



BLADE

ISSUE 16

THE GROOVIEST PLACE TO BE

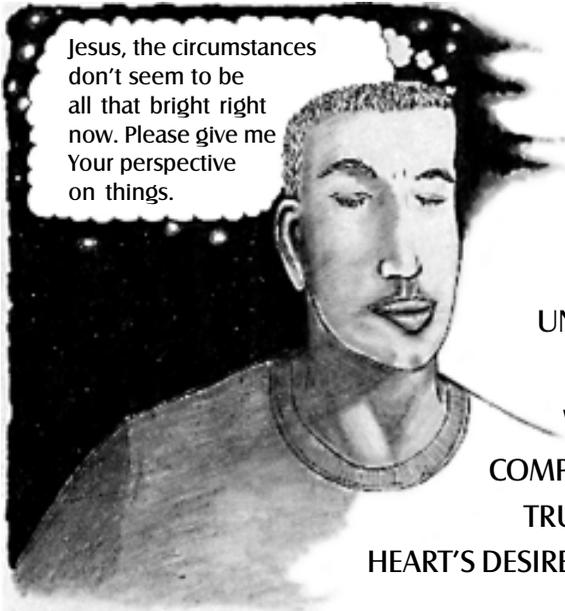
Come unto Me, all you who are weary, discouraged, unfulfilled or unchallenged, or in need of vision. Excitement, feelings of usefulness and happiness in Me—these things come from My hand. You can travel far and wide and search high and low, but the only place you will find real meaning and your personal purpose in life—the purpose which I've made you for—is by coming to Me and getting your joy from Me.

The coolest, grooviest place of service is in the center of My will. My will plus your whole heart equals the key to happiness. And boy, will you be happy once you're in the center of My will, wherever it may be!

Put your hand into My hand and I will be more to you than a lamp and better than a known way. I have made you and called you by your name.— You are Mine. I have a purpose for each life that I create, and you are no exception. You have a purpose, too, and you must seek Me to reveal that purpose to you. When you find that purpose, you will have found the joy of surrender, the joy of seeking Me to the full.



THE KEY TO HAPPINESS



Jesus, the circumstances don't seem to be all that bright right now. Please give me Your perspective on things.

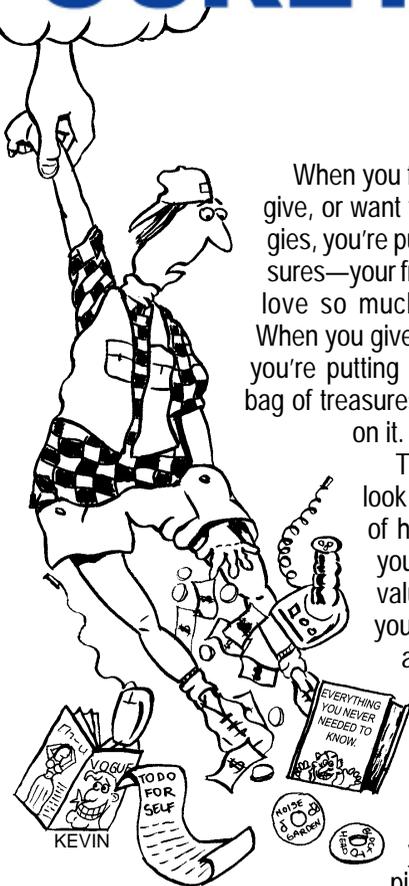
- FAITH
- UNDERSTANDING
- STRENGTH
- WISDOM
- COMPASSION
- TRUTH
- HEART'S DESIRES

When you were a child you thought as a child, you understood as a child. A child needs to see things, feel things, and have tangible proof. But now that you are becoming a man you are learning that the key to happiness is not "where" or "who," or the situation or circumstances. The key is your closeness to Me, your connection to My Word. This is where your strength will come from. This is where you will find true happiness and the fulfillment you desire.

So let Me make you and mold you and use you—as I want, where I want, and when I want—and you will see that I will not fail in all My promises to you. You will find all that you seek. It will fall on you, overflow, and be streams that never run dry. Just as My Word has said, give and it shall be given unto you, pressed down, shaken together and running over (Luke 6:38).

