
HOLE CONNECTION

Community Bible Church | Jackson Hole Bible College | Jackson Hole Christian Academy

Many of you probably heard about the recent home-going of Billy Graham. As a boy I grew up in the influence of Youth For Christ (YFC). I can remember revivals in my hometown under that banner. Graham was one of the original evangelists for YFC in those days.

As a college student I had the privilege to travel to South America for three months with a YFC Teen Team. One of our team members was the daughter of George Wilson, who led the Billy Graham Association in Minneapolis. Our team was blessed to meet George and his wife Helen, and to be introduced to Graham's ministry.

Billy will go down in church history as one of the greatest evangelists of the church. Millions have heard him preach, many more millions via films, etc. Probably millions worldwide have trusted Christ as a result.

One of my dear friends who I went to school with at Moody and with whom I served on a staff of YFC in Chicago is Ron Hutchcraft. Ron had much more direct contact with Dr. Graham than me. Enjoy and be challenged by Ron's list of ten things he learned from Graham. Graham and many of his partners in ministry are gone now but their legacy lives on to glorify their Lord. I praise the Lord for both these men, both evangelists, who God has used in marvelous ways and who both directly and indirectly influenced my life.

Pastor Don

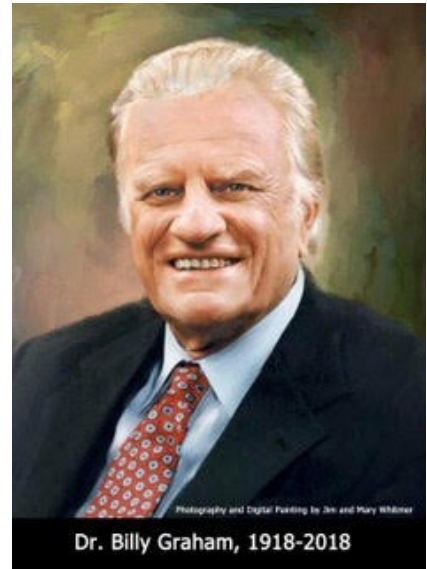
Ten Life-Changing Lessons Billy Graham Taught Me

by Ron Hutchcraft (bit.ly/hutchcraft-billy-graham)

I was privileged to touch just the edges of Billy Graham's life. He touched mine all the way to its core.

There are many who knew him intimately. What he taught me often came just by watching his life. And sometimes through connections at Billy Graham events where I had the opportunity to speak over the years.

But the Jesus-power and Jesus-presence reflected in Billy Graham's life radiated far and wide. I probably learned more about a Christ-honoring life from him than any other single person I've known. Sometimes you have to see it to be it. In Billy Graham, I got to see it. **(continued on page 4)**



CBC Missionary Report

(Andrei Bandura, 4th Quarter 2017)

We sincerely thank you for your prayer and financial support of my ministry that you provide for us with God's help. May our Lord abundantly bless you and your families and reward you hundredfold for your prayers and donations!

I am also grateful to Emily Moyer and Wynndelle Woodhouse, students of the Jackson Hole Bible College, Wyoming, for their personal letters and prayers. It was a great joy for us to read that young people are interested in my ministry and pray for me.

The critical period of my wife's health has passed, she returns back to life, she gets used to the new situation (she has a stoma on her left side). Although she faces other difficulties with her illness.

I continue preaching the Gospel and having personal conversations with non-believers in Lyubeshov and Lyabyaz. I also continue the spiritual work and serve among children with cerebral palsy and special needs people.

I have started an evangelistic work among refugees from the Eastern Ukraine, where there is a war. I try to help them in their financial needs and at the same time I preach to them the way of salvation through Jesus Christ.

Every Sunday we also have the children's Bible school, called "The Good News" that is conducted by the young members of our missionary team, Igor and Miroslava. On average, 20 children attend this Bible school.

After the summer camps to our church came 15 unbelieving teenagers, which expressed the desire to study Bible. The work among teenagers is done by Dmitry, Viktor and Natalia.

Please, join our prayers for:

- *Our families (God's protection and guidance);*
- *Our missionary team (for unity, vision, dedication);*
- *Ministry in the village Lyubyaz;*
- *Repentance of people in the village Lyubyaz and planting a church there;*
- *Work among disabled children and orphans;*
- *Gratitude to God that my wife has returned to the full life;*

May our almighty God bless you and reward you hundredfold by His great mercy for your sincere prayers, for your sacrificial financial support, and for your love, revealed to me and my family!

May God bless you with peace, love, harmony, mutual understanding in your families and church!

