

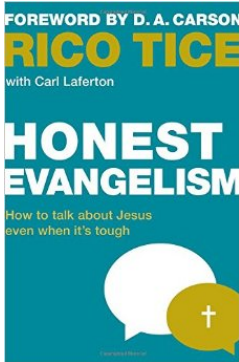
BEAR BULLETIN

• BEAR CREEK CHURCH •

BCC News



June 4, 2017



NEW AT THE BOOK TABLE: *Honest Evangelism* by Rico Tice. There are two kinds of Christian books that depress me. The first kind: most marriage books. (*You and Me Forever* is a welcome exception!) The second kind are books on evangelism. I get all excited about them, try to do what they say, fall on my face, and slink away in defeat. Don't you hate it when those who love evangelizing tell you it's easy, just use their simple method? (Only extroverts with the gift of evangelism could say that. And they are the ones who write the books.) *Honest Evangelism* is not like that. You have to love a book whose author begins "I find evangelism hard." It is not a how-to manual. It is not a Seven Easy Steps to leading friends, family, strangers on the plane and gas station attendants to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. One of my favorite

chapters is "Be Yourself." In other words, you don't have to try to be that guy who wrote all the how-to-evangelize books. If you are him, God bless you! You don't need this book anyway. But for the rest of us, this is a really encouraging book. It doesn't let us off the hook, but frees us from some burdens we don't need to carry, offers some practical tools, and challenges us to put our hope in the sovereign Ruler and Rescuer of the universe.

WHEELCHAIR PROJECT UPDATE: *One of our favorite things at the Wheelchair Project is being part of our patients' lives on an ongoing basis. Today a returning patient came for a new wheelchair, as he had outgrown and outlasted his now beaten up wheelchair. We were touched to hear that he had been up since 4am, so excited to have his new wheels. We quickly got him fitted in and he was overjoyed at his new wheelchair! He was so ecstatic that he couldn't stand to wait for adjustments, insisting it was perfect. It was a delight to ensure his wheelchair isn't just new and shiny, but therapeutically suits him. Your ongoing support means that our wheelchair fittings are not a one-time event, but an ongoing service that ensures best fit for all of our patients, at all stages of their life.*



WE NEED MORE STM's for Joni and Friends Family Retreat – Week 1 (Aug 14) there is a need for a few more – especially males; and Week 2 (Aug 21) there is a need for lots more – both genders. If you're interested, be sure to talk to us about financial assistance through BCC. You can talk with one of the Pastors or write us at bearcreekchurch.org@gmail.com. You can also find more information at: joniandfriends.org/family-retreats/for-volunteers/



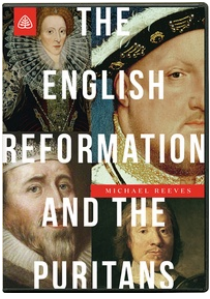
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SUMMER STUDY IN CROSSTRAINING: Few stories contain heroism, betrayal, ricocheting monarchs, bold stands against repressive authorities, and redemption like this one. And fewer generations have modeled commitment to the gospel and the application of God's Word like the Puritans of England. In this 12-part series, Dr. Michael Reeves surveys Puritan theology and the work of the Holy Spirit when the Reformation flourished in England. Major milestones of this movement underscore the Puritan's special place in history, as they displayed spiritual wisdom and discernment still benefiting pulpits and believers today. Join us in CrossTraining over the summer beginning June 18th as we go through this great video together.

BCC CAMPOUT JUNE 29th – JULY 3rd: Make plans to get time off for the 2017 BCC Campout. This is always a great time for your children, and to build friendships within your church family. Also, this is our main opportunity for baptisms, so if you're considering this please contact one of the pastors, or write us at bearcreekchurch.org@gmail.com.

No cost. No reservation needed. You can arrive anytime after noon on June 29th to find a spot you'd like for your campsite. Campsites are designed for tents and small tent trailers – no hookups for large RV's. There is water and we will provide portable restrooms. For those not roughing it, there are showers a little way down the road at Klum Landing. If you can't get away on Thursday - don't worry - people tend to arrive on Friday, and Saturday as well. If you're not camping, we encourage you to take the short drive up on Saturday so we can all be together for a time of worship, a potluck meal where we'll BBQ burgers and dogs, church family sharing (which is always very special), a short devotional, and baptisms in the lake. That Sunday in Medford, we'll have church as usual, and for those camping, Bill Pritchett will lead a small service at the campground.



REFUGEE UPDATE FROM DARLENE BOCEK: *We are so thankful to the generous friends who sent funds for the Christian refugees from Syria and Iran. We had more than enough to help them initially, and to continue helping them.*

Let me tell you about one lady and her daughter, Iranian refugees. To escape a horrible situation in Iran, she fled to Turkey, carrying her three-year-old daughter in her arms as she trekked on foot for 8 hours across the mountains between Iran and Turkey. They were shot at by border patrol and ended up hiding in a stable. But in the end she was captured by border guards and put into an illegal immigration jail for six

months. In the end, UN took on her case, and she has refugee residency in the meanwhile. While in jail she heard about Christ.

I met her when I was visiting friends one day, and before she knew I was a Christian she told me she was looking for a church. She has started attending our church, and she and I have begun a weekly Bible study to learn the basics of the faith. She is truly a new Christian, yet has a very deep heart of gratefulness to God her Father. I wish you could meet her. She has an amazing, resilient spirit.

She and others like her will be benefitting from the groceries and necessities we will be able to give, due to the generosity of our friends who responded to our call for help. There are more than 40,000 Christian refugees in Turkey, mostly from Syria. Through your support we are able to help people like these.

See www.bearcreekchurch.org for a list of our current small group opportunities

UPCOMING

Jun 18	Father's Day Picnic at Holmes Park - after the 2 nd service we'll enjoy a delicious lunch and great family fun!
Jun 29 th - July 3 rd	BCC Campout
Aug 14-18	JAF Family Retreat #1 at Twin Rocks - more details at joniandfriends.org/family-retreats/detail/twin-rocks-i-2017
Aug 21-25	JAF Family Retreat #2 at Twin Rocks - "