

**IMA Video Connect every 3rd Thursday of each month at 10AM Central Time. Contact IMA Home Office for more info.**

**Attention Districts: If there are changes in IMA leadership or any correspondence for IMA Proclaim, please send to the Home Office.**

**Prayers for the IMA National Board as they meet in Branson, MO for the Annual Planning Session Mon-Wed, April 26-28, 2021**

## IMA Announcements & Quotable Quotes



**AUDIO PURCHASE:**  
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**“There is more evidence that Jesus rose from the dead than there is that Julius Caesar ever lived or that Alexander the Great died at age thirty-three.”**  
~ Billy Graham

**“Grace and truth are spiritual DNA, the building blocks of Christ-centered living.”** ~ Randy Alcorn

**“We often think of great faith as something that happens spontaneously... However, the greatest faith of all, and the most effective, is to live day by day trusting Him.”** ~ Rick Joyner

**“The Gospels do not explain the resurrection; the resurrection explains the Gospels. Belief in the resurrection is not an appendage to the Christian faith; it is the Christian faith.”** ~ John S. Whale

**“Our Lord has written the promise of resurrection, not only in books alone, but in every leaf in spring-time.”** ~ Martin Luther

**Save the Date**  
**IMA National Conference ~ M-W, Sept. 20-22, 2021**  
Faith Bible Chapel; Pastor Jason King; Arvada, CO (Denver area)  
World Renowned Special Speaker: Rev. Rob Carman

## Relational Actional Missional

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### National Board:

- ▣ **Dr. Timothy Warner**
- ▣ **Dr. Don Crabtree**
- ▣ **Rev. Sean Dudley**
- ▣ **Rev. Chad Hayes**
- ▣ **Rev. Dan Hernandez**
- ▣ **Rev. Kurt Juscak**
- ▣ **Rev. Mike McCord**

### District Chairs:

- ▣ **Dr. Charles Dewing**
- ▣ **Rev. Paul Mason**
- ▣ **Rev. Joe Campbell**
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- ▣ **Rev. Julie Wells**
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- ▣ **Rev. Jason King**
- ▣ **Rev. David Spurlock**
- ▣ **Rev. Robert Garcia**

# PROCLAIM

APRIL 2021

## Celebrate the Resurrection!



By Roy Peterson

*He is not here, for He has risen, as He said. Come see the place where He lay. Matthew 28:6 ESV*

Christians should be excited as Easter approaches and we focus on the resurrection of Jesus Christ and what that means to us. We are not serving a dead Savior like many religions do, but we are serving the Lord and Savior that has risen. He is alive! In Revelation 1:18 Jesus said, “I am the Living One, I was dead, and behold I am alive forever and ever!” We should be rejoicing every day of the year for Christ’s resurrection as it is the power to live forever with the Father. In I Corinthians 6:14 it says, “God hath both raised up the Lord, and will also raise us up by His own power.” What a promise it is for us who believe in and serve our Lord Jesus Christ!

When I first thought about the resurrection power and joy of Easter Sunday, I thought about a song that has always meant a lot to me.



### HE LIVES

I serve a risen Savior; He’s in the world today.  
I know that He is living, whatever men may say.  
I see His hand of mercy, I hear His voice of cheer;  
And just the time I need Him He’s always near.

He lives! He lives! Christ Jesus lives today!  
He walks with me and talks with me  
Along life’s narrow way.  
He lives! He lives! Salvation to impart!  
You ask me how I know He lives?  
He lives within my heart.



What a powerful and meaningful song. Soon after I was saved, I heard this song and it has touched me ever since. What a joy it is to serve a living Savior—a Savior that shed His blood for me, so my sins would be forgiven; and that was raised from the dead, so that we could also be raised from the dead and live with the Lord Jesus Christ forever!

I know many times in my life He has been with me. I have seen many miraculous things that He has done. I have been awakened in the middle of the night to pray for needs and people whose lives have been spared. I have felt Him with me at times of danger and have received prophetic words from Him. I could go on and on. I am blessed to be a Christian and excited to experience His resurrection again this Easter.

(Continued on Pg. 2)



# It's Still Your Choice

By Alton Dan Smith

At a definitive moment of faith in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, people make a decision to become His disciples. Thus, we embark on the most memorable and life-changing adventure beyond our imagination.

This new life, however, is not totally substantiated by a single decision. The "new born" experience is replete with other spiritual intersections where, as we stand at these crossroads, our will must be repeatedly exercised. We must continue to grow from this initial life changing encounter into the stature of Christ's behavior and the maturity of Christian living. Some of the most critical and challenging moments in this journey of growth will require the exercise of a conscious volition.

As spiritual growth becomes paramount in the life of the new believer, it is in a "growing environment" that we are nurtured to become all that Christ intends for us to be. This environment is not exclusively an innate process. Neither does it come by osmosis. Rather, it is realized by applying certain principles that effect this development. These fundamentals must be put in motion by specific choices of the heart.

