



Ventures For Christ, Inc.
Brochure #1

As a Christian leader
my goal has always been
to be a
practical theologian.

Nothing is more practical
on earth than the passion
for and the practice of
the “Christ Life.”

The presence and power
of the Savior can have
immediate impact
and effect on our lives.

You can endure
your agony, obey His
purposes and know
fullness of joy
at the same time if
the “Christ Life” vision
is the dominate and
unifying principle of
your life.
~ HDM

Your rank in heaven
will most probably
be determined
by your
level of praise
on earth.

~ HDM

The Ventures Vision

“In Quest of the Christ Life”

Dr. H.D. McCarty
President

If the American Revolution had failed, every signer of the Declaration of Independence would have affixed his signature to his own death warrant. Their names would have been lost to memory and their lives swallowed up in failure. But they won! And the belief for which they risked their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor lifted them to the highest echelon of human nobility and valor. They built their dream, and their dream built them! The United States became the most successful experiment in history of equality, liberty, excellence, and prosperity!

So it must be with our own “experiment of belief” if we dare to honestly examine our claim of being an authentic Christian ... a Christ follower. To sign on as a radical seeker of the Word of God ... the Christian’s “Declaration of Dependence”... and then to ignore or disobey its intent breeds insanity. By refusing to risk our life, treasure, and honor for Scripture’s revolutionary purposes, we reject our destiny as His effective disciple. Life becomes meaningless, insignificant, and boring apart from living it as an adventure *in Christ*. As Union General William T. Sherman put it, “*The beaches of history are bleached with the bones of those who at the moment of victory sat down to rest!*” The serious Christian cannot tolerate procrastination.

To earnestly pursue the Master and embrace His message and mission is to become a “significant play maker” in the cause of spiritual revolution. It is to declare yourself “a patriot of the kingdom” and to enter the process of experiencing what Scripture reveals as *the Christ Life!* Regardless of the surprises and the costs of obedience, *the Christ Life* disciple is amply rewarded on a daily basis. It is obvious that the Lord’s “game plan” for the world is to be carried out by “power players” who have His purposes as their primary life ambition and passion. Every Christian is called to be a “power player!”

In the Bible’s most image laden book (Revelation), the Lord Jesus identifies Himself by three remarkable titles. In four different places He first declares He is *The Alpha* and *Omega* ... next *The First* and *The Last* ... then uses *The Beginning* and *The End* ... and finally concludes with all three.

Studying the context and implications of these four declarations inflames my heart! The Savior teaches us about time ... He *is*, *was*, and *is to come*. He explains He was dead but is now alive, living. He proclaims to us His hold on the keys to life, death, past, present, and future. He tells us He is “beginning now” to make all things new. Lastly, He reveals creation will climax when we see His Face! Study it for yourself in Revelation 1:8; 1:17-19; 21:5-6 and 22:4, 12-13! Amazing! Thrilling! Compelling!

The Father’s challenging invitation here is inescapable. We are to learn Christ from A to Z if we hope to taste the fullness of His creative intentions. Alpha is the first letter of the Greek alphabet and Omega is the last. The Apostle John sees here three levels of Christian growth ... children, young men and fathers! Most Christians know only the elementary *ABC’s* of their faith. They know Jesus and His forgiveness but remain children in their thinking and acting. The young men (adults) ... eager, triumphant, and bold ... experience the *MNO’s* of following Christ but often mistake the power of the Gospel for the Person of the Gospel and diminish His attractiveness! The *XYZ’s* of our Lord’s wisdom and brilliance are grasped in depth only by the father-minded of His Church. It is they who have learned to think most fully as “The Father” about all things! They think with “His Mine!” They love with “His Heart!”

The supreme goal in life is to be Jesus to the world around you. It is to repeat His Life through your life.
~ HDM

Most people simply struggle. Christ Jesus teaches us to struggle simply. Knowing that difference creates the freedom to experience the splendor of the mystery of Christ in us.
~ HDM

Unless we see the world through the eyes of Christ, all of our major decisions will be faulty.
~ Ralph Winter

They have learned that knowing Him, enjoying Him, and making Him known is life's highest satisfaction and achievement. I John 2:12-14 and Hebrews 5:11-14 illuminate this theme clearly. Pursuing the Lord's promises precisely and yielding to His path increasingly is the essence of *the Christ Life discovery* (Psalm 119:32).