HOLEY

POCKETS



When you feel selfish or are unwilling to give, or want to hoard your time and energies, you're putting what you think are treasures—your free time and the activities you love so much—into your own pockets. When you give to others and sacrifice, then you're putting those treasures into My big bag of treasures that has your name written on it.

The thing most people overlook is that their pockets are full of holes, and only the treasures you store in My bag have lasting value. Those are the only deeds you get credit for. So there's really no point in trying to tuck treasures away for yourself, because the fact is that most of your life is going to be spent in Heaven, not on Earth. If you think about that, you'll realize that the fun, happiness, and sense of satisfac-

tion that you'll have in Heaven is a lot more important than the fleeting joys you'll have on Earth.

Giving to others and sacrificing of yourself does not mean that you'll lose out on the fun on Earth either! No way! I'll make it up to you for sure. So you won't miss out down there *or* up Here. You've got a sure win and can count on the prize to life's game of giving, if you'll do just that—give!

WHEN A MINUTE

TAKES A LIFETIME

I see you there, feeling puny, like you just haven't got an ounce of gumption to keep at it. But look over there, look around you, look all around—from every angle, even upside down—there are angels, spirit beings, a host of helpers, just awaiting your call. Not only that, but they are working like mad to bring you through even this one minute that you feel is taking longer than a lifetime.

They've got oodles of skills, plenty of power, tons of life, robust energy, and full, concentrated focus on YOU! Tap in, buddy; they are there for one main purpose, and that is to help you out. Do you believe it?

And I've got news for you! You may have a hard time visualizing it, but get this: All around you right now I have placed My Own personal shield of faith, to ward off these blows your heart is being hit with. I sent you a special aura, a special forcefield that not only surrounds *you*, but also surrounds the fighting warriors there with you.

You are walled in by a great shield of defense. I've got you safe and sound. You are not alone—ever. Fight on, and you'll feel My powerful warriors, the angelic beings fighting right along with you. You make Satan tremble! Keep at it!—We're with you all the way!



YOUR TWO COMPANIONS

By Mercy and Truth I am bringing you along. These are your two companions. They are walking by your side faithfully, day in and day out.

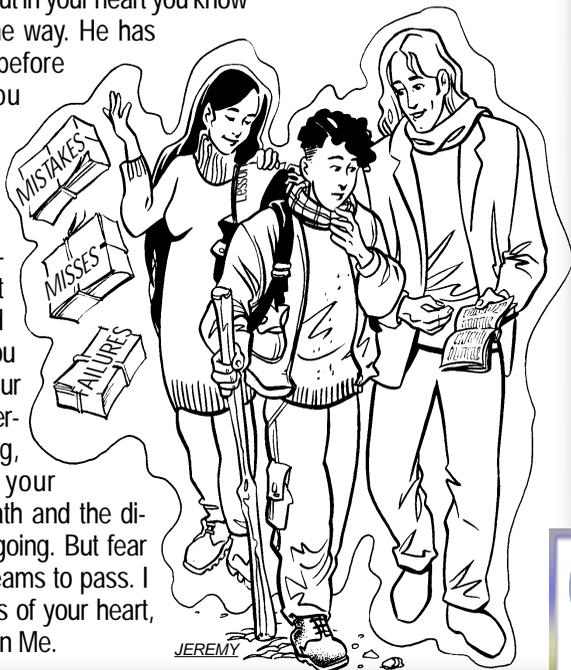
Mercy

Mercy takes all the things that go wrong, all the mistakes, all the misses, all the failures and everything you wished would be different. She never lets you carry them very long. She takes them and replaces them with lessons learned, growth, and humility.

Truth

Truth is the Word that you know—the Scriptures, Letters, and input that you have been given. He is your guide, showing you where to turn and what to do. Truth can sometimes be quite direct, quite honest and blunt and not always so easy to get along with, but in your heart you know that he really knows the way. He has gone down the road before and will never let you down.

So trust in Me with all your heart and lean not to your own understanding, and I will direct your path. I love you and need you and desire you close by Me. I know your heart, that you are wondering, wandering, looking, and searching for your place—the plan, the path and the direction you should be going. But fear not, I will bring your dreams to pass. I will give you the desires of your heart, as you delight yourself in Me.



