



*For unto you is born this day in the city of
David a Savior, which is
Christ the Lord!*

1944 *faith under fire*

It is nigh on Christmas time, but one would hardly know it. There is no tinsel, no lights, no stately tree, just the emptiness of the barracks. My thoughts go back to another time, another life, and I reminisce of Christmases gone by. It is hard being 20-years-old and 8,000 miles away from home.

When we're young, thoughts of death do not penetrate the mind. Rather, we dream of what we hope will be. Yet I have chosen to face death daily as a member of an elite group—bomb disposal, the Army's most dangerous job. I ponder—will I ever again celebrate Christmas as I once knew it?

I am different now—danger has matured me. But more than that, I have changed. Christ, you see, forced his way into my muddled thinking and demanded that I face His claims upon my life. It wasn't the awfulness of my sins that drove me to my Savior's arms. Rather, it was the barren wastes of an empty heart. My newfound faith

4



God, I knew, had something in mind for me.

James Craddock kneels next to Japanese bombs captured on the island of Okinawa. He is holding a Japanese mortar.

back, when I am brought out of my reverie by the shop owner.

He has seen my face, perhaps knows my thoughts. I was a stranger to him, but he was trying to be polite. His English was fractured but understandable. Looking at me and pointing at the stuffed Santa, he asked, “Please explain to me, which god is this of you Americans?”

It was then that I saw the tragedy of it all. Christmas, the day my Savior had been born, the day that God had become man and had made it possible that He should take up residency in my born-again heart, the most momentous birth in all of history, had been supplanted by a myth, an idol, and indelibly forced upon a world of gullible, little children.

It was Christmas—not one I would have chosen but by far the best, for I was closest then to the One who had lain in that manger so many years ago.

had already met one test. An explosion that should have killed me left me unscathed. Only two weeks in the faith and there I discovered God’s protective grace. God, I knew, had something in mind for me.

I wander the muddy streets of Naha, the smelly, destroyed capital of Okinawa. Little shops are crowded one on another—each

merchant hoping to entice a GI to purchase a gadget, a souvenir, anything. I am lonely, married but worlds apart. Reality seems so illusionary.

Something catches my eye in this place far away—a stuffed Santa set out to attract a prospective buyer, the only Santa on this crowded street. I stop and stare, memories flooding



DORIS TURNS 80!!!

A BIRTHDAY PARTY TO CELEBRATE THE LIFE OF AN AMAZING WOMAN!

The plan unfolded on Saturday, November 2 at 9:30 am when Doris was picked up for breakfast by Shelba Norris and Ruby Leighton. They took her to eat, went shopping, and finally, at the appropriate time, brought her to the Crossings Church pavilion. It took some impressive coaxing for Shelba to get Doris into the pavilion without letting the secret out. But when Doris opened the door and heard us yelling “surprise,” the look of disbelief made it evident that Doris had no clue this plan had been unfolding for months.

The party went on for several hours, as many of Doris’s friends came to wish her a Happy Birthday. It was a wonderful day of celebrating the life of a wonderful mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, and friend.

Doris wants to thank everyone that attended the celebration and all her wonderful friends who sent their birthday wishes!







GLOBAL TRAINING NETWORK

www.gtnonline.org

info@gtnonline.org

December 2013

GOD ANSWERING PRAYERS... AFTER 14 YEARS!

It began when Jim Craddock was asked by the Billy Graham Evangelist Association to take a team to provide counseling at Amsterdam 2000. While there, Jim and Dr. Pedro Gismondi met a group of pastors that asked them to bring Jim's teaching to Cuba. Jim and Pedro felt that meeting these pastors was a divine appointment by God. This encounter was so powerful they kept the dream of ministering in Cuba alive for **14 years**, faithfully praying for God to open the door.

As International Director, I had the privilege of taking a team to Cuba in 2002. Even though it was a one-time trip, my personal prayer has been for God to allow us to return to Cuba.

