

Where do you turn when you have a bad day?

We have all had them, but perhaps the events of this man's day earn him the trophy of a very bad no-good day.

Here is the story. There was a man who was sitting in a bar, looking at this drink. He stayed like that for half-an-hour.

Then, a big trouble-making truck driver stepped up next to him, grabbed the drink from him, and gulped it down in one swallow. At that, the man burst into tears.

The truck driver said, "Come on man, I was just joking. Here, I'll buy you another drink. I just can't stand to see a grown man crying."

"No, it's not that," the guy said; "today is the worst of my life. First, I overslept and was late to an important meeting. My boss was outraged and he fired me.

"When I left the office, I discovered my car had been stolen, and the police said there was nothing they could do. I took a cab home, and as



steve rains

● moments from calvary

he drove off, I realized I left my wallet in the back seat of the taxi. I thought it couldn't get any worse, but when I walked into my house I found my wife in the arms of another man, and she told me to leave. So I stopped by a chemical store, and then came here. I've been sitting here thinking about taking my life, when you come in and drink all my poison."

Wow, that's a bad day, for both of them.

The Bible never promises a life free from pain and difficulties. In fact, it is those pain and difficulties that define us.

The secret to a successful life is knowing where to turn when you have a problem. That is what you learn when you read the story of the 10 lepers in Luke 17:11-17.

Here is the "cliff note" version — Jesus is traveling back to Jerusalem, and is met by 10 guys that have leprosy.

They ask Him to heal them, and He does, all 10 of them. The healing occurs in these men while they are walking back to the priest. That is what Jesus told them to do.

Here is the problem: only one returns to say "thank you." Jesus' final remarks to this one was "Rise and go, your faith has made you well."

It is an incredible story of grace, mercy, power, grief and celebration.

In the midst of this story you learn some important life lessons for us today.

Lessons like: You have a deadly problem that only Jesus can fix. In biblical times, leprosy was one of the worst things a person could get. Lepers were called the walking dead and were kicked out of homes and villages.

How does that apply to you and me? Well, we don't have leprosy, but we are born with a deadly disease called sin. It is part of the genetic code of every person except Christ.

In our day, every physical disease has a specialist you can visit. Well, with this sin disease there is a specialist too.

That is the second lesson: You must admit your need and cry out to Jesus. Let's be honest, we like to look around and find people that are in "worse shape" than ourselves. We say things like, "I'm not so bad. I've

never robbed a bank, cheated on my spouse, pushed drugs, hurt a child or practiced homosexuality. In fact, I am better than many of those who go to Calvary!"

Do you know one of the beautiful truths in Scripture? Sin is sin. There are no levels or degrees; it is just sin, and it is a spiritual sickness manifested in every physical life.

Every 12-step program agrees the first step is to admit. Admit whatever the condition or the addiction is. But, it is not just enough to admit — we must seek help, help from the One who can cure it.

Another lesson we learn in this story is: God's power is not released until you step out in faith. Jesus told them to go back to the priest. It wasn't until they headed back to the priest that they received the miracle.

There is powerful lesson here and it is this: You have to step out in faith and obey.

Let me ask you: Do you believe

in God? Do you believe God? That is how faith works. It is when you trust and obey God even if you don't have any visible physical evidence supporting your decision.

Here is a great definition of faith. Faith is coming to the edge of all you can see and feel and taking one more step into the darkness — trusting that God will either catch you or teach you how to fly.

There are a few more lessons we will look at next week from this incredible story.

It is my prayer that you would look at your situation and be able to start leaping like this leper because you have seen God move in your life. God is a God of the miraculous and may He do a miracle in us!

Have a incredible weekend. Steve Rains is the pastor at the Calvary Gospel Church, Fourth and College. Go to the church's web site at calvarygospel.net or e-mail Rains at calvarycolumn@st-tel.net.

Library gets new books, CDs, DVDs

The Goodland Public Library has added the following books, compact disks and DVDs to its collection:

In fiction: "Simply magic," by Mary Balogh; "Burning Bright," by Tracy Chevalier; "The Quilter's Homecoming: an Elm Creek quilts novel," by Jennifer Chiaverini; "I Heard That Song Before," by Mary Higgins Clark; "Tallgrass," by Sandra Dallas; "Skin," by Ted Dekker; "A Wicked Gentleman," by Jane Feather; "Heartstopper: a novel," by Joy Fielding; "People of the Nightland," by W. Michael Gear; "The Dead Room," by Heather Graham; "Catching Katie," by Robin Lee Hatcher; "The Alibi Man," by Tami Hoag; "Absolute Fear," by Lisa Jackson; "Obsession: an Alex Delaware novel," by Jonathan Kellerman; "The Surrogate," by Kathryn Mackel; "Obsession," by Karen Robards; "Revenge of Innocents," by Nancy Taylor Rosenberg; "Miss Julia Strikes Back," by Ann B. Ross; "Sixth Covenant," by Bodie Thoene; "What's So Funny?" by Donald E. Westlake; and "Fresh Disasters," by Stuart Woods.

In large print editions: "Out of My Mind," by Andrew A. Rooney; "Mr. Monk Goes to Hawaii," by Lee Goldberg; "The Dead Room," by Heather Graham; "No! I Don't Want to Join a Book Club: diary of a 60th year," by Virginia Ironside; "The Friday Night Knitting Club," by Kate Jacobs; "Last Days of a Toyshop," by Annabel Johnson; "Queen of Broken Hearts," by Cassandra King; "Sweet Dreams at the Goodnight Motel," by Curtiss Ann Matlock; "Moon Pies and Movie Stars," by Amy Wallen; "A Deeper Sleep," by Dana Stabenow; "Set Sail for Murder: a Henrie O

mystery," by Carolyn G. Hart; "Damsels in Distress," by Joan Hess; and "Texas Showdown: two Texas novels," by Elmer Kelton.

