something to be done whether you really need to or not, for example, making a commitment to fast every Friday. I think if it is used that way it will lose its significance.

Third, as we have seen, fasting must have a purpose. We must know what we want to achieve. It's not like taking vitamins in the general hope that they will do us good.

The fourth point is that fasting must be sensible. Some people cannot fast for medical reasons. For example, if you are a diabetic, then that ought to disqualify you. And we must never fast without drinking plenty of liquids. There are various degrees of fasting. You can cut out one meal or two meals, or fast for a whole day or a number of days. However, anyone seeking to fast for more than two or three days should first seek the advice from an experienced Christian minister or counselor.

A fifth thing is that fasting must be spontaneous: that is, voluntary and from the heart. In my opinion, there could be danger in corporate fasting, for some may be acting

reluctantly and under pressure.

The next thing I need to say is that fasting must be sacrificial. Isaiah 58 describes people who fasted but who loved it.

Finally, we must be quite clear about our motives, and we must have no mixed motives.

Fasting by itself is no magic answer to our problems. It is only effective when it symbolizes a deep longing for spiritual reality, and it demands a life of holiness and obedience to God. "Then," says God in Isaiah 58:8, "shall thy light break forth as the morning, and thine health shall spring forth speedily" (KJV).

Excerpted from *Worshipping God* (Hodder & Stoughton, 2004).

Becoming a Generation of Fearless Women

Lisa Bevere shares her testimony of how God took her out of her comfort zone so she would be equipped to bring other women comfort. She discusses how facing our fears can make us stronger, godly women.

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