Now, in 2014, God is opening the door for us to teach in Cuba again. But first, let me take you back to 2002 and share with you my experience in Cuba. I came across a letter I had written to my supporters at that time and this is an excerpt:

I have been to several third-world countries, now, but I have never seen such a hopeless society. The Cuban people are not allowed to own anything. They have no rights. The buildings in Cuba are beautiful, but the government will not refurbish anything except the tourist area. The Cubans live in buildings we would condemn and tear down.



One day we were at a lighthouse that looked out over the city and the Atlantic Ocean. Looking at the ocean took me back to the media reports of people so desperate to get out of Cuba they would get on a raft to America despite knowing how dangerous the journey could be. It saddened me to think about these wonderful people that were willing to risk their lives for a better life in America.

I still remember these thoughts as if it were yesterday. These were beautiful, warm people we met with the light of God shining through them even in such a depressed society. We saw people's lives changed by God allowing us to explain that our hope comes from a personal relationship with Him, not from our circumstances.

We received wonderful comments on how our material was helping teach them to minister more effectively to their congregation. One pastor told us that he wished he'd had this material 10 years ago and it would have saved them so many problems. Another man, Ariolys, came up and asked for any material we could give him. He was excited to share these truths with the teens in his church. He also asked us to pray for him. He said it is so hard being a Christian in Cuba.



One of the most fulfilling things we did was teach at a home church where we met Laura. The following is a note from Laura:

Once more thank you for your training, your love and your visit to my house, it was really a privilege for us. All made very good commentaries about all your testimonies, photos and love. All of them appreciated as a real nice time. I can say that it was for me an answer of prayer for you to come. I would like to invite you right now for your next trip to our country to come to my home church for preaching and counseling.



The attendees rode 18 hours in this cattle truck to attend this conference.

While we were in Cuba we saw the Holy Spirit speak boldly through us. It is a wonderful gift from God to be a part of sharing the truth that we have a God that loves us with an everlasting love, and no matter what our circumstances are we can live a contented, fulfilled, and hopeful life in Christ!

We praise God that we get to return and teach people how to counsel others by addressing their problems using the Word of God and the Holy Spirit. We see lives being changed through a relationship with Jesus Christ and how blessed we are that we get to be a part!

Christi Craddock



Laura's house (sitting on the table) where they hold weekly home church.



As soon as the hotel staff found out we were Christians, they started asking us for Bibles. The problem was that we didn't have Bibles in Spanish. When we were at Laura's home church, we mentioned the maids' request – and guess what? They had Bibles. We delivered the Bibles to the hotel maids. There is nothing like watching God answer prayers!!

CUBA MISSION TRIP

February 16 - 22, 2014



I have wonderful memories of Cuba, and I'm praising God for giving us this opportunity not only to go in and teach in February 2014, but also to establish an on-going long-term ministry in Cuba. We are partnering with Reaching Souls International, a ministry that takes teams into Cuba twice a year for an intense four-day training in Santa Clara. Three hundred pastors, evangelists, and lay people will be attending a four-day training. We have been asked to provide the counseling/discipleship training to a specific group of ministers and lay people.

We will teach our *Pneumanetics* material to help build their confidence in the reliability and authority of the Scriptures, which contain the solutions God provides for all problems. We will also share our practical model of counseling that will enable them to minister more effectively.

The team members are Jim Craddock, Astrid DeVoss, Dr. Pedro Gismondi, Pedrito Gismondi, Lance Gutteridge, and Christi Craddock.

The total cost of the trip is \$17,400. This is a huge amount, but we have a huge God that can meet our needs. We are asking for you to seek the Lord about supporting this trip. If you want to be a part of this opportunity, you can make your check payable to GTN and return it in the enclosed envelope, and your funds will be designated for the Cuba trip.

We are also seeking prayer warriors that will commit to standing by us and pray for our team as we prepare for this trip and while we are in Cuba. Will you commit to praying with us?