With love and prayers for you, Andrei Bandura



Meeting with special needs people

Men's Retreat @ OFCR

CBC's annual men's retreat was held at Old Faithful Christian Ranch (our sister camp up on the west side of Yellowstone) on the first weekend of February. Yes, Super Bowl weekend. Don't worry, we made sure to get back in time to gorge ourselves on food and celebrate the Patriots' loss.

Our study was centered around purity for men in the area of sexual addiction. Unfortunately, this subject often isn't addressed as seriously as it should. I appreciate our church leaders' heart to attack this common practice of sin for men. Christ has set us free from the bondage of sin; life in Him is far more satisfying than living for self.

Our group enjoyed times of fellowship, prayer, and work together as men. This weekend getaway is always refreshing both spiritually and physically.



We also helped with a few snow shoveling projects

Missions Week @ JHBC

Last year was our first time at the Bible College to include a class on missions. We were able to get a variety of speakers including missionaries from around the world via Skype. The week was a huge success, challenging many students to radically change their perspective on global missions. This year we were blessed with Ken Zuk, a missionary from SEND International, able to teach most of the course in person.

Our emphasis was on unreached people groups (UPGs) and proper interpretation of the Great Commission: to make disciples *of all nations*. That phrase in the greek literally means *to all ethnicities*, or people groups. The same word is translated "gentiles", "people", "pagans", and "nations" in other New Testament passages. The goal isn't to reach *as many people as possible*, but to reach *every people group*. It's clear from the Apostle Paul's example and teaching that this was also his emphasis and understanding of the Great Commission.

There are approximately 6,900 people groups that are considered "unreached". Over 1,300 of these groups are totally *unengaged*, with absolutely no access to the saving knowledge of the gospel. Yet merely 3% of missionaries go to unreached peoples. Only 1% of *missions giving* goes towards work with unreached people groups. The needs are huge, yet most of our resources are given towards areas that are already reached with the gospel.

Our churches and missions agencies need to reevaluate their hermeneutic of Scripture and Jesus' command to His disciples. We must realize that this has been God's main mission since He dispersed the peoples at Babel: to have all peoples praise Him. This is His theme throughout all Scripture, was His purpose for Israel, and is now His purpose for the church. Revelation 5:9-10 confirms that God's plan for the nations *will be completed*. This gives us confidence to obey, to make disciples of all people groups. For more information about a proper understanding of missions, visit bit.ly/UPGmissions.

(continued from page 1) Billy Graham has left some priceless lessons as a legacy in my life. By embodying some powerful principles of a Christ-honoring life.

1. Never encumber the Gospel.

Serving as chairman of the 1991 Northern New Jersey Crusade, I saw reporters relentlessly trying to get a Billy Graham quote on the hot button issues of the day. He never would go there. In one press conference, pursued by politically divisive issues, he smiled and said, "Back home in the mountains, we have a lot of kinds of birds. But I've noticed one thing about all of them - they all have a right wing and a left wing. And it takes both left and right for them to fly." A knowing smile. Then back to Jesus.

You could not get Billy off on a detour - not political, not theological, not religious, not cultural. Appropriately, this evangelist, who had once wanted to be a baseball player, always kept his eye on the ball. The Gospel. Unedited. Unencumbered. Uncompromised.

2. Be all about Jesus.

It didn't matter where you put him - a Larry King interview, the Tonight Show, a press conference, commenting on a natural disaster, speaking to the nation after the attacks of September 11, 2001. With wit and charm and warmth, Billy Graham would always bring it back to Jesus and His Cross. Because that's the only message that can enable a person to "cross over from death to life" (John 5:24). And because we are called to "make the most of every opportunity" (Ephesians 5:16) to tell about Jesus.

3. Always make it about others, not about you.

Any time I was with Billy Graham personally, he just wanted to talk about me, never about himself. He was that way with everyone. No sense of self-importance. He embodied how to "in humility consider others better than yourselves" and how to "do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit" (Philippians 2:3).

4. Never steal the glory.

"I am the Lord; that is My name! I will not give my glory to another" (Isaiah 42:8). I sometimes joked that Billy must not have gotten the memo about how important he was. He just always seemed amazed that God was using him. The word you keep hearing from people who knew him intimately or just casually is: "humble." He really was. In a world obsessed with celebrity and stars, Billy Graham refused to be one.

