



The **Faith Script**

Vol. 38 Issue 2

February 2021

*Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths. Proverbs 3:5 (ESV)*

~A note from the Executive Director~

### ONLY TRUST AND OBEY

Each year I read through the Bible. This year I am using The Message. Frequently, I identify a question or thought to think about as I read every day. The thought I am focused on this year is, "Mine is not to question why; mine is but to do and die." The idea for this thought is adapted from "The Charge of the Light Brigade" by Alfred Lord Tennyson, and is another way to express that all God wants from me is to only trust and obey.

This thought reminds me daily that I am a soldier in a spiritual battle as suggested by Ephesians 6:12(NIV), "*For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.*" Paul then describes the armor of God that I need to wear daily to stand strong as a soldier bravely facing the enemy.

I am also reminded that I am serving as God's Ambassador as stated in II Corinthians 5:20a (NIV): "*we are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us.*" As an ambassador, I am not representing myself, but I am representing Jesus and it is his message I need to communicate in how I live and what I say.

I have spent much of my Christian life asking God why. However, the more I come to know God the more I realize the truth of Isaiah 55:8-9 (NIV), "*For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways,*" declares the Lord. "*As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.*" Instead of asking why I merely need to trust and obey.

Peterson in the introduction to Leviticus in *The Message* says, "One of the stubbornly enduring habits of the human race is to insist on domesticating God. We are determined to tame him ... we figure out ways to harness God to our projects. We try to reduce God to a size that conveniently fits our plans and ambitions and tastes." I think my why questioning was to make God into my image and try to persuade him to support my plan, instead of seeing him as he is and joining him in his plan. As I

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I appreciate Fred's reflection on his commitment to focus on trusting and obeying God this year. We as healthcare workers have found ourselves on the frontline dealing with the pandemic these past 12 months. Most of us have not been able to work from home but have been in the pharmacy and the hospital providing the care that our patients have trusted us to faithfully provide. We have all been affected in many ways, some with the illness, some having lost dear ones, some comforting those in their last hour on this earth, and all of us having to trust and obey our political and healthcare leaders that have put forth requirements about social distancing and the use of personal protective equipment. Many have struggled trusting and obeying some of the mandates imposed by those in authority. But I want to encourage all of us to be faithful in the care of those entrusted to us and to be diligent to trust and obey those in authority over us. Proverbs reminds us to not lean on our own understanding, but to acknowledge Him in all of our ways. When we look to Him, he will make our paths straight.

The CPFI board of directors once again had to make a tough decision about whether to have our annual meeting and student retreat in person, online or a hybrid of both. We sought God's wisdom and were led to plan a virtual meeting. Because of the challenging times and the isolation I think it is more important than ever for us to embrace the technology that will allow us to gather and unite our hearts in prayer and fellowship. Even if you no longer need to keep up your

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continue to reflect on my thought for the year, I hope to grow closer to God, trust him completely, and represent him well as a soldier in the Lord's army and as an ambassador from His kingdom. This is not easy. It requires daily, if not moment by moment effort. My life verse is Romans 12:1-2 and it talks about a daily commitment. The Message paraphrases these verses, "So here's what I want you to do. God helping you: Take your everyday, ordinary life—your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking around life—and place it before God as an offering. Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for him. Don't become so well adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God. You'll be changed from the inside out. Readily recognize what he wants from you, and quickly respond to it. Unlike the culture around you, always dragging you down to its level of immaturity, God brings the best out of you, develops well-formed maturity in you."

I hope you will join me this year as a soldier in the Lord's army or an ambassador serving faithfully without questioning until in the words of that old hymn,

"When the trumpet of the Lord shall sound, and time shall be no more, And the morning breaks eternal bright and fair; When the saved of earth shall gather over on the other shore, And the roll is called up yonder, I'll be there." Join me in standing firm until the time "When our role is called up yonder."

Fred M. Eckel, Past President

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## Join us for our Online Annual Conference & National Student Retreat!



**2021 CPFI ONLINE ANNUAL CONFERENCE & NATIONAL STUDENT RETREAT**

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Declaring God's Glory Through Pharmacy  
Psalm 19

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**NATIONAL STUDENT RETREAT:**  
June 4, 2021, 8:00 AM ET to Noon ET

**ANNUAL CONFERENCE:**  
June 4, 2021, Noon ET to 9:00 PM ET (with dinner break) &  
June 5, 2021, 7:45 AM ET to 5:30 PM ET (with lunch break)

*12 Hours of ACPE Approved CE Available!*

your continuing education credits, please join us for the fellowship and interaction that we can have between sessions and during our break. The Education Affairs Committee led by Jeff Bates has put together another wonderful program. Details are listed below.

God in His sovereign plan has given us a certain number of days on this earth to be all that He has created us to be. In His timing, He chose to call Julie Copeland, our CPFI President's wife to join Jesus in eternal bliss on Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup>. The Board, her family, friends and her church had continually lifted up Julie before the throne of grace. We ask you to join us in praying for Jeff, his sons (Nathan and Matthew), Julie's mom and dad, and their extended family in the days, weeks, and months to come.