PRAYER REQUESTS:

TEAM MEMBERS: Please pray for the physical and spiritual health of those traveling to Cuba: Jim Craddock, Astrid DeVoss, Pedro Gismondi, Lance Gutteridge, and Christi Craddock. Pray for us as we meet as a team and prepare for our teaching, and that God will prepare our hearts to minister effectively and speak/teach boldly. Pray also for the families we will leave in OKC.

FUNDING: Praise God for supplying \$4,700 to date! Pray for God to lay on the hearts of those willing to invest in the lives of the Cuban people by sending the remaining funds. The funds help with not only our travel,



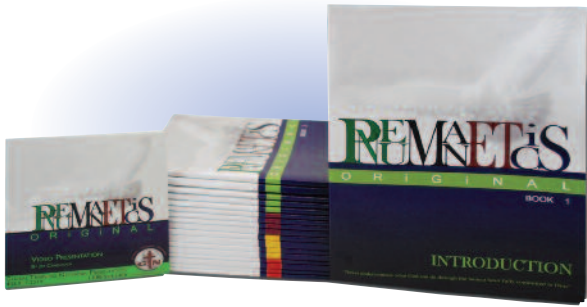
food, and hotels, but also covers the expense of translators and bringing in the pastors and lay people from Cuba that otherwise could not afford to attend this type of conference.

MATERIAL FUNDING: Praise God that we have received \$50 for material. Pray for \$150 still needed to provide our material for each attendee.

ATTENDEES: Pray that God will bring the people with a heart for ministry and discipleship to our training and prepare their hearts for our teaching.

TEACHING: Pray that as we teach God will transform them personally, mature their spiritual walk, and the training will enable them to become effective counselors.

GROWTH: Pray that God will bless our ministry in Cuba by allowing us to take teams into Cuba on a long-term basis. Pray that God will bring several people that live in Cuba to become staff members to help continue our presence in Cuba.

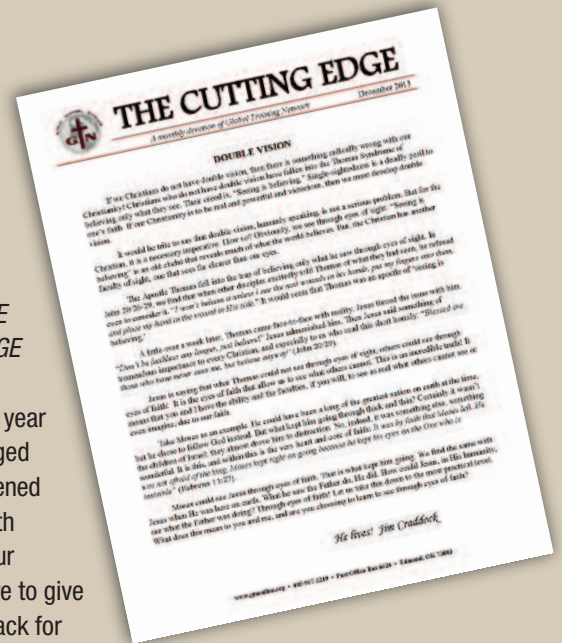


PNEUMANETICS ORIGINAL

The primary purpose of *Pneumanetics Original* is to help every believer understand how to apply God's word to their every day life so they can become conquerors in Christ as His word promises. Pneumanetics provides 18 topics that are extremely helpful to every believer and will help them understand how to apply scriptures so they live life to the fullest as God promised. Pneumanetics consists of 18 separate books. They can be used in an 18-week bible study or they can be read individually if you desire to understand a certain topic better. The secondary purpose is to provide a practical and workable model of Biblical Counseling that will enable Christians to minister to each other effectively. Not only will these books enhance your ability to understand and apply God's truths in your life, but they will equip you to minister to and disciple others.

