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Tune up Your Anointing Theology

Watch Reinhard Bonnke shatter traditional teachings about the anointing, “double portions” and fresh fire by visiting anoointing.charismamag.com.

Iglesia El Calvario

Rise of the Hispanic Evangelical Church

Samuel Rodriguez, a leading voice for Hispanic believers, offers a snapshot of the growing Latino evangelical church and explains what it means for America as a whole. To learn more, visit Hispanic.charismamag.com.



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Growing Great Kids

Watch an exclusive *Charisma* interview at kateb.charismamag.com with Kate Battistelli as she discusses key principles needed to raise godly children.

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A Guaranteed LIFE-CHANGER


Watch Jim Cymbala share miraculous stories of how the Holy

Spirit's power has dramatically changed lives (including the life of renowned "Son of Sam" serial killer David Berkowitz) at cymbala.charismamag.com.

"I Appreciate You"

Now we ask you, brothers, to respect those who work hard among you, who are over you in the Lord and who admonish you. —1 Thessalonians 5:12

Is Your Family #Hooked on Digital Media?

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How to prevent the allure of digital media from overtaking you or your loved ones

I admit it: I love technology. It's the air I breathe. I tweet. I post to Facebook (you can find me there often—but not right now; keep reading!). I keep my Android smartphone with me at all times and live on my "big" computer for hours every day. I have multiple monitors. I have multiple email accounts, which all forward to one another to ensure I always get my messages, which are also synched to my phone. I own a Kindle. I own an iPad.

So—I get it. I understand the pull, the excitement, the fun of the digital forms of technology. And I am a true believer in harnessing their positives.

But I'm also a counselor and an addiction specialist, and some of what I see in digital media is deeply alarming. Kids age 8 through 18 spend almost 7-1/2 hours every day awash in media, according to a Kaiser Family Foundation study. Factoring in their ability to multitask (listening to music while browsing Facebook, for example), their media exposure rises to almost 11 hours a day—every day. Teens spend as much time (or more) with their media as parents do at work. Add in school and sleep, and it's amazing how little time is left for a family to *be* a family.

Praising God When You're Feeling Low

Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise—the fruit of lips that confess his name.
—Hebrews 13:15

Praising God when I am sad pleases Him. It shows I trust His Word and that I love Him without His doing everything that pleases me. It is a wonderful opportunity for blessing—just to believe!

It is also called a “sacrifice of praise” (Heb. 13:15). We sacrifice feelings, we sacrifice pleasure, we sacrifice time—just to praise God. And when we don't feel like it—when we are at a low point, we then really show a sacrifice of praise. In fact, the lower we are, the greater the opportunity to demonstrate a sacrifice of praise to God.

The Epistle to the Hebrews has a lot to say about sacrifices. They mostly refer to the sacrifice of animals. This is because the sacrifice of animals in the Old Testament pointed to the Ultimate Sacrifice—when God gave His one and only Son to die on a cross (John 3:16).

But sometimes the word sacrifice is used with regard to what we give up. Although the primary meaning of sacrifice refers to the slaughter of animals to appease God's justice, it also means to give up something for the sake of something more important. Hence Paul said, "Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship" (Rom. 12:1). David said, "I will sacrifice a thank offering to you and call on the name of the Lord" (Ps. 116:17).

When we take the time to praise God, we sacrifice time. We all can think of things we ought to be doing. It is easier to watch television than it is to take the equal amount of time to praise God. To praise God for thirty minutes is a sacrifice of time, of pleasure, of our basic wishes, and, possibly, of our temperament.

Excerpted from *Just Say Thanks!* (Charisma House, 2005).

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The Need to Remember

I thank my God every time I remember you. **–Philippians 1:3**

‘But If Not’ Faith

Our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of thine hand, O king. But if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up. **–Daniel 3:17-18, KJV**

Sometimes God Is Silent

God, do not keep silent; be not quiet, O God, be not still. **–Psalm 83:1**

Getting God’s Attention

And Jesus answered and said, “Were there not ten cleansed? But the nine—where are they? Was no one found who turned back to

give glory to God, except this foreigner?" –Luke 17:17-18, NAS

God's Inflexible Impartiality

God is not one to show partiality, but in every nation the man who fears Him and does what is right, is welcome to Him. –Acts 10:34-35, NAS