LIVING IN A NO-PARTY ZONE

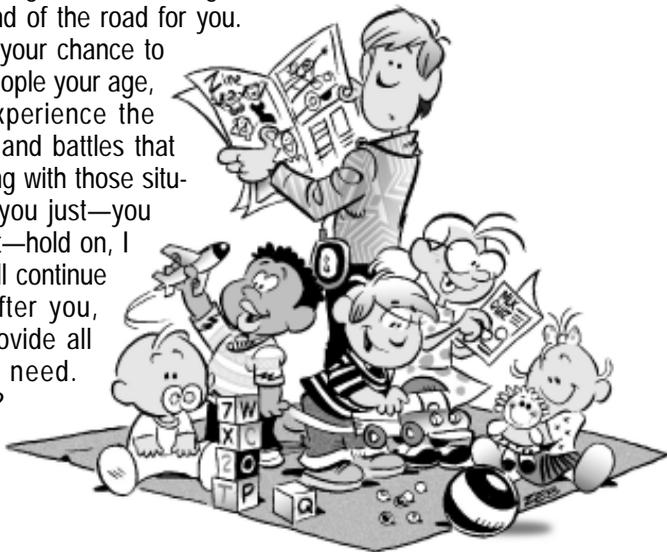
Psst! Over here! Yes, I noticed you. You're growing and becoming more of an adult every day, but you feel that everybody still lumps you in with the kids. There aren't others your age around, so you don't get to fellowship a lot. You think of the cool testimonies you've read about this road trip or that area fellowship. You imagine the fun dances and parties that you think must go on all the time, everywhere but where you are. Suddenly you find yourself thinking, *How did I get into this situation?*

A lot of people think the same thing about *their* area. The truth is, even though other areas have fellowships from time to time, and people in other areas go on road trips, it's not happening *all* the time. Those Homes have to deal with a whole set of problems or battles of their own, just like your Home does.

But I know it's frustrating because you wish you could—just once—go to a big party, or even a *little* party, and get to fellowship with other young people your age.

There is good news, though. This is not the end of the road for you.

You'll get your chance to be with people your age, and to experience the blessings and battles that come along with those situations. If you just—you guessed it—hold on, I promise I'll continue to look after you, and to provide all that you need. Trust Me?



“WHERE’S my life

Thanks, Jesus,
for this new day!



My dear son, I see your struggles. I know that your life hasn't been the easiest. You've been through a *lot* for your age. You wonder sometimes if you should even be going through some of these things that you go through. They seem like adult-size battles and trials. You've been hit from every side, and sometimes you just feel like giving up.

You've been told that now is the time that your life is changing in many ways, and you can see that it's true, but it mostly seems like *difficulties*. Your body is changing, your hormones are weirding out, you're feeling various emotions that you never felt before, and you're not exactly sure if you really want them or can handle them!



You're trying to find your place in this Family—wondering where you belong, where your niche is. You ask yourself where your life is going, and you want to have some control over its direction, but sometimes you just feel aimless and like you're accomplishing little or nothing at all.



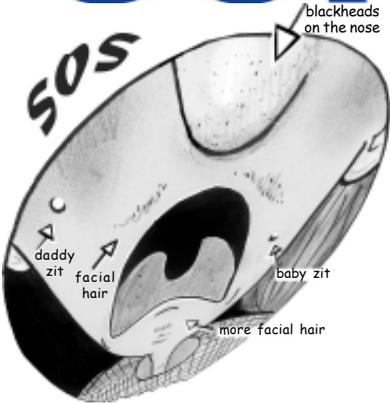
On *top* of all of this the Enemy is throwing his fiery darts at you, of lies and doubts against Me and My Word. Everything seems like such a struggle and you feel so alone in the things you're going through. You wonder if it's *normal* that you've had these bad thoughts, and it

scares you; you feel it might mean you're a terrible person, or are "going down the tubes" spiritually.

Well, firstly I want you to know you're *not* alone. I see your every difficulty. I know your darkest thoughts, and I *still* love you. Do you know why? Because you're My son, and because I believe in you. I have faith in you. I know you can do it. I know you can make this grade.



