

UPLOOK



UPDATE

informing
equipping
encouraging

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The Vision We Need

A vision statement has been defined as “An aspirational description of what an organization would like to accomplish.” A Christian’s vision statement should embrace what we understand God’s unique plan to be for us, the “good works He prepared” before for us to walk in (Eph 2:10).

Likewise, a Christian ministry, rather than imagining what we could do for God, **should seek for what He desires to do through us**. If Paul and his companions had a vision statement, I imagine it might have read something like this: to “... *preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, and to make all see what is the fellowship of the mystery...*” (3:8, 9).

Here at Uplook Ministries we agree. That’s why we’ve taken it as our goal to **proclaim the whole gospel for the whole world and the whole truth for the whole church**. We are grateful for the worldwide web which allows us access to the nations, to both those who are saved and lost.

If ever there was a man who could claim a true “vision statement,” it would be Jacob who, one dark night at the fords of Jabbok, saw the Lord face to face. **What a vision!** Frederick Buechner called this experience the “magnificent defeat of the human soul at the hands of God.”

Ironically, it is when we lay down our arms of resistance that we claim the victory. When we see we deserve to be executed for our sins, it is then we discover new life. Jacob “won” when he could no longer wrestle. When all seemed lost for Jacob, he was reborn as Israel (see Gen 32:28).

There is no more apt description of both justification and sanctification than that—**seeing The Face**. As to the first, we read that God who “*commanded light to shine out of darkness... has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ*” (2 Cor 4:6). As to the latter, “*we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory*” (3:18).

Saved or lost, we all need a vision of The Face—that face once disfigured for us and now being transfigured in His people. When we have been to Peniel and “seen the face of God,” we can never be the same. It results in us first being transferred into His kingdom and then transformed to be kingly. **Your prayers and encouragements are deeply appreciated as we seek to be obedient to the heavenly vision.**

Just **look** at Him!

J. Nicholson
JABE NICHOLSON

“...I WILL LOOK UP.” (PS. 5:3)

Visit our website at www.uplook.org

• Email us at info@uplook.org



A SITE TO BEHOLD (AND USE)

Helping you navigate through our website
to get the most out of your experience

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now that's a...

GOOD QUESTION!

Good questions demand good answers. But sometimes, they can be hard to find. So we have carved out a special corner on our website under **Study Helps** called **Good Question!** Nearly 80 questions that many people wonder about are addressed in brief audio clips (ranging from 3 to 8 minutes). These responses are presented by Jabe in a biblical and gracious way, speaking "the truth in love." Here are just a handful of good questions for which you will find helpful answers:

I was christened as a baby. Should I also be baptized as a believer?

What about uncommitted young people?

Should a woman preach at a gospel meeting? What do you think of women preachers?

What are some examples of good works we can use along with evangelism?

Is there a happy balance in church life where both younger and older can agree?

How do we know we have a particular spiritual gift?

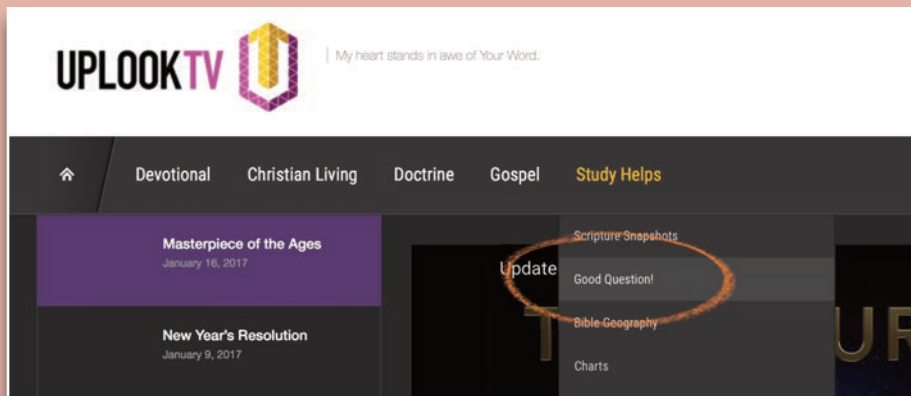
How are we to understand the gift of Tongues today?

When exactly should women cover their heads?

How do we deal with a problematic elder?

Will my wrongs be examined at the Judgment Seat of Christ?

Good questions and good answers to help you grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. Why not check out our website today? (Now *there's* a good question!)



See last page for
more helpful
resources.

FEATURED GOSPEL VIDEO: NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION



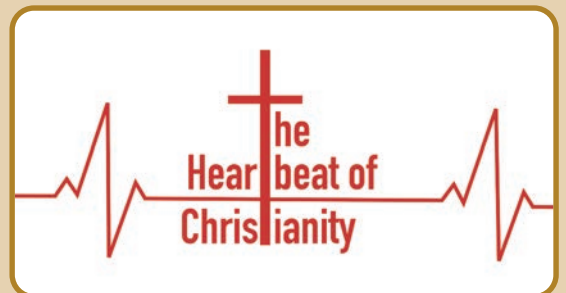
#1 NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION:

Discover the heart of God for sinners in this true and touching story.

HEARTBEAT OF CHRISTIANITY:

In this 3-part series, learn the fundamentals of living a fruitful life for God.

FEATURED TEACHING VIDEO: HEARTBEAT OF CHRISTIANITY



FROM SOME OF OUR FRIENDS...

It's wonderfully refreshing to see someone using Facebook for the purpose of bringing souls to Christ! Keep up the good work. — NJ

[This website is] relevant, true to the Word, and highly informational. — RH

Good sound teaching! For those who value the Bible, give this site a good look. — MS

Right thinking comes from meditating on truth. Take the time to read Uplook articles and learn the TRUTH of God's word, rather than only reading memes on Facebook. What we meditate on determines our character. And ENJOY! As I tell kids in Bible club: "Learning God's Word is FUN!" —DB

IN RESPONSE TO OUR DAILY DEVOTIONS ON FACEBOOK: I love these little thoughts you are posting so regularly. They lift my heart in worship and praise. — JR

We are so thankful for your ministry, and pray that God will continue to bless you as you seek His will. — K & L B

Excellent messages on the Church [*Masterpiece of the Ages*]. We listened to them several times at Chavuma, Zambia and also have shared printed versions with people who didn't understand the Church. — AW

IN RESPONSE TO OUR VIDEO, "YOUR #1 NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION":

I did not intend to have tears rolling down my face this morning but while hearing this message, I could not help remember the countless moments of REST freely given by my Savior since the first day of hearing His call: "I wish you were my little girl," although I had just turned 50 years old. So glad that I passed the "whisper test." It was the perfect REST SOLUTION for my tired, weary soul. — PV-K

This is so encouraging!!! — JP Wow...powerful challenge.

This message was for me today! It was the word of encouragement that I needed! Thank you for sharing... — CN & WF

This [episode] has been successfully placed in my heart. Thank you for the clear teaching of God's life in me. — PK

Excellent ministry!

Appreciate these excellent videos. Thanks. — RDF

Love the way you have explained the various aspects of Christianity. (JK) Thank you for this clear lesson on the basics of our faith... perfectly presented on Remembrance Day — PV-K

I love this ministry because they speak the truths of God. But best of all I love the Lord my God. — VG

FYI:

AN IMPORTANT TOPIC COVERED:

For a careful explanation of the head covering, scan the QR code or go to uplook.tv (Doctrine / Church / The Head Covering: Getting the Big Picture)



WHEN ALL HOPE SEEMED LOST

FROM OUR FACEBOOK DEVOTIONALS

...the one who comes to Me,
I will by no means cast out. — John 6:37

Will and Peter Pell once were preaching at a conference in Hamilton, ON. At lunch, a woman asked if they would visit her unsaved brother in the hospital. When they arrived, the nurse told them the man had been in a coma for some time, a detail the sister had not given them! But they went into the room anyway. What should they do? "Let's sing," said Bill. And the brothers began, "I am so glad that our Father in heaven, tells of His love in the Book He has given. . . ." The man began to stir. They sang the second stanza and the man began to mumble. They bent down to hear. "Maybe He loved me when a boy in Sunday School, but He couldn't love me now, after what I've done." So they sang the next verse: "Though I forget Him and wander away, Still He doth love me wherever I stray; Back to His dear, loving arms would I flee, When I remember that Jesus loves me." The man came out of the coma that day and put his trust in the God of such persistent love.

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Contact us (see Contact Information on the front page) and request either a hard copy in the mail or a pdf version by email. Be sure to "Subscribe" to our YouTube channel as well!



Scan to visit our website ➡

our featured resource from...

"sow bountifully...reap bountifully" (2 Cor 9:6).



THE GRANARY

GOING WITH THE GRAIN

THE MIRROR IMAGE PAPERS

EVERYTHING NEW



† How CHRIST'S CROSS
CHANGES Everything †

J. B. NICHOLSON JR.

GOSPEL BOOKLET: EVERYTHING NEW

A "NEW" YEAR LIKE NO OTHER!

The cross was not originally meant to be a decoration on a steeple or a piece of jewelry. It was an instrument of painful death. In fact, the words "crucifixion" and "excruciating" are linked in the Latin: *ex cruciatus* means "out of the cross." So why would anyone say they "glory in the cross"?

Because it was on a cross that the Lover of our souls made a way to make us brand new. He has made it possible for any person damaged by sin to go from **death to life**. **Lost to found**. **Far to near**. **Bondage to freedom**. **Alien to citizen**. **Darkness to light**. **Guilty to righteous**. **Enemy to friend** and from **poor to rich**!

This twelve page booklet explains each of these miraculous transitions and how the reader, through simple faith, can become a new creation and declare: "*Old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new*" (2 Cor 5:17).

Get this (and many other helpful gospel resources) by clicking on Granary at:

www.uplook.org

KEEP LOOKING UP!

This whole world is busy building its life on sand. What a refreshing contrast to know the power, safety, and reliability of our Rock of refuge (Ps 94:22). One of the most widespread pictures of Christ that we find in the Bible is that of the rock. He is presented as such in a variety of ways in order to capture the many facets of His person and work. To Israel, He was the rock of provision (1 Cor 10:3f); to the nations, He will be the rock that obliterates all their empires (Dan 2:34f); to the church, He is the foundation stone (Eph 2:20); to the Jewish leaders of Christ's day, He was the stone which the builders rejected (Ps 118:22); to unbelievers, He is a stone of stumbling and a rock of offense (1 Pet 2:8); to believers, He is the living stone (1 Pet 2:4); and to the Father, He is the tested and precious stone (Isa 28:16).

In all of these grand spheres—Jews, Gentiles, the church, believers, unbelievers—the Lord Jesus is the Rock. We can confidently call others to faith in Christ because He is utterly, uniquely, infinitely trustworthy.

The year 2017, we trust, will bring its "ups." But it will likely bring its "downs" too. But if we know the Lord Jesus, we have Heaven's remedy for every trial: "Hear my cry, O God; Give heed to my prayer. From the end of the earth I call to You, when my heart is faint; Lead me to the rock that is higher than I" (Ps 61:1, 2)! — **Jamie Martin**