- Book One: INTRODUCTION
- Book Two: THE SUFFICIENCY OF SCRIPTURES
- Book Three: THE NATURE OF MAN
- Book Four: THE FALL OF MAN
- Book Five: THE SELF-LIFE
- Book Six: SPIRITUAL WARFARE
- Book Seven: OUR NEW LIFE IN CHRIST
- Book Eight: IT TOOK A MIRACLE (Forgiveness)
- Book Nine: CANDIDATE FOR A MIRACLE (Being Filled with the Spirit)
- Book Ten: LIVING ON THE CUTTING EDGE
- Book Eleven: BELIEF SYSTEMS
- Book Twelve: THE TORAH SYNDROME (Legalism)
- Book Thirteen: BECOMING WHO YOU ALREADY ARE (Building a Christian Identity)
- Book Fourteen: A.W.O.L. PARENTS (Absent Without Leave)
- Book Fifteen: ABBA FATHER (Knowing God as Father)
- Book Sixteen: A GOD FOR ALL SEASONS
- Book Seventeen: THE GRACE CONNECTION
- Book Eighteen: WORSHIP HIS MAJESTY

Each book can be purchased for **\$6.99**
The set of 18 books for **\$99.00** (save \$26.82)
 The **DVD** can be purchased separately for **\$29.99** or
The set of 18 books with DVD is **\$120.00**
 Quantity discounts can be obtained
 (tax and shipping applied separately)



WE PRAY THE CUTTING EDGE you have received this year has encouraged and strengthened your walk with Christ. It is our earnest desire to give something back for your faithful prayers and financial support over 7 years with GTN and 46 years in ministry.

May the Lord bless you abundantly!
 Jim, Doris and Christi

"We receive your ministry letters each month and are very grateful for the encouragement they bring to our lives. At times they have come when they were much needed. May God continue to bless you in all that you do for Him."

"These are a rich blessing. I love God's word and each month it as been a real blessing. Thanks for sharing God's word!"

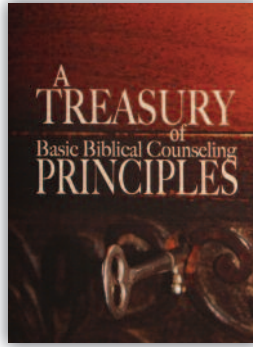
WE WILL CONTINUE SENDING the Cutting Edge monthly in 2014. If you have not signed up or want to add someone let us know by emailing at christigtn@cox.net or call 405.216.0829.

INTERESTED IN TAKING A PNEUMANETICS CLASS?
Call 405.216.0829
for a class schedule

BOOKS

A Treasury of Basic Biblical Counseling Principles

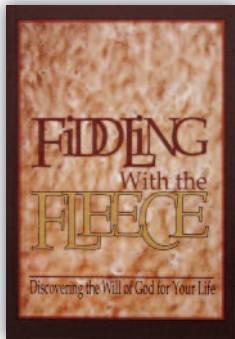
THIS UNIQUE BOOK offers poignant values, ethics, and practical applications developed from decades of personal counseling experience and observation. Jim Craddock, author, lecturer, counselor and educator, shares more than 500 values and principles that have guided his ministering over the past fifty years. \$4.99 each



Fiddling With the Fleece: Discovering the Will of God for your life

IS IT REALLY POSSIBLE to know — for certain — God’s direction for your life? In an age where job security and career opportunities are vague and uncertain, does the Bible offer any input to give us guidance? Yes, and yes!

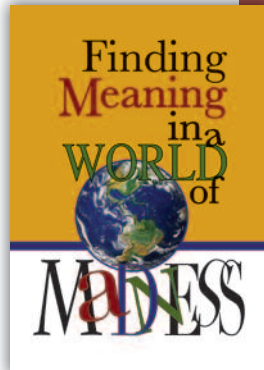
The author takes us to the Bible to answer these questions, examining Gideon’s life to show how he asked, “How can I know God’s will?” God never intended for you to live in limbo, nor in ignorance of His purpose and design for your life. As the author demonstrates, there are means to help you ascertain God’s purpose for your life. By following the applications in seeking God’s will, you will discover the assurance of peace. \$4.99 each



Finding Meaning in a World of Madness

FAILING TO FIND meaning — especially in the meaningless situations — creates a profound emotional and spiritual dilemma. Lacking logical meaning causes some people to question God...and others turn away from Him entirely. But some people actually seem to grow during crisis and trauma. How do they do it? How can we find our best when a situation seems at its worst?