The mission that motivates Ventures, is to lead men and women to embrace the Lord Jesus as their only hope and Savior ... and then ... most importantly ... to enable them to "quantum jump" their faith by laying hold of His lordship! Those Christians who compose "the hungry remnant" must be trained in the path that will move them from *ABC*, through *MNO*, to *XYZ* Christianity ... from spiritual children to spiritual fathers. Yielded disciples yearn to be nurtured in how to "*eat and drink for themselves*" the Word that is written (Acts 17:11), the Word that is living (Hebrews 4:12-13), and the Word that is spoken by the Spirit (Matthew 4:4)! We must learn how to create habits that will increase our "spiritual speed."

Sadly, too many sincere Christians are imprisoned by, trapped in, and even content with functioning as a "human doing" rather than a "human being!" When Moses asked the Lord Who He was, the answer wasn't "*I do*" or "*I did*" but "**I AM**" (Exodus 3:14). This distinction has staggering implications for either grasping reality or pursuing illusion. Choices are inescapable and every path chosen has consequences. Truly, only two classes of people walk the planet ... those who "trust God" or those who "play god!"

Those who are ready to be delivered from the "Ego Life" to *the "Christ Life"* must understand and experience the "quantum jumps" that are essential to the process of human struggle, spiritual healing, and "father" maturity. This is a message seldom preached and taught, much less grasped by the children of God. The flesh is weak! The cross is feared! Satan deceives! *XYZ* truth is rare!

To take a quantum leap or to practice quantum jumps in one's faith and intimacy with Christ Jesus is THE most satisfying adventure of life. This process of revelation lifts you out of the world of human weakness and fear into the higher world of Father-strength and calm. It is to discover what really is and what really isn't ... what truly matters and what truly doesn't! It is to taste deep and ultimate purpose in the now of God's unquenchable promises rather than flounder and flop in the mirages of man's unsolvable problems.

Briefly, in physics quantum theory gives us the idea that the transfer of energy occurs in discrete bursts rather than in a continuous manner. For example, if you look at a light, it appears that the light is produced as a continuous stream. In reality, though, the light is being produced and transferred to you in a vast number of tiny bursts. The amount of energy transferred during each of these pulses is a definite amount or a quantum of energy. As an analogy, think of a doctor or nurse checking your pulse. They can do this because your heart supplies energy to circulate blood throughout your body in bursts, or quanta.

A person, a plan, or an idea takes a quantum leap when there is a sudden, spectacular advance, a major breakthrough, or a big jump in understanding the sufficiency and power of truth. To disciple Christians in what it means to be "*in Christ*" is to give them the tools to measure biblically their "truth pulse" or "spirit revelations." This insight will enable them to internalize their "quantum jumps" into the mind and heart of the Father. The ramifications are enormous. Just as the sun radiates its heat so also the Son radiates His truth. To experience daily this renewed energy of quantum jumps, or breakthroughs of spiritual revelation, is to live *the Christ Life* on earth. The Lord Jesus instructs us on this in John 5:30, "*By myself I can do nothing; I interpret things only as I hear, and my interpretation is just, for I seek not to please myself but Him Who sent me.*" In this verse, the most magnificent Person Who ever walked the earth, gives us "the secret" of how He did it. His habit was one of constant hearing and yielding to "His Father." Hence, He was victoriously sustained in the strength of continuous bursts, or quanta of His Father's revelational truth, presence, and purpose! Learning to hear the "bursts" of His voice energizes us to recognize the triumph of *the Christ Life*. The payoff is to see His Mind and sovereignty working in your every situation.

*In all Christians
Christ Jesus
is present ...
and in many
He is prominent ...
but in only a
precious few is
He pre-eminent.*

~ J. Sidlow Baxter

To follow purely in our Lord's steps urgently demands that we earnestly pursue and eagerly live this **Christ Life**. Remember His first words to His disciples on Resurrection Sunday, "As the Father has sent Me, so send I you" (John 20:21). He astounds them and us with the simple yet all encompassing command to go into the world and "repeat My life!" Amazing! What a focus for our ambitions in our daily lives!

The Savior demonstrated that "the will of God" isn't a "to do list" about who to marry, where to live, what career to pursue, or what decisions to make, etc. No! The "will of God" is to first grasp a vision of the Father enthroned in all of His wonder and brilliance. The "will of God" is a mindset of an eternal relationship before it is an obedience to earthly actions (John 17:3). We must pursue with a daily passion this personal revelation of "Who" Christ Jesus is before we give ourselves to "What" He wants done! (Ephesians 1:17; 3:2,5) The "will of God"... in its highest expression ... should not be viewed as an order from a military commander, but a wish list from your Lover!

After fifty-plus years of following the Master, He has burned and honed this message of the **Christ Life** into my being, my hoping, and my living. I am still far from what I ought to be, but I am far more than I used to be. The path producing a life of praise, prayer, purity, passion, purpose, peace, and pleasure must be a path that encounters and triumphantly endures suffering, battles, fires, rejections, losses, regrets, failures, and wounds. Only through intense spiritual combat do we seriously learn to see all things *in Christ* and become authentic candidates for taking up His kind of cross! Isn't that what a true disciple really wants?

Under the umbrella of **Ventures For Christ** I sense the Lord's leading to make this vision of the **Christ Life** message available to a new and broader vineyard. His pleasure and harvest will be our ample reward. My conviction is that Colossians 1:24-29 must be pursued and grasped by His remnant. It must be so if we are to give maximum evidence of Christ's agape love in us ... for Him, for others, for ourselves and for a desperately hungry and blinded world. To that end alone we serve Him best in our generation!

*Our light and
momentary troubles
are achieving for us
a significant, eternal
glory; human
problems are minute,
not worth comparing
to the splendor of
Christ's promises.
-2 Corinthians 4:17*

Colossians 1:24-29

*Knowing the riches ... of Christ in you, your
confidence of significance ... We proclaim Him ...
to make everyone an accomplished veteran of the
truth ... To this end I labor, agonizing with all
His energy, which so powerfully works in me.*

~ The Apostle Paul

(HDM Translation)

Discovering the Christ Life

*In panic and pain I sought to be
all the world could make of me.
I chased men's glories all my days
and boasted the phantoms of shallow praise.*

*At last, yet not too late, I found
the **Christ Life** path to solid ground.
My former life is nothing to me
As I drink His lessons of how to be!*

*Truth's counsel shouts, be quick to learn.
To ski life's slopes, use grace to turn.
Alone, your spirit must hear My Voice
and seek the pearls of highest choice!*

*Chase not the illusions on sin's empty sea,
create a relationship of depth with Me.*

*Listen, obey, endure – these three;
Yield to My cross and find you are free.*

~HDM

A First Word to the Reader ...

Two of my favorite publication secretaries would tell me this little brochure is “too busy” and “packed too tight” ... not enough “white space.” And I know they are right ... at least for the general audience. I am confident what is “too long” for some can be “too short” for others!

So, still carrying a little humorous guilt, I offer this brochure as it is ... a statement that only a hungry remnant would pour over word for word and still want more.

I have sought to catch the essence of what the Lord Christ has given me through knowing and loving Him for five decades! My thoughts here could be Chapter One of a book on *“The Christ Life.”*

This brochure is more to be studied than simply read! It is an outline of a life vision! If I visit with you personally or speak for your organization in the future you will have a “heads up” on what is in my head and heart! May these words help “lift” your grasp of our Friend and Master! Jesus! I pray He will reward you for your understanding and support!

BE A DISCIPLE

It can take only 15 to 20 minutes to lead someone to faith in Jesus as Savior. It can also take **15 to 20 months** to disciple that person in how to make going on with Christ as Lord a lifelong pursuit. Simply put, a person who claims to be a true disciple must be discipling another believer(s) in the paths of God! The goal of every Christian should be the wisdom that experiences “quantum jumps” in truth on a daily basis. This mind-set creates **(1) simple obediences** that lead to **(2) cross decisions** resulting in **(3) resurrection awakenings**. The result produces Christians who display *the Christ Life!* The joy of discovering such liberating revelation is the motivational power that compels us to share “the true Jesus” with others.

The Answer to Everything ... More of Him!

When Christian’s start risking what they have by sacrificial giving and dare to start testing what they believe by courageous sharing, they start changing their vision of abundant living. Though I shamefully regret not obeying my Lord’s words more earnestly and completely they have still been my path for over half a century. I am saddened by my many sins, deviations and acts of stubbornness, yet I find myself more joyful, expectant, content, and eager than at any time in my life for more of Christ

That first summer after I asked the dear Savior into my life in March, I memorized one of my first verses. I found it on a little lapel pin and bought it to proudly wear in my coat on Sunday. How foolish and naïve I was to think I understood its message while proclaiming it “my purpose!” Many years have brought me almost full circle. Only now is the deeper measure of Philippians 1:21 beginning to dawn on my tiny brain and pygmy heart. I no longer declare the truth of 1:21 ignorantly or boastfully but kneel before it prayerfully and humbly ... hungry for the splendor of the words to truly consume my life.

**“For to me, to live is Christ
and to die is to gain the more of Him.”**

So may it be with all ... few or many ... who are touched by the Lord Jesus through the conduit of *Ventures For Christ*. The great news really is that more of Him *is* the answer to everything!

The Christian life is not easy ...

It is not difficult ...

it is impossible!

The Spirit-filled life alone

will enable us.

~ Stuart Briscoe/Bill Bright



**PILOT-CHAPLAIN BRIGADIER
GENERAL H.D. McCARTY
USAF (RET)**

The President of Ventures tasted the waters of seven different denominations before being led by the Lord into the Southern Baptist fellowship. He also had extensive experience in five para-church groups before becoming Pastor of University Baptist Church in Fayetteville. From approximately 100 on campus his first day at the church, the ministry grew to over 2000 a Sunday during the heights of his ministry. He retired as Senior Pastor Emeritus after thirty-nine years of leadership in 2004. He served as a triple rated pilot-navigator-bombardier the first part of his military career before turning in his wings for a cross. As an experienced Chaplain in both the Air Force and to the Razorback Football Team for over three decades, he knows what it is to “accept people as they are and lovingly point them to where they need to be.” This is the heart of the Gospel.

Ventures For Christ is the agency our Lord has raised up to present Dr. McCarty’s fresh and impactful insights into the mystery of the **Christ Life** to a wider audience. The true gospel message is the **Christ Life** sought, found, enjoyed, demonstrated, and shared!

*Problems are nothing
more than the tools
God gives us to build
His promises into our
lives. Only fools don’t
use their tools!*

~ HDM

We invite your partnership
in sharing this message
that is almost lost
in the contemporary

Our goal at VFC is to impact God’s remnant with the precise teaching and calling of **the Christ Life** based on Colossians 1:24-29. We give constant attention to winning people to Christ as Savior and then aim at opening their eyes, minds, and hearts to the magnificent Lordship of His Cross/Resurrection.

Key initiatives include:

✂ **PROCLAIMING TRIUMPH**—Motivational speaking, teaching and **Christ Life** presentations are in view to churches and military/secular audiences through seminars, conferences, and banquets.

✂ **THE 70**—Is our discipleship mentoring strategy on **The Christ Life** for 70 key laymen and pastoral leaders throughout Arkansas. A Leadership Coaching Ministry for “spiritual directors” using the “*in Christ*” principles is a Ventures “70” Distinctive.

✂ **ATHLETIC PERFECTION**—From many rich resources we are creating a vision and platform where young athletes and their coaches can grasp a passion for wholeness and manhood. The aim is to select, train, and produce young spiritual coaches and disciple-makers!

✂ **MEDIA MASTERPIECES**—A quarterly newsletter, **MANDATE FOR LIFE**, will aim to clarify and restore Biblical humanity and truth in a confused world. Television/Website/Radio will be used to explain *A to Z Christianity*. A first book, *Stay in the Battle*, will introduce the liberating themes of spiritual combat as we live “*in Christ*.”

479.443.9474
hdm@venturesforchrist.com

Ventures For Christ, Inc.
P.O. Box 9474
Fayetteville, AR 72703-0025

479.718.7077 (FAX)
www.venturesforchrist.com