

From the desk of JOHN BRADSHAW



November 2024

Dear Partner in ministry,

While walking near my home, I heard something fall to the ground with a light thud. As I looked around, I saw what I thought was a bug of some kind. About half the size of my thumb, it had small antennae, patterns that resembled eyes, and it rocked back and forth. Intrigued, I recorded a video and took several photos. Because I was so close to home, I showed my wife, Melissa, just moments later.

Her response was direct. "Where is it? Take me to it right now. We have to save it!" I didn't know that we had to save this strange creature, but I did as I was asked and escorted Melissa—container in hand—out into the street. Alas, the bug was gone.

Just as we were about to return back inside, I saw the bug crawling towards our neighbor's front yard. Melissa swooped on it, scooped it into her container, and a quick web search later, identified it as the pupa of an Eastern Tiger Swallowtail butterfly. She prepared a habitat where it would be well protected, and we watched and waited.

Days passed, then what may have been weeks, and... nothing. Then, one Sabbath, I received a text from Melissa. She had sent a photo of a stunning Eastern Tiger Swallowtail butterfly! A video showed Melissa and our daughter encouraging the butterfly to fly away, which, after a few moments, it did. Off it went, this marvel of creation, to brighten the world around it.



What I saw while I was out walking was... a bug. An odd-looking, unattractive, bug. Melissa saw something completely different. She saw what it might become.

At It Is Written, we view people not as they are, but as they may become. Every person alive is a candidate for the kingdom of heaven. **Every single soul is someone for whom Jesus died.**

At It Is Written, we view people not as they are, but as they may become. The Escrito Está evangelism in Colombia earlier this year resulted in over 5,000 baptisms.





Dr. Marty Kelly prays with a patient at the It Is Written medical clinic in San Juan, Puerto Rico, as Hildelisa Flickinger translates.

When I heard that our evangelistic outreach in Colombia had resulted in 5,000 baptisms even before a single sermon had been preached, I had to stop and thank God. Included among that large number were people of almost every conceivable background: rich and poor, well-educated and uneducated, old and young. God saw every one of them not as they were, but as they could become, given the opportunity to respond to the gospel invitation.

God saw every one of them not as they were, but as they could become.

I believe your support of God's work is based on a similar worldview, and I am more grateful than you could know for your kindness in sustaining soul winning and evangelism. As I write, an It Is Written mission team is in Puerto Rico, sharing Jesus and urging people to know Him as Lord and Savior. In November, another It Is Written mission team will be in Timor Leste, a tiny country with a troubled past. Catholicism accounts for approximately 98 percent of the nation's population. The gospel is desperately needed. Our mission team is going to this challenging territory to point people to the Christ of the Bible. Through humanitarian work, medical ministry, and the proclamation of the gospel, **this group of dedicated missionaries will see people not as they are, but as they may be through the power of the gospel.**

And when this year is over, It Is Written will begin another very full year of evangelism. We must, mustn't we? Ignoring people, refusing to take the gospel to those for whom Jesus died, is unthinkable. We simply cannot do it.

But we can't reach the world with the gospel without your continued support. This month, your gifts will make an enormous difference. Every second of every day people are watching It Is Written programs on our full-time channel, It Is Written TV. It Is Written resources are being used to introduce people to Jesus as Lord and Savior. And It Is Written evangelistic meetings are inviting people to accept the truth of the Bible and surrender their lives to Christ. As you read this, an It Is Written evangelistic series is being held in Dalton, Georgia. Pastor Douglas Na'a and this year's fall SALT class are presenting a full evangelistic meeting, and decisions are being made for eternity. This same class will be conducting more than 30 evangelistic series in the Dominican Republic over Thanksgiving break. More meetings, more souls.

An It Is Written mission trip to the Dominican Republic last year served people both medically and spiritually. Our 2024 fall SALT class will conduct evangelism there later this month.





We cannot afford to see people as they are. **The gospel tells us we may see them as they may be through the power of God.** With your prayers and financial support, God will continue to work powerfully through It Is Written.

A year or so ago, an unexpected miracle of grace occurred during an It Is Written evangelistic series. A man's wife asked him if he would provide technical assistance for the lay evangelist preaching a series of meetings. Happy to help, the man agreed to do so. His wife began praying more earnestly than ever before.

While she was a lifelong church member, he had never accepted Jesus as His Savior. And although he sat on the front row every night of the series, he gave no indication that he was even considering doing so.

At the conclusion of the meetings, the lay evangelist approached the man in question. "And what about you?" he was asked. "All of these people have made a decision for baptism, but you have not. Is there anything keeping you from being

baptized?" The man thought silently. "Why don't you pray about it, and if God speaks to your heart, we'll make sure there's room at the baptism for you."

It was an anxious 24 hours for the man's wife. Having no idea how he would respond, she prayed earnestly. When he attended the meeting the following night, he was prepared to answer. **"I want to surrender my life to Jesus,"** he said. "Do you think I could be baptized?"

As you can imagine, tears of joy were shed. After almost 35 years of marriage, few people would have thought it possible that such a decision could be made. But an evangelist, a praying spouse, and a group of faithful church members refused to see the man as he was. They chose instead to see him as he could be by the grace of God.

Having read how the story ends, you and I know that the greatest days for the gospel are still ahead. Many, many, many people who, right now, are yet to make a decision for Jesus are going to do so. Thank you for your support of the ministry of It Is Written this month. God will bless your kindness, and people will be transformed, fully prepared for everlasting life.

May God bless and keep you.

Yours in the blessed hope,

Click the button to

Pastor John Bradshaw President, It Is Written

P.S. Just like my wife Melissa saw a bug for the butterfly it would someday become, the gospel teaches us to see people for what they can become in Christ. We have mission trips this fall in Puerto Rico, Timor Leste, and the Dominican Republic. Next year, a full calendar of evangelism. Of course, It Is Written TV continues to reach thousands of people every day. With your prayers and financial support, God will continue to work powerfully through It Is Written. Thank you.



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