Sincerely,

Ron Herman, Executive Director

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**2021 CPFI ONLINE ANNUAL CONFERENCE & NATIONAL STUDENT RETREAT**

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**REGISTRATION FEE:**

PHARMACIST MEMBER \$150.  
PHARMACIST NON-MEMBER \$270.  
(includes cost of membership)

STUDENT MEMBER \$10.  
STUDENT NON-MEMBER \$40.  
(includes cost of membership)

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REGISTRATION OPENS January 1, 2021  
REGISTRATION CLOSES June 2, 2021  
*Register by March 15th to be included in a drawing for great prizes!*

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Visit [www.CPFI.org/events](http://www.CPFI.org/events) to learn more and register or call the CPFI office to register or request a registration form in the mail.

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*Leadership, Service, Support! Thank you!*

**The 1% Group 2020-2021 Members**

- Jeffrey T. Copeland, Founding Member
- Fred M. Eckel
- Daniel C. Spadaro
- Wagdy W. Wahba
- John E. Corkrean
- J. Michael Ross
- Eugene I. Erb
- Daniel J. & Charlotte Wilson
- Ronald A. Herman
- Michael M. Desist
- Daniel & Suzanne F. Hussar
- Keith W. Allhands
- Raymond A. Wodicka

**Monthly Sustaining Gift**

- Douglas C. Anderson
- Babajide O. Oguntimein

**Power Hour Gift Club**

- Dawn Battise
- Anne E. Clay
- Jordan T. Daniel
- Joy B. Greene
- Gary O. Lewis
- Eugene & Susan C. Lutz

*“For I can testify that they gave not only what they could afford, but far more. And they did it of their own free will.”  
II Corinthians 8:3(NLT)*

**APhA Virtual Annual Meeting & Exposition**

**March 12 to 15, 2021**

**CPFI Prayer Breakfast**

**Date: Sunday, March 14, 2021**

**Time: 7:30 AM to 8:45 AM**

**A Special Message from Jennifer Sands**

[Register and purchase tickets for this event](#)

**CHRISTIAN PHARMACISTS FELLOWSHIP INTERNATIONAL**

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### CPFI is subject to Financial Accountability

CPFI is a registered 501(c)3 organization. We depend entirely on your tax-deductible gifts and membership dues for the financial support of our ministry. Gifts are tax-deductible to the full extent allowed by law. (Consult an accountant regarding tax deduction of dues.) We are grateful for our many members who make regular contributions beyond their dues to support this ministry.

CPFI welcomes articles with a Christian focus. If you are interested in contributing an article for possible publication in our journal, Christianity & Pharmacy, please submit your manuscript directly to the CPFI office or to the editor. The deadlines for the journal: Spring Journal, December 1; Fall Journal, July 1.

## Short Term Foreign Mission Opportunities

CPFI partners with the Christian Medical and Dental Association, the Fellowship of Christian Nurses and the Fellowship of Christian Physician Assistants to send out short term medical teams through Global Health Outreach. The primary care teams are usually one or two weeks, and our goal is to have two pharmacists on each team. Below is a list of upcoming trips. For a complete list of the projects and dates, visit the [GHO website](http://www.gho.org) which can be accessed from the CPFI website [www.cpfi.org](http://www.cpfi.org) or the CMDA website [www.cmda.org](http://www.cmda.org).

GHO has begun to resume scheduling of some trips after about 50 trips were cancelled this past 10 months. New safety protocols have been implemented and each trip participant will need to complete online training before being accepted to participate on a team. **Please note**, recent governmental restrictions may force the cancellation of some of these trips. Here is the upcoming schedule but be aware that some of these may still need to be cancelled:

### Upcoming GHO Short Term Projects

<b>Apr 3 – 10, 2021</b> Nicaragua	<b>Jun 19 – 27, 2021</b> El Salvador
<b>Apr 10 – 18, 2021</b> Athens, Greece	<b>Jun 19 – 27, 2021</b> Nicaragua
<b>May 7 – 17, 2021</b> Bethlehem (Full)	<b>Jun 19 – 27, 2021</b> Dominican Republic
<b>May 8 – 16, 2021</b> Ecuador	<b>Jul 10 – 18, 2021</b> Dominican Republic
<b>May 14 – 28, 2021</b> North Africa	<b>Jul 31 – Aug 8, 2021</b> Honduras
<b>May 14 – 23, 2021</b> West Africa	<b>Jul 31 – Aug 8, 2021</b> El Salvador
<b>May 15 – 23, 2021</b> Dominican Republic	<b>Aug 7 – 15, 2021</b> Nicaragua
<b>May 22 – 29, 2021</b> Nicaragua	<b>Aug 19 – Sep 3, 2021</b> East Africa
<b>May 29 – Jun 4, 2021</b> Honduras - Surgery	<b>Sep 10 – 21, 2021</b> North Africa
<b>May 29 – Jun 6, 2021</b> Honduras - Medical	<b>Sep 17 – 25, 2021</b> North Africa
<b>Jun 4 – 12, 2021</b> Honduras - Surgery	<b>Oct 8 – 17, 2021</b> Thessalonica, Greece
<b>Jun 11 – 24, 2021</b> Zambia	<b>Oct 16 – 24, 2021</b> Dominican Republic
<b>Jun 11 – 19, 2021</b> Ecuador	<b>Nov 12 – 21, 2021</b> Athens, Greece

The GHO website provides a link for each trip, the name of each team leader, and the estimated cost of each trip. You may apply on-line to participate in the trip of your choice or e-mail Keith Allhands, [kwallhands@gmail.com](mailto:kwallhands@gmail.com) the Mission Committee Chair for additional information.