GOING?



I made you and raised you right alongside your mom. I've been your Father when your earthly dad wasn't around to raise you. I've filled that empty place in your life, and you have such a special place in My heart. If you just hang on to Me and look to Me during this difficult time, I know we will be able to pull through together, you and I.

We need each other, okay? Please don't turn around and cut Me out of your life. It's more important now than any other time that we keep a good connection and walk each step together. When you get bombarded with one of these big attacks of the Enemy, or your feelings are going out of whack, and you're freaking out—trying to figure out if something's wrong with you—just look to Me.



Why did I say THAT yesterday?



Secondly, there's *nothing* wrong with you. It's usually just the Enemy fighting you. But you need to quickly ask Me for My Word on it. I'm right beside you, ready at your side to give the help you need for any problem that comes up. Please remember that, okay?

I love you so much, son. Keep your chin up! You mean so much to Me.



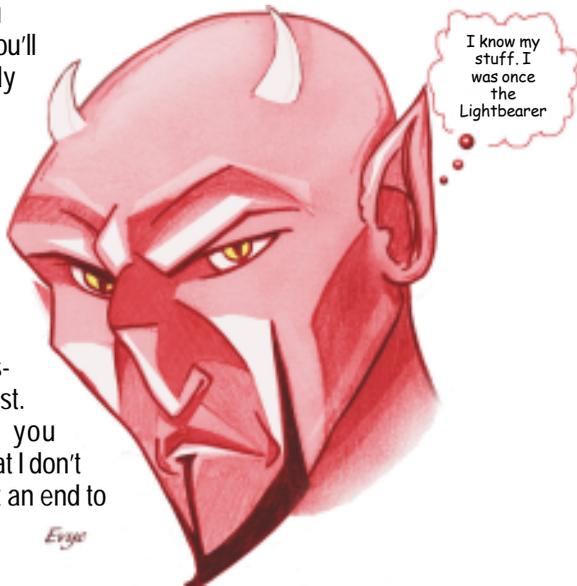
MILLIONS OF QUESTIONS

Sometimes you feel like one big question mark. You have questions about everything. *What is life all for, anyway? Why suffer? Why live? Why love? Why witness? Why marry? Why have children? Why, why, why?* The questions are endless, like the sands of the sea, running in a steady stream through your head. Frustration and anger can come into the big question mark that is your life, when there seem to be so few answers from those around you.

But guess what I am? I'm the period—and sometimes the exclamation mark! I can match every question mark you have with either a period or an "exclam." Sometimes you can be tempted to think that there are no other punctuation marks in the world—just millions of question marks, like the air

molecules you breathe. But if you'll just slip into My dimension, you'll see other things floating around in the air—all My periods and exclams, to put your question marks to rest.

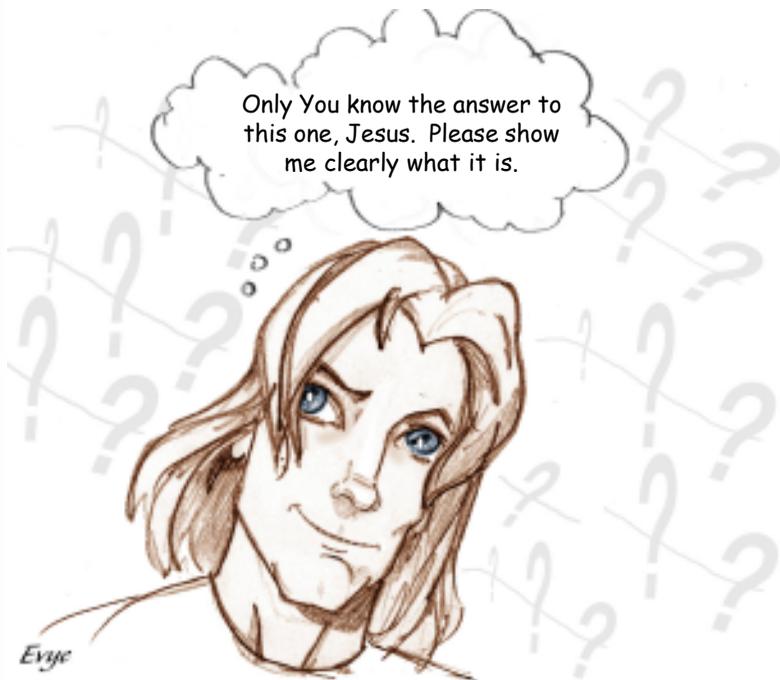
Of course, you know by now that I don't *immediately* put an end to



Erge

all your question marks. It's *good* for you not to know the answers to everything right now.—If you thought you knew everything, you'd be much the same as a lightbearer I once had named Lucifer, or you'd be like the man everyone called the wisest on Earth at one point—Solomon. Both of them began to turn away from Me the minute they thought they knew all the answers.

I answer some questions, and others I don't answer—yet. But I promise you, I'm saving up your questions, and one day we're going to sit down together. We're going to have a good, long chat, and I'm going to pull out your question marks from the past. Then I'm going to match each of them up with one of My periods or exclams—the perfect answer for each question. I'll even take you certain places in Heaven that specialize in providing answers. They're answers I've had all along. So just trust Me on this one. If you've got a question, I have the answer.



A ROLLERCOASTER YOU'LL LOVE

Have you ever been on a thrilling roller coaster ride? You hit each bend of the track with incredible speed; it dips low, and before long you're looking at the ground from a different perspective, as the roller coaster turns upside down. It's a thrill for those who love speed and extremes, but the roller coaster rides you've tried so far are nothing like the one I'm talking about up Here!

Here you don't have to pay for the ride, it's free! There's no time limit on the ride—your Heavenly body can handle it as many times as you feel like taking it. What's even better is that the ride is never the same. Heaven is not regulated by earthly confines.—Anything's possible Here. So if you're up for the roller coaster ride of a lifetime, you'll have to check this out when you get up Here.

You get into your seat—no need for all those safety straps and bars, as there's no risk of getting hurt in Heaven—and enjoy a ride you'll never get tired of. The rails—as you call them on Earth—change; they're never the same! They're designed to give you a new thrill each time you ride.

Sometimes I'll go and check out the ride as well. When I'm spending time with someone who enjoys a good, thrilling roller coaster ride, the two of us will enjoy the speed, dips, highs, lows, twists, and turns of the ride, exactly as we like it for a great thrill.

If you want, when you get up Here we can go for a ride too. After all, I made it for you!



ISAMU

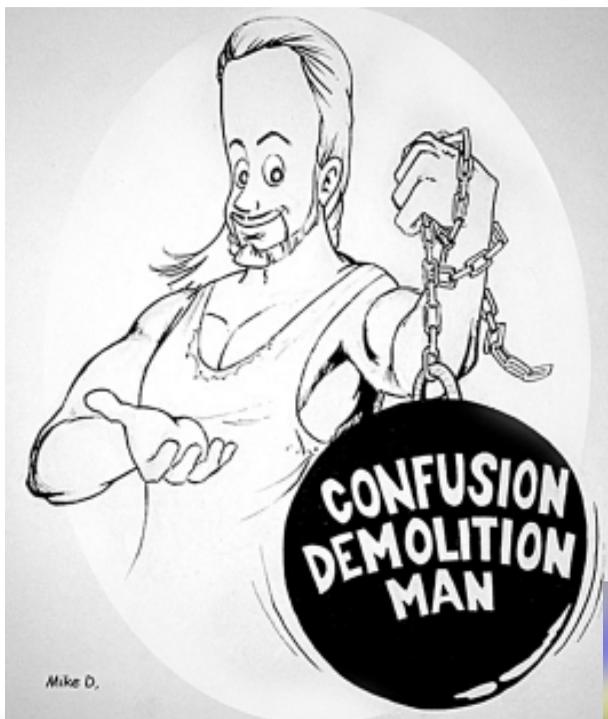
CONFUSION DEMOLITION MAN

Confusion is like a wall. It starts off with a few bricks stacked only so high, but as the questions flood your mind, the bricks slowly add up. You only add more bricks to the wall by analyzing your many questions and trying to solve them on your own.

What you need, to rid yourself of this wall of confusion, is to dial Me up with a prayer and say, "Jesus, please clear this confusion from my mind. Can You tear down this wall that's blocking out the sun?"