It is not possible to become an

automobile by living in a garage. Neither is spiritual maturity gained by merely associating with a church and its various functions. Privately, we must decide and desire for the continuous regenerative power of the Holy Spirit and the Word of God to produce new spiritual cells within us. It is still our choice if this miracle of maturation does occur. It is when we are constantly saying a simple "Yes, Lord" that the miracle of growth continues.



The wonder of growth should really be deemed no less in importance than the miracle of birth. Both events are influenced by the power of life's creative processes, and each experience has its respective compensations. In Christ, we can initially receive the blessings of a new life with its eternal rewards. As we consciously decide to continue enlarging our faith, we are also recompensed with the more abundant life (John 10:10)! This abundance of fruitfulness, virtuousness, and power will only come in its fullness, however, as

we decide to experience every level of spirit life that God's Word permits and encourages us to pursue. We must still make the choice!

Jesus spoke to his disciples about the "greater works" that they should do when He was ascended to His Father (John 14:12). He, very clearly, was referring to the corporate abilities of the born again believers universally, and in particular, to the individual Christian who grows from a babe to the fullness of Christ (Ephesians 4:13).

Babies cannot do what grown-ups do! To accomplish these greater works of power, we must be people of spiritual stature and power. To do Christ's bidding in its entirety, we must decide to become a complete disciple, who is growing, spiritually armed, and trained for the task.

We were not drafted into the kingdom of God. The only compulsion was the plea of a loving, dying Savior who asked us to follow Him. We made the choice to say yes or no. If you have chosen Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, the challenge now is put forth to continue seeking for the higher call of "growing up into Him in all things, which is the head, even Christ" (Ephesians 4:15). It's still your choice!

## "Celebrate the Resurrection" ~ Continued from pg. 1

We are living in very trying times in our country and around the world. The Covid virus has turned our world upside down as well as the secular attack on our church and Christian beliefs. Will we be seeing times like the first Christians saw after the resurrection of Jesus Christ? They were beaten and commanded not to use the name of Jesus, but they went out and preached and healed in the name of Jesus anyway. They knew, believed, and lived the resurrection life of Christ. I pray and hope that we can meet all the challenges coming our way with the same joy and power as the apostles and the early church did.

I know we have seen missionaries and pastors die from cancer and Covid this past year. I grieve for their families and pray for their loss; but I rejoice as those saints have been resurrected and rejoice with the Father and Son in heaven where we will see them again someday.

We are commanded to occupy till He comes, so I pray that I can fulfill His purpose for me when I am here on earth and continue to rejoice and praise the Lord for His resurrection.



# DNA of IMA

## Part 3: The Respect Dynamic



By Dr. Timothy L. Warner; IMA National Chairman

Wise men check out the foundation upon which a building is constructed (I Cor. 3:11). Thus far, we have considered that in order for one to function well and wisely build upon our organizational base, we must know the DNA. We have considered IMA's emphasis of the Holy Spirit empowering and passion to promote missions.



Today, we shall discover a well-founded virtue called respecting a fellow minister's personal beliefs, even when they differ from our own. Of course, we are not speaking of stalwart Biblical doctrines, but rather one's personal perspective on the finer points of the Christian faith. This particular merit of the IMA is why we are a successful ministerial fellowship.

The spirit of IMA founders and original members was one that fostered an attitude of respect. The word RESPECT comes from an old French word that meant to [have a] "relationship, regard or consideration" for another person. Further, when translated into Latin (and later English), it carried the idea to look back and reconsider. Literally, it meant to (re), again and (spek), to observe. Respect is the "feeling of esteem excited by attitudes of another." Scripture uses this word in both Old and New Testaments.

The IMA captured "respect" as a founding value; it is part of our DNA.



I've personally witnessed IMA

table talk and official business transacted through respect for others. Politics has lost it; education is searching for it; business has cashed in on it; families have tossed it to the wind; gospel ministers must embrace RESPECT! I've heard things said like: "we can differ on minor doctrines, as long as we respect each other's pulpits" and "the IMA has room for brethren who differ in opinions, such as the how-to's of applying our faith."

I saw one seasoned IMA minister stand behind two ministers that were struggling in a relational issue. They had not spoken to one another for a long time. The minister said, "You brothers need to talk." He and some others then exited the room and from a distance, I watched those two IMA comrades talk, express differences, soften their hearts, repent and pray for each other. As a younger minister seeing this play out, I was so impressed with the respect virtue of the IMA. Brothers of difference were re-bonded because of respect.

May 1958 issue of the *Herald of Truth* features a copy of a letter on IMA letterhead that endorsed the "Five-Fold Ministry." At that time, there was a movement that God would restore all gifts, including apostles and prophets to the church (Eph. 4:11-12). Their reason for making this bold move was based on respect as they quoted what was stated in the [IMA] Constitution: "Differences of opinion on doctrine shall not be a barrier to membership as long as there is no contention and the pulpits and churches of others are respected..."

There you have it; by precept and example. The DNA of the IMA is to respect others that differ on minor doctrinal points. Once again, love leads the way for the IMA! Let's continue the legacy of respect for our fellow ministers; that is who we are. Respect was ours in the beginning. Let's remember this glorious dynamic today.



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