

with actions and words that attracted them, which gained their trust and respect.

Expect that rejection may happen. A friend of mine (Darryl) is a missionary in London. He made flyers to promote an upcoming Bible study that was geared toward Millennials, and he went to a local coffee shop to hand them out. Darryl gave a flyer to a young man, briefly explained the topic of the Bible study, and invited him to come. The guy's response? "This is what I think about God." Then he ripped up the flyer, stuffed it in his mouth, chewed it, and spit it out. Darryl calmly said, "Okay man. I get it. But if you ever change your mind, I'll be at First Baptist every Wednesday night at seven." Over three months later, that young man actually showed up at the Bible study and sat quietly in the back of the room. He came again the next week, and the next, and the next. Fast forward three years: his name is Austin and he's now a devout believer and a youth ministry leader at First Baptist. Only God can take a raging pit bull and transform him into a lovable Labrador.

I've been a retail pharmacist working at the same independent pharmacy for 29 years. I work very limited hours now, but for more than two decades I kept a rigid, full time schedule. Though most of my patients were Labradors, I've had my fair share of pit bulls. In my BC (Before Christ) days, I growled at them when they annoyed me. And if they bit me, I'd bite them right back. Stop yelling at me. I'm a health professional. I will not be spoken to like that. It's not my fault that your copay is \$75. So I was once a pit bull myself, completely unaware that I was trotting along the broad road that leads to destruction. After my husband was killed on September 11, 2001, God used many different people to guide me to the narrow road that leads to life. I thank Him every day for saving me, and for using those people to bring me to Jesus.

If only I would react to lost people the same way I reacted to the lost labs on Highway 70 – with an extreme sense of urgency. If only I would go out of my way for them, as I did for the dogs. If only I would see them through the lens of eternity – as people separated from their Master who loves them beyond comprehension, people who are headed for a place where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. A. W. Tozer said this: "The world lives in a time of crisis. Christians alone are in a position to rescue the perishing. We dare not settle down and try to live as if things were normal."¹

CPFI family, let's ask the Lord to put us on His Search and Rescue Team. Let's ask Him to give us the opportunities and the boldness to tell others about Jesus. Let's pray that we'll go wherever He sends us, whether it's overseas or in our own back yard. And as we speed along the highway of this life, let's pull over and give directions to those who are lost. We dare not settle down and try to live as if things were normal, because there really IS an extreme urgency: the Gospel is only good news if it gets there on time.

REFERENCE

Aiden Wilson Tozer, *The Root of the Righteous* (Moody, reprint 2015), 138.

Jennifer Sands is a pharmacist in New Jersey, but her life took a radically new direction after the death of her husband on 9/11. Not only did she become a follower of Jesus, but she also became a Christian Author and Speaker. Jennifer has written three books about her spiritual journey since 9/11: A Tempered Faith, A Teachable Faith, and A Treasured Faith. She also regularly addresses audiences both nationally and internationally with her message of hope and trust in Jesus Christ.

For more info on Jennifer's ministry, visit www.jennifersands.com

Dr. Warren E. Weaver Service Award “For Following our Lord’s Example of Service to Others”

The Dr. Warren E. Weaver Service Award was established in 1990 "to identify the person who most exemplifies the Lord's example in service to others through CPFI." The award is given only when the awards committee and/or the CPFI Board determine that there is an outstanding individual who deserves recognition.

The 2018 Dr. Warren E. Weaver Service Award was presented to John Cowley on June 2, 2018 at the CPFI Annual Conference and Student Retreat, held at Bonclarken in Flat Rock, North Carolina.

John has been an active CPFI member for many years and has served in many capacities including a member of the Board of Directors and various committee appointments. He is described as being very friendly to new attendees and well-seasoned attendees of the Annual Conference and always

displays a positive attitude and takes a genuine interest in others.

John is retired from a distinguished career as an independent community pharmacist. After CPFI founder Dr. Warren Weaver was no longer able to continue organizing the Virginia Pharmacists Association's CPFI prayer breakfast and exhibitor booth display, John stepped up and carried on with the effort.

Before each meeting of the Virginia Association, John wrote letters to the Virginia CPFI members and others, announcing the prayer breakfast and encouraging them to attend the VPhA meetings. As an active member of the VPhA and knowing key contacts at the VPhA main office, CPFI has been able to be included on the state meeting program. The VPhA also coordinates the prayer breakfast ticket sales for CPFI.



One year, while going to a meeting with a speaker, John was able to avoid a potentially tragic traffic accident. A large piece of cloth fell on the busy highway and it wrapped around the drive shaft of his car! As you can imagine, John had to get the car safely to the side of the road and remove the tightly wrapped cloth, before continuing any further.

John continues to be active in his 5000-member church and serves on the board of a local Christian school.

At the CPFI meeting in Colorado a few years ago, John needed assistance from Mark Johnson with programming his GPS to navigate to the meeting. In the same way, our distinguished awardee has taught us that God is truly our GPS in life and John has modeled this for us all.

May the Lord continue to bless John and his godly example. Please join the Board of Directors in congratulating John D. Cowley, Jr.

PAST RECIPIENTS	DATE	LOCATION
Nena Lindrose	June 17, 2017	Glen Eyrie Resort, Colorado Springs, CO
Greg Carlson	June 11, 2016	Springmaid Beach, SC
Wagdy Wahba	June 6, 2015	BonClarken, Flat Rock, NC
Dan and Sue Hussar	June 14, 2014	Springmaid Beach, SC
Clarence Gissendanner	June 8, 2013	BonClarken, Flat Rock, NC
Julie McDonald	June 9, 2012	Glen Eyrie Resort, Colorado Springs, CO
Earle Barton	June 11, 2011	Springmaid Beach, SC
Paul Kabanga Kapuya	June 12, 2010	Springmaid Beach, SC
Ralph Boyle	June 23, 2009	Palm Beach Atlantic University, WPB, FL
Christine Birnie	June 18, 2008	Glen Eyrie Resort, Colorado Springs, CO
Herb Hames	June 12, 2007	Springmaid Beach, SC
Bob Stillwell	June 13, 2006	Springmaid Beach, SC
Keith Allhands	June 14, 2005	Springmaid Beach, SC
Don Belt	June 15, 2004	Glen Eyrie Resort, Colorado Springs, CO
Lorraine Gribbens	June 24, 2003	Springmaid Beach, SC
Robert Watt	June 19, 2001	Springmaid Beach, SC
Ron Herman	June 6, 2000	Springmaid Beach, SC
Norma Robinson	July 24, 1998	Asbury College, Wilmore, KY
Gary Willaby	June 20, 1995	Oral Roberts Univ., Tulsa, OK
Andy Anderson	June 28, 1994	Wheaton College, Wheaton, IL
Harry Smith	Aug. 2, 1993	Campbell Univ., Buies Creek, NC
Fred Eckel	Aug. 5, 1991	Nashville, TN
Warren E. Weaver	Aug. 4, 1990	Asbury College, Wilmore, KY