

How to Cope With Mistreatment

Not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but as the servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart; with good will doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men: Knowing that whatsoever good thing any man doeth, the same shall he receive of the Lord, whether he be bond or free. **—Ephesians 6:6-8, KJV**

The Comfort Zone

I am obligated both to Greeks and non-Greeks, both to the wise and the foolish. **—Romans 1:14**

Wait for Vindication

Sing, O barren woman, you who never bore a child; burst into song, shout for joy, you who were never in labor. **—Isaiah 54:1**

Coping With a Rival

I saw that all labor and all achievement spring from man's envy of his neighbor. **—Ecclesiastes 4:4**

How to Face the Unexpected

For everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. —1 John 5:4

Growing Faith on a Farm

You've probably heard of Sunday school classes being the catalyst for mission trips, cell groups and friendships, but have you heard of a Sunday school class spawning a farm? 

Neither had Joe and June Richey—at least not before they started Questfarms, a farm that houses and employs special-needs adults. They were inspired to start the farm after teaching the Christian education class at their church and realizing their students needed support beyond the childhood years.

“When we came here we came with an idea. There weren't any books that said: ‘This is how you start a farm for mentally-challenged people,’ so we had to just pick along,” says Joe Richey.

Seeing the Invisible

✖ When **USA Today** advertising executive Laura Schroff first met 11-year-old panhandler Maurice Mazyck on the streets of New York City, he was hungry and in need of a friend. Compelled to help, Schroff, who was 35, took him to a nearby McDonald's for lunch. That day began years of Monday-night dinners and a 25-year friendship.

As their unique friendship continued, Schroff quickly learned that Mazyck's life was in turmoil. Not only was he not getting enough to eat, his mother was addicted to drugs and he was constantly getting into fights—when he'd occasionally attend school.

His living situation wasn't any better. He bounced in and out of homeless shelters, foster homes and one-bedroom apartments inhabited by 20 other people.

8 Ways to Change the World

Before spending hundreds of dollars on unnecessary Christmas presents, consider the impact you can make with these unique gift options

✖ Geese \$20

For a single Andrew Jackson you can buy an entire flock of geese. One goose can sometimes lay up to 75 eggs, and her goslings can continue to feed families for generations to come. – *heifer.org*

Lamp \$25



Christians often quote: “Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.” You can follow Matthew 5:16 literally by purchasing a lamp for a home in a Ugandan village. By giving one light to a household, you could provide children with the environment needed for doing school work. – *esuubi.org*

 Grass \$14

While you may have to constantly cut your grass, some families are just wishing they *had* grass. For \$14 you can give a family grass seeds to plant for feeding their livestock. What good is having cattle if you can’t sustain them with food?
– *sendacow.org*

Beehive \$62



The honey from a beehive not only provides a potential source of good nutrition for children and families, but it also can be sold in the market to pay for other essential needs such as medicine and school fees. – *sendacow.org*

Christian Support Divided Over Anti-Gay Pride Parade

 A city councilman in Brazil is paving the way for heterosexuals to stand against excessive gay rights with the nation’s first Heterosexual Pride Day. But some Christian ministries that work with gays think this so-called Straight Pride Day sends a divisive message.

Carlos Apolinário's legislation proposes to celebrate heterosexual pride on the third Sunday of December. Although the mayor could rain on the parade by not signing the bill, Heterosexual Pride Day is set to take place in Brazil's largest city—São Paulo—where gay pride marches frequently take over the city streets.

"I respect gays and I am against any kind of aggression made against them," Apolinário said. "The creation of Heterosexual Day does not symbolize a struggle against gays but against what I believe are excesses and privileges."

Inmates in Mexico Enjoy a Biblical-Style Meal

Jesus multiplied food twice in the Bible—and He's still doing it today. It all happened during an Operation Mobilization (OM) prison outreach in Oaxaca, Mexico. Organizers had enough food for 70 people. But after the service started at the men's prison in Pochulta, the inmates came in droves.

The meeting began with praise and worship, and a former drug addict offered his moving testimony, OM reported. Next came a drama, then a sermon from the Word of God that challenged the prisoners. OM reported that several men were so touched by the messages that tears ran down their cheeks.