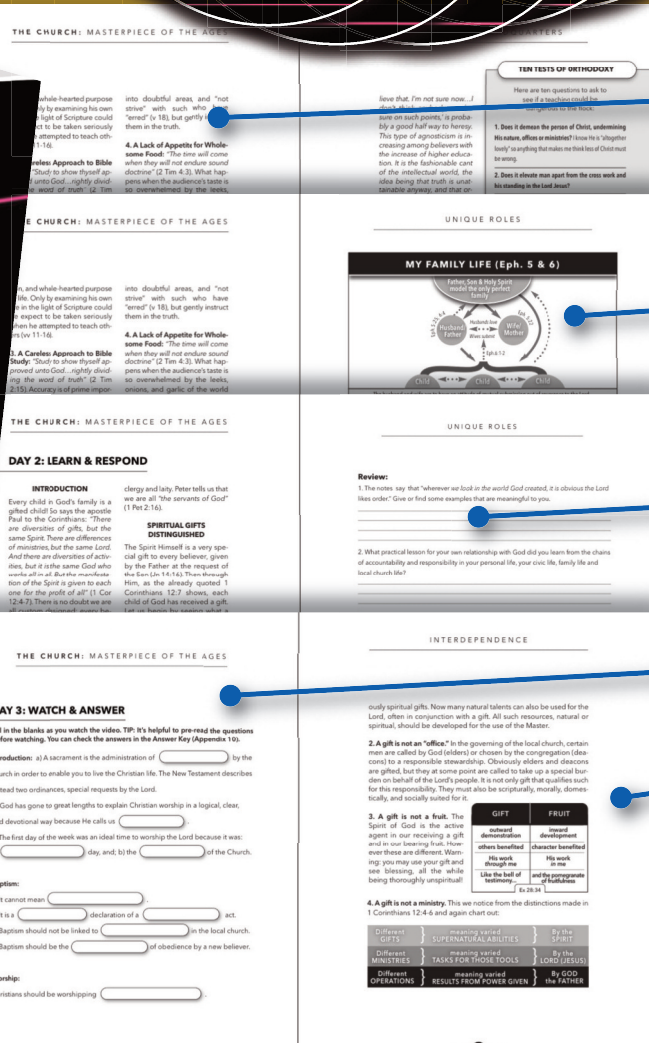
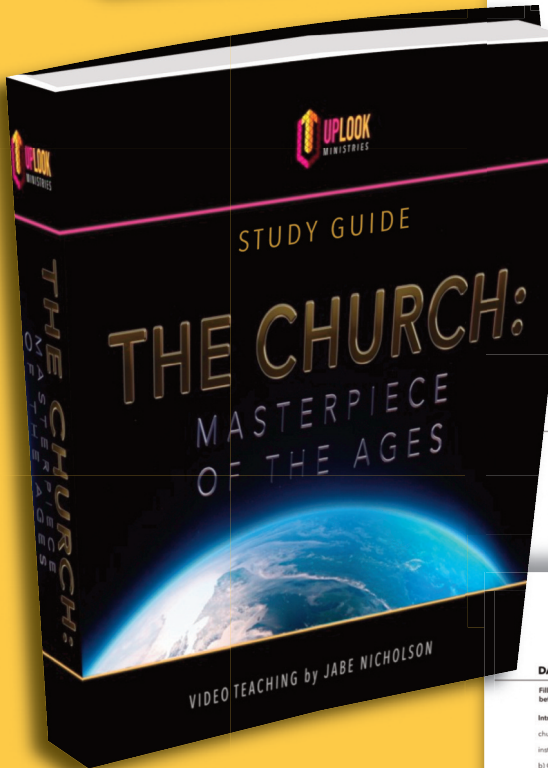
THE CHURCH: MASTERPIECE OF THE AGES

10 Helpful Lessons from JABE NICHOLSON on:

- The Church as a Mystery • The Church in the Acts • Unity & Diversity • Spiritual Gifts • Baptism and The Lord's Supper • Doctrine & Prayer • Elders & The Flock • Fellowship & Discipline • Unique Roles of Men & Women • The Church's Future



10-DVD Set & Study Guide



Short lessons full of crystal-clear teaching on many key doctrines and applications

Helpful charts and visual aids

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Review questions to consolidate learning

Fill-in-the-blank activity for each video lesson

Wide margins for note-taking

Video Response Answer Key

10 Appendices for additional help

AN IDEAL RESOURCE FOR:

- DISCIPLESHIP
- INDIVIDUAL STUDY
- SMALL GROUP STUDY
- YOUTH GROUP STUDY
- BOTH NEW & MATURE BELIEVERS
- FAMILY DEVOTIONS & LOCAL CHURCH SERIES

There is no charge for this resource. UPLOOK Ministries welcomes you to contribute to this project in whatever way the Lord leads. Available only while supplies last.

Contact info@uplook.org for more information.