When I hear that, I respond quickly and efficiently. I swing My demolition ball at that wall and send the confusion bricks hurtling through the air, far from you. As the first swing of the wrecking ball hits the wall, the sunlight comes streaming in and you start seeing past the confusion and the confines of the wall that boxed you in.

You can give Me a call any time you need a wall of confusion brought to the ground. I'm your Confusion Demolition Man, and I'm on 24-hour duty.





DO ANYTHING BUT QUIT

I've got a song running through My head right now, a cute little song someone was inspired to put into words a long time ago: "God can do anything but fail." But the reason it's running through My head is not because I'm thinking about *Myself*. No, I'm thinking about *you*, and what I'm thinking has the same tune.—It's a little directive from Me to you: "You can do anything but quit!"

You're feeling a little discouraged. The Enemy's come in with some lie or another, probably mixed with a little truth. It doesn't matter what his lie or his half-truth is. It makes no difference. There is *no* reason to give in to that temptation to give up. So long as you're still standing, so long as you haven't given in to the Enemy, you have not been defeated. The only way he can defeat you (since he can't physically kill you) is to get you to give up. Giving up is a terrible thing to do.—That *can* kill you, spiritually.—It can kill your joy, your hope, your faith, your will to fight, and your testimony!

Like the quote says, "Defeat is giving up; victory is holding on." So to win the victory, just keep holding on. Holding on to what?—To My Word, to My love, and to My promise that you can *never* be too bad for Me. Hold on to your crown too, because I've given it to you. It's yours, and no matter what the Enemy tells you about not deserving it, I've given it to you because I want you to wear it.

And if the Enemy comes in again with his lies and discouragement and thoughts that are contrary to what I've been telling you in My Word, then call out to Me. I'll send an angel to lambast those thoughts and give that Devil such a beating that it'll be a good while before he tries to come back and tempt you with those negative thoughts again.

Together we can make it, you and I. Don't let that punk tell you anything different. You're doing a great work. Don't stop now, okay? I need you. And remember: You can do anything but quit!

You can do anything, anything, anything;
You can do anything but quit!
Hold on tight, hold on fast,
And the Devil I'll lambast,
You can do anything but quit!

The Sanctuary of Fulfilled Dreams

Close your eyes. I have someone I want you to meet. She is Irynn, a Heavenly bearer of imaginative thoughts. Her violet eyes sparkle with mystery and her black hair waves long behind her, creating untold images in its tangles. Her white skin, almost translucent, reflects the silvery moon that glitters above. She wants to take you somewhere. Won't you come along? Give a little jump and upward you glide through the air and into the Sanctuary of Fulfilled Dreams.

You fly full speed, with the wind whistling through your hair, till you come to the place she knows so well. It is a Heavenly mystery. It is neither here nor there—though it is a part of Heaven, you cannot find it for yourself—and there is nothing like it anywhere else. It has no set form, because it is to each his own dream and desire.

As you enter, you come into the initial portal of your mind's farthest creativity—things you didn't even realize were in your imagination. As your King, I know every wish that is within you, and so I cater to you personally. It does not matter what or where the setting, and now I only give you one example. As you enter your portal, it is dark and cool.

You come to a beach. The sand is soft and glittering with small diamonds. The water is iridescent, changing colors and hues as the light reflects off the waves that wash in front of your feet. The sky beyond the horizon is filled with stars and planets. As you look closer you can even see other galaxies. As you dive into the water you see there are planets and galaxies *beneath* the water as well.

When you emerge from the water, you come to a place under a palm tree. There is an arrangement of your favorite foods. A hammock is hanging between two trees. You lie in it and sleep, and when you awake, it seems as if you've been sleeping for one hundred years. Your hair has soaked up the glow of the stars and shines with an unearthly sheen, and your body glows from a glitter that the water has left on your skin.

This Sanctuary of Fulfilled Dreams is one of the wonders of the Heavenly City, and admission is given to all those who serve Me. I see all and know all and I want you to feel My love through the granting of your heart's deepest desires. There is no better experience than that which I allow you to touch, taste, and enjoy. For what you do inside this Sanctuary is given directly by My hand.