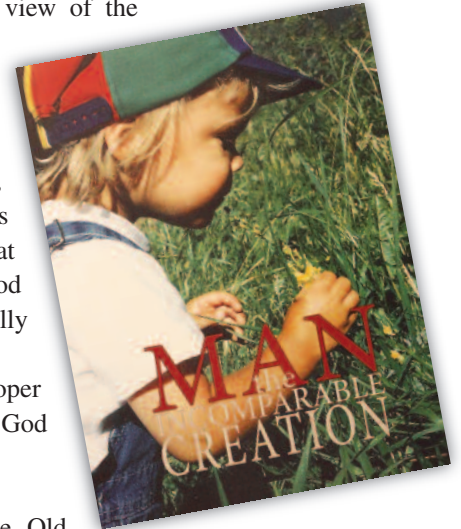
It is this truth — that we can find meaning when everything around us is in disarray — that *Finding Meaning* investigates. Using the book of James, the author explains that only God can bring meaning to our meaningless events. Learn how to thrive even in the most challenging circumstances, exploring the Bible as an oasis in the turmoil of all that life in this world throws at us. \$4.99 each



Man: The Incomparable Creation

WHAT DOES IT MEAN to be created “in the image of God”? What makes people act the way they do? Jim Craddock, author, counselor, lecturer and educator, answers these questions and more, offering fascinating insights into the Biblical view of the creation of man. Craddock helps us understand God’s intentions in creating man, explaining why it is so important that humans know God personally to fully understand themselves in proper context, the way God created us.

Incomparable Creation uses the Old Testament Tabernacle in the wilderness to demonstrate who man is, comparing the Tabernacle’s physical structures to man’s nature (body, soul and spirit). Readers will also learn how human nature relates to man’s consciousness, self-consciousness, and God-consciousness. \$6.99 each

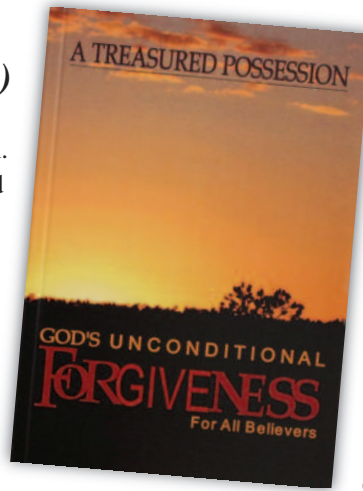


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A Treasured Possession (God's Unconditional Forgiveness for All Believers)

It was sin that separated man from God. Sin brought death. Sin turned man against his Creator, man against man, and man against his environment. Sin made man love himself above God and declaring war against the One who cherished him. Man has always tried either to rationalize his sin away or to ignore it. Man refuses to see himself as evil. In his own mind and in his own way, man has become his own god, a god powerless to deal with his own sin. Great religions have been created by man, yet none of them deal with man's basic problem: sin.