5. Never compromise your integrity.

It was a stroke of godly brilliance that motivated Billy Graham and his key leaders to commit to what they called their "Modesto Manifesto." Prayerfully developed in a motel room early in their ministry, it committed them to the high road in everything from how they handled money to avoiding even the appearance of inappropriate behavior with the opposite sex. And for more than half a century, "the

integrity of the upright" guided them (Proverbs 11:3). When the wife of a dear friend came to pick him up at the airport, he politely declined because of their rule to never be alone with a woman. Again and again, journalists tried to find financial wrongdoing in Billy Graham's ministry. Again and again, all they could find was an evangelist who would not get in a position where it would even be possible for him to be out of bounds financially.

6. Never be afraid to use new things to tell the old, old story.

When radio was new, Billy Graham grabbed it as a Gospel multiplier. When TV was young, Billy Graham began televised crusades. Internet evangelism - he was there with the Gospel. "That by all possible means I might save some" (1 Corinthians 9:23). When Billy became concerned that they weren't reaching enough young people, he accepted the counsel of younger staff to move from a conventional "youth night" program to a contemporary music concert. Billy would speak for just twenty minutes between the Christian bands. The new format - controversial to some - broke venue attendance records and brought amazing harvests.

Two weeks after their first such "concert for the next generation," I heard him tell about it to a gathering of some 2,000 evangelists, many of whom were quite conservative in their methodologies. He said: "When the first group was playing, I was in my trailer, listening with the printed lyrics they had provided me. And I said to myself, 'This may not be my style of music, but I recognize this message. This is the Gospel of Christ I've been preaching my whole life!'" Billy Graham wasn't afraid to change the package to reach more people - so long as the Message was Christ's unchanging Gospel!

7. What unites us is far greater than what divides us.

I saw the power of that when Billy Graham convened 10,000 evangelists from 200 countries for Amsterdam 2000. Virtually every language, every culture, every denomination imaginable - together under the banner of our crucified and risen Savior. I doubt any other person on earth would have been able to convene such an historic gathering. But Billy Graham knew it was the Cross and the Resurrection that was the ground on which all true Christians meet. And that's the ground where he chose to stand his whole life.

8. Prayer is the deciding factor in any work for God.

When Billy checked with his Crusade directors for a progress report on an upcoming crusade, his first question was always the same: "Are they praying?" He told us that the three keys to an effective crusade were as follows: #1 - pray; #2 - pray; #3 - pray! Sometimes associates wondered why he was taking so long to make a ministry decision. The reason was simple: Billy Graham would pray until he had God's answer.

9. Be transparent about your shortcomings.

When his relationship with President Nixon compromised his witness for Christ, he openly confessed his mistake and his commitment to never wander into politics again. In explaining one of his main reasons for building the Billy Graham Training Center at The Cove, he expressed his lifetime regret over not having studied the Bible more seriously and deeply when he was younger. We respected him even more because of a humility that wasn't afraid to say, "I was wrong."

10. Share Christ boldly, but always with gentleness and respect (1 Peter 3:15).

At a time when Jesus' followers are often perceived to be angry and condemning, Billy Graham leaves us a model that builds bridges, not walls. However lost, however hostile a person might be, he always treated them with dignity and respect. And that is probably why so many people from so many backgrounds respected him. And listened to his eternity-deciding Message.

A man who has been one of the most powerful men in Washington shared his memory of meeting Billy Graham. As a young man, this man's job was to guide Mr. Graham through the passageways of the state Capitol and to the inauguration at which Billy was to speak. It was only a few minutes. Seemingly, nothing very special. But this young leader, who would come to great political power, said: "I know I was just with a human being. But I felt like I was in the presence of the Eternal."

What more could any follower of Jesus ask than that? To walk so close to Jesus that, when people have been with us, they feel like they've been with Him.

Yes, Billy Graham talked with Presidents. More importantly, he walked with Jesus. And brought countless millions with Him.

Thank you, Lord Jesus, for this life well-lived. From whom we still have so much to learn.

And as we remember Billy Graham's life, it's important that we take a moment to look at the impact of our own life. Not on multitudes, but on the people in our personal world.

Because our mission from Jesus is the same as Billy's - to be "Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making His appeal through us" (2 Corinthians 5:20).

And our message is the same. God loves you. So much that He sent His Son to do the dying for our sin.

We all know someone who doesn't know our Jesus. For them, you are God's chosen messenger. In these turbulent, divisive, disturbing times, you have the Anchor someone close to you desperately needs.

And the life and death of God's best-known messenger of His love is opening doors and hearts for you to tell them about your Jesus.

This is a moment of opportunity, my brother or sister! Opportunity to help change someone's eternal destination.

If you're ever going to tell them about your Jesus, do it now.