

MOVING UP HIGHER
with
Joyce Meyer



Facing the truth that matters most

We all face challenges in life, and there are times when we need to confront them. It could be something in your past that you've been avoiding. Or maybe it's a person you need to forgive. No matter what the issue may be, we need to understand how important it is to deal with it, because if we don't, we will miss out on the wonderful life Jesus died to give us. We won't experience the freedom of a peaceful, joyful life (Romans 14:17).

Now, I realize that there are things we can't go back and fix. But sometimes God asks us to make restitution. When He does, confrontation is necessary. This means we need to face the truth about our circumstances, other people and ourselves.

I've had to confront a lot of difficult, hurtful things in my life, and it wasn't easy. But I know from personal experience that if you will face the truth about yourself and let God change you enough, you can learn to be happy no matter what anybody else chooses to do or what your circumstances may be.

Maybe it's me...

I remember a time many years ago when I thought all of my problems were caused by other people or circumstances I couldn't control. One day I was praying aggressively for God to change my husband, Dave. I was giving it everything I had, crying out for God to "fix" him, and in my heart I heard Him say, "Excuse Me, Joyce, but Dave is not the problem."

My next thought was, "Well, then who is? It's just me and him in this relationship." For the next two days, God showed me what it was like to live with me...and I cried for two days. It was so hard! I had a long way to go to be free of the hurt in my heart and the wrong behavior I had lived with for so long. But it was the beginning of my journey to experiencing the freedom I enjoy today.

One of the first things I had to understand was I had to stop blaming everybody else, stop looking at what was wrong with other people and start taking responsibility for my attitudes and behavior. It's amazing how easy it is for us to point out what's wrong with others while we totally ignore the issue in our own lives. The truth is, no matter what's wrong with everybody else, you can't change them. Only God can do that. You can choose to cooperate with the Holy Spirit and let Him change the things in your heart that need to be changed. But you have to be willing to face the truth about yourself and deal with the issues He reveals that are causing your problems.

It's a choice we make

We need to make a determined decision to be Christlike in our behavior and be so committed to God that we won't go back.

A good place to start is to ask yourself: Do I want to know God or just know what He can do for

Gowing, Cornilsen announce plans to wed



Tiffany Gowing and Nick Cornilsen, of Milwaukie, Oregon announce their engagement and plan to marry June 18, 2016 in Oakland, Oregon.

The bride-to-be is the daughter of Jeff and Celia Gowing of Cottage Grove and Sheila and Joe Morgan of Eugene. Gowing is a 2006 graduate of Creswell High School and of Lane Community College's hospitality business program. She is em-

ployed as assistant to the vice president at First Response, Inc. in Beaverton, Oregon.

The groom-to-be is the son of Mark and Shelly Cornilsen of Oakland, Oregon. He is a 2005 graduate of Oakland High School and of Oregon State University in mechanical engineering. He is employed as the facilities engineer at Precision Cast Parts in Portland, Oregon.

IN MEMORIAM

Michael Kevin Ward 1948-2016

Michael Kevin Ward, 68, of Cottage Grove passed away March 27, 2016 of lung cancer.



He was born March 22, 1948 at St. Francis in San Francisco, Calif. to William and Catherine (Greene) Ward.

On May 28, 1983 in Cottage Grove, he and Irma Gutierrez were married. They separated in 1999.

He spent many years working in carpentry and worked as a head cook for Lost Creek Lake

Marina for 13 seasons.

Michael loved crossword puzzles and was a huge San Francisco 49ers fan and also was a fan of the Giants.

Survivors include his mother of Sacramento, Calif., four sons, A.J. Ward of Oregon, Adam Ward and Aylan Ward, both of Rogue Valley, Oregon and Aazul Ward of Cottage Grove, a daughter, Shawna Gutierrez-Sansburn of Creswell, two brothers, Joe Ward and Rob Ward, both of Cottage Grove, a sister, Kathie Ward of Sacramento, Calif., and four grandchildren.

A celebration of life will be held Tuesday, May 3 from 1-3:30 p.m. at The Riverhouse in Shady Cove, Oregon.

Arrangements under the care of Buell Funeral Chapel/Andreason's, Springfield.

Hoyer talks accident reconstruction at Rotary

Vern Hoyer, who was born and raised in Cottage Grove and is the grandson of V.B. Hoyer, a founding member of Cottage Grove's Rotary Club in 1960, presented an educational program on accident reconstruction at the club's Thursday meeting.

Today's accident investigation is very sophisticated, and in today's standards, almost fool-proof. This is an effort to determine liability and the cause of the accident and to satisfy the ever-rising insurance premiums, Hoyer said.

After graduation from CGHS, Hoyer started his public service career as a volunteer fireman in

South Lane County, then went to the Sheriff's office. He spent several years as a deputy sheriff under Lane County Sheriff Dave Burks. Hoyer has over 4,000 hours of structured advanced training. An injury in 1989 forced an early retirement from EPD. At this time, Hoyer took additional training for accident reconstruction.

He has also spent 12 years on the National Speakers Circuit talking about alcohol and substance abuse. He has also been a private investigator, investigating insurance issues and fraud.

Randall Gregory Fox

5/13/1986 – 3/27/2016

Randall Fox passed away March 27, 2016, surrounded by his wife and family, following an accident while racing with the Oregon State Cycling Club in Washington. Randall was a registered organ donor and was able to gift his organs following his death.

Randall was born on May 13th, 1986, in Cottage Grove, OR to Gregory and Judy Fox. He grew up in Cottage Grove with his siblings, Jana and Brian. Randall was a bright, inquisitive, and tenacious child who loved spending time outdoors and learning about the world around him.

Randall graduated from Cottage Grove High School in 2004, then moved to Klamath Falls to attend Oregon Institute of Technology. He thrived in the college environment and made many lifelong friends at OIT. Randall was a natural competitor, and was a cross country and track athlete in addition to his pursuit of two bachelor's degrees, in Mechanical Engineering and Applied Mathematics.

After graduation, Randall worked as an engineer for Bulk Handling Systems in Eugene before returning to school to pursue a PhD in mechanical engineering – thermal fluid science at Oregon State University in fall 2010.

Randall met Leslie Minner, his future wife, shortly after moving to Corvallis. They met on Halloween standing in line for a bar – an ironic place for two such hardworking, focused students to meet, and something they often laughed about later on. Randall introduced Leslie to his favorite food – Thai – on their first date, and they proceeded to share many adventures over the next few years. Randall and Leslie married on July 26, 2014 in a beautiful outdoor ceremony in Corvallis.

Randall enjoyed a variety of pursuits, including home brewing, gardening, and photography. He was an avid cyclist, commuting to OSU on his bike every day, and joining the cycling club in fall 2015.

Randall was an amazing, kindhearted, smart, hardworking young man who made a lasting impression on everyone he met. After completing his PhD, Randall hoped to teach at a university and spend his free time cycling, gardening, and spending time with his wife, family and friends.

Randall is survived by his beloved wife, Leslie Fox, parents, Greg and Judy Fox, siblings, Jana and Brian Fox, in-laws, Lee, Rosemary, and Paul Minner, and many loving aunts, uncles, and cousins. He leaves an enormous hole in our hearts and will be missed dearly.

A celebration of life will be held on April 16th, 2016 in Corvallis. Donations may be made to a scholarship fund being established at OSU in Randall's honor.



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