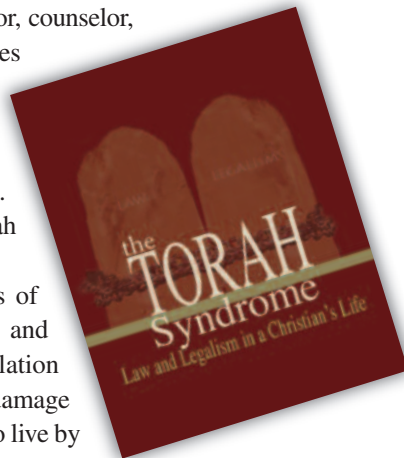


As incomprehensible as it seems, God, in one decisive moment in history, took man's sin—the sins of the world—and placed them upon His Son, Jesus. There on the Cross, the penalty of sin, death was removed, the power of sin broken, and God's righteousness was freely given to man. Consequently, as our Lord Jesus dealt once and for all with the issue of sin, so He also made possible the free gift of God's forgiveness. At the Cross, forgiveness becomes not ours to seek, but ours to possess! \$4.99 each

The Torah Syndrome (Law and Legalism in a Christian's Life)

In this book, Jim Craddock, author, counselor, lecturer and educator, introduces one of the most destructive forces in the lives of Christians: attempting to live life under law (or legalism) rather than through grace. He calls this condition The Torah Syndrome.

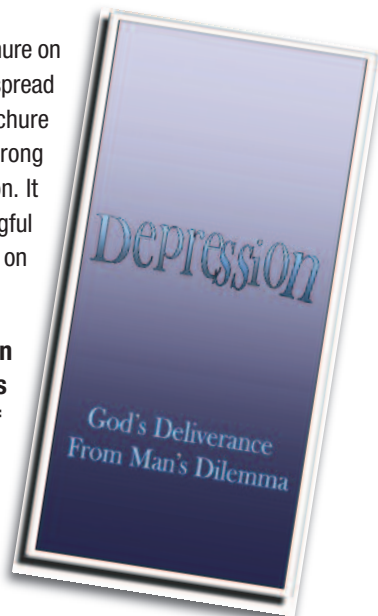
This book explains the effects of law on the Christian's walk and ministry, revealing the correlation between the law and sin and the damage which results when a person tries to live by these rules. It also explains the remarkable freedom that comes when we discover the path to living a life of grace as God intends for us. \$6.99 each



DEPRESSION

We are continuing to offer our brochure on Depression because it is so widespread and suffered by so many. This brochure presents the causes, effects and wrong responses that can bring on depression. It then shows the right response to wrongful thinking and actions with timely helps on avoiding this debilitating emotion.

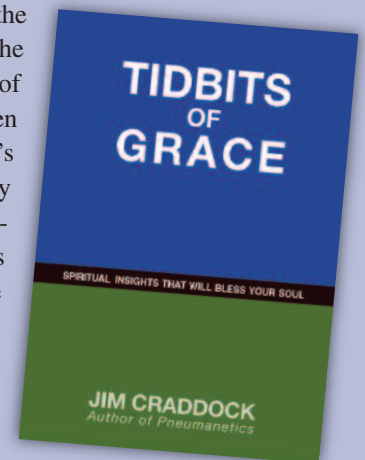
As a service to the Christian community we are offering this brochure on Depression free of charge. However, for larger orders a minimal charge, plus shipping and handling, will be applied.



NEW!

Tidbits of Grace: Spiritual Insights That Will Bless Your Soul

Jim Craddock, author, lecturer, counselor, and educator, explains that each tidbit he shares in this book is an arrow from the bow of the Holy Spirit that he received during his devotional time with the Lord Almighty. In the secret and sacredness of his prayer closest, when God was very close, Jim's heart was blessed by God's love and encouragement, and even His admonishments. These nuggets of wisdom thrilled, challenged, and blessed Jim, and now he passes them on to you in this incredible book,



As our thanks for your prayers and financial support we would love to send you this book as our gift. By returning the envelope, calling or emailing us at christign@cox.net let us know and we will send you a book.



Global Training Network
P.O. Box 6624
Edmond, OK 73083

**We wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Christ-centered new year!
We want to thank you for your friendship that has meant so much to
us, for your prayers that have encouraged us, and for your financial
support that has sustained us.**

We praise God for you!

Jim, Doris, and Christi



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P.O. Box 6624

Edmond, OK 73083

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