In non-fiction: "The Man Who Would Not Shut Up: the rise of Bill O'Reilly," by Marvin Kitman; "Spirit of Animals," by Sylvia Browne; "She Loses, He Loses: the truth about men, women and weight loss," by Karen Miller-Kovach; "Get in the Game: 8 elements of perseverance that make the difference," by Cal Ripken; "Castles of Steel: Britain, Germany and the winning of the Great War at sea," by Robert K. Massie; "The new American story," by Bill Bradley; "Flint Hills Cowboys: tales from the tallgrass prairie," by James F. Hoy; "In an Instant: a family's journey of love and healing," by Lee Woodruff; "Next Year Country: dust to dust in western Kansas, 1890-1940," by H. Craig Miner; and "Hotline Antique Tractor Guide" by the Heartland Ag-Business Group.

On compact disk: "In an Instant: a family's journey of love and healing," by Lee Woodruff; "The 7 habits of highly effective people," by Stephen R. Covey; "I Heard That Song Before," by Mary Higgins Clark; "Obsession: an Alex Delaware novel," by Jonathan Kellerman; "Obsession," by Karen Robards; "Fresh Disasters," by Stuart Woods; "Puss 'n Cahoots: a Mrs. Murphy mystery," by Rita Mae Brown; "Laced: a Regan Reilly mystery," by Carol Higgins Clark; and "We Shall Not Sleep," by Anne Perry.

On DVD: "John Wayne," "Kindergarten Cop," "L.A. Story," "Mystery," "The Pursuit of Happiness" and "Nick Jr. Favorites."

matters of record

Goodland Police
The following crimes have been reported to the Goodland Police Department:

May 3 — 1:54 p.m., 1209 Harrison, Jessica Mosness reported criminal damage to property.

May 4 — 8:40 a.m., 2510 Commerce, Presto reported theft of motor fuel.

8:17 p.m., 2160 Commerce, arrested Fritz Elie, Jr., driving while suspended and duty to give notice of accident. Case referred to city attorney.

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Worship warms the heart

Calvary Gospel Church
Pastor: Steve Rains, Ben Coats, youth pastor
Fourth & College • 890-3605
Sunday: Kid's Church: 10:30 am
Morning Service: 10:30 am
Evening Service: 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday: Royal Rangers Missionettes 6:30 p.m.
Adult mid-week service: 7:00 p.m.
Youth @ the Rock House: 7:00 p.m.
Small Group Ministries meets throughout the week.
www.calvarygospel.net

Our Lady of Perpetual Help
Pastor: Father Norbert Dlabal
307 W. 13th • 890-7205
Sacrament of Reconciliation: 4:30-5 pm Saturday or by appointment
Mass Schedule:
Saturday: 6 pm, Sunday: 10:30 am
Spanish Mass: Sunday: 12:30 pm

Sonrise Christian Church
Ninth & Caldwell • 899-5398
Minister: Charles E. Kerr, Jr.
Sunday: Worship Service: 9:30 am
Sunday School: 10:45 am
Team Puppeteers: 6 pm
Wednesday:
Junior/Senior High Meeting: 7 pm
Adult & Children's Classes: 7 pm
Jets, 4th grade and under: 3:30 - 4:30

Word of Life Foursquare Church
10th & Clark • 899-5250
Pastor: John Coumerilh
Sunday: Worship Celebration and Kids' Church: 10:30 am
Wednesday: K.W.A.M.!
Age 3 through grade 6, 6:30 p.m. (during school year)

Pleasant Home Church
Serving the rural community for over 100 years
Rt. 1, Box 180 • 694-2807 • 3190 Road 70
Pastor: Charlie Busch 694-2242
Sunday: Worship Service: 9 am
Sunday School: 10 am
Evening Service: 6 pm

Bible Baptist Church
Pastor: Michael Estep
Fifth & Broadway
890-7368
Sunday: Sunday School: 9 am
Morning Service: 10 am
Evening Service: 6:30 pm
Wednesday: Evening Bible Study: 7 pm

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
1200 15th Street • Burlington, CO
(719) 346-7984
Sacrament Meeting: 10 am
Sunday School: 11:15 am
Priesthood/Relief Society: 12 am

Iglesia Del Dios Vivo
La Luz Del Mundo
Spanish Speaking Church
Minister: Esteban Ortiz B.
1601 Texas • 899-5275
Daily Prayer: Sunday thru Saturday: 5 am & 6 pm
Sunday: Sunday School: 10 am

United Methodist Church Brewster
Pastor: Dorine Chambers
Worship Service: 10:45 am CST
Sunday School: 9:45 am CST
Winona:
Minister: Sheryl Johnson
Worship Service: 9 am CST
Sunday School: 10:15 am CST

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
Pastor: Rev. Ted Amos
Eighth & Arcade • 890-5233
Sunday: Worship Service: 10:30 am
Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.
Activities: Junior High & High School Youth Groups, Adult Bible Study, Choir, Men's and Women's Groups, Devotions Study, Monthly Fellowship
Special Notice: Handicap Accessible, Hearing Assistance Equipment and Infant and Toddler Nurseries Available

Kanorado United Methodist Church
Pastor: