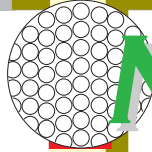


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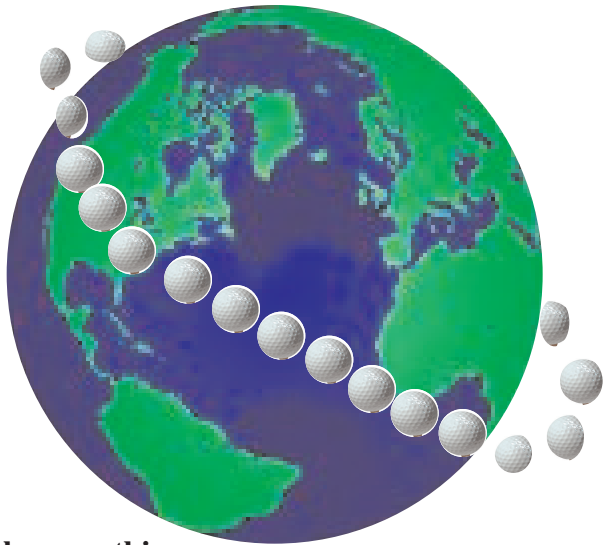
N THE GREEN

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HOW CAN GOD. . .?



. . . take something as small as a golf ball, and use it to spread His message all around the world?

How can God. . . take one, insignificant person, from some small, insignificant town, located in the middle of nowhere, and use it all to tell people, not just in the small, insignificant town, or even in the

entire country, about His love for them. How He wants to offer them free salvation. Wants to save them from the death of their sins. **How?**

If you're a Christian, you *know* how. You know how He chose Moses, in his "old age" to lead His people out of Egypt. You know that He can choose any of His people to undertake a mission. He can even choose YOU. In fact, as a Christian He *already has chosen YOU!*

Well, now that I have gotten this far, this article was meant as a reflection on a few e-mails I have received in the past couple of weeks.

As most of our members know, CGA - the *Christian Golfers' Association* - began in the fall of 1996 as an idea, or thought, or *mission*(?) that was placed in the head of one insignificant person in a small town, USA. He thought it was a pretty good idea, and, a good excuse to play a lot of golf.

A few of the local golfers also wanted to join as they heard about the idea. Then a few others from across the state heard, and they became members. Several churches thought CGA would be a good outreach program for the men of their churches, so they promoted the idea also.

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Join Us for a Cup of Coffee!

Join us for a cup of coffee each month. The price is right, only \$1., that's pretty cheap for a cup of coffee these days. Just drop a buck into an envelope and mail it back. We'll

put the coffee pot on, help support a nondenominational bible study, help a CGA member with his ministry in Kenya, help new chapters get underway in the UK, Johannesburg, South Africa, India and other locations..

Make it a monthly habit. Just drop the price of a cup of coffee into an envelope and mail it to CGA National. We'll put it to good use.

NEW on our web site - - - You can even make a donation ON-LINE! Just pull up our web site: www.christiangolfer.org and click on the "DONATE" button and follow the instructions. Pretty simple!

HOW CAN GOD. . .?, continued from page 1

One day while sitting in the office, a phone call from another state; another day more calls from other states until there were members from coast-to-coast. A volunteer computer “guru” offered to design a web site for us and got it up and running. And then one day we receive an e-mail. . .from Australia! Then another from the United Kingdom! And another from Ireland, from Kenya, from South Africa, from Finland, from India, from. . .from. . . from places I never thought had a golf course.

Nineteen different countries who wanted to be a part of sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ with their fellow countrymen. They are now a part of the Christian Golfers’ Association. Remember? The small, local golfing group who wanted to play a “lot of golf?”

What can we say? *How* can we say, “God, this isn’t happening?” “We can’t do this.” “We don’t know what to do.” And we hear a still small voice

saying, “*Be still and know that I am God!*”

With calls and e-mails almost daily from around the world, the unifying and strengthening theme is that these are from *Christians!* Christians from various locales and various walks of life. The unifier in all of these is Jesus Christ! Therein is our strength.

I began this by talking about “insignificance.” There were a number of “insignificants.” There were/are those that caught the vision and became charter members. Those that stepped up to the plate and volunteered to serve as the national board of directors to help guide the organization. Those who have volunteered at various times in the office for different tasks since CGA has no paid staff.

Then there are those individual “insignificant” folks who “feel” the vision, and participate by making small support donations. They understand that God uses the “small,” the “insignificant” to do mighty works in His name.

CGA PARTNER HOTLINE

Did you know, or remember, that one of the benefits of membership is the *CGA Partner Hotline*? This program is for members who may be traveling and would like to hook-up with a member in another area for a round of golf.

This provides the opportunity to meet and get to know fellow CGA members in different parts of the country. If you would like to be a partner on the hotline, we need your written permission and the telephone number where you would like to be called. Just drop us a note at the address on this newsletter or e-mail to christiangolf@ftc-i.net.

BRILLIANT DAYS, BROKEN DAYS

(Excerpted from the book, *Wisdom of the Way*, by Charles Swindoll)

Some days, sitting in my office, I’ll get a call from a member somewhere in the country, perplexed because he is having trouble getting a commitment from fellow church members and associates to get a chapter started or re-activated. They will talk about failing to get the chapter going for Jesus. But Jesus tells us in Isaiah 41:10, “I will strengthen you, surely I will help you, surely I will uphold you with My righteous right hand.”

“Our problem isn’t that we’ve failed. Our problem is that we haven’t failed enough. We haven’t been brought low enough to learn what God wants us to learn. Remember one of the songs from the Seventies we used to sing again and again? It mentioned how we learned to trust in Jesus and to trust in God by going “through it all.” Not around it. *Through it.*

Through it *all*. That’s the ticket. Through the victories and the failures. . .Through the brilliant days of accomplishment and the broken days. . .Through the heady days of laughter and success and those nameless intervals of setback and blank despair. Through it all, He is with us, leading us, teaching us, humbling us, preparing us.

As Christians we have been appointed leaders. As a member of CGA - YOU are a leader in YOUR community! *Through it all*, YOU can lead by sharing the story, vision and mission of the Christian Golfers’ Association - CGA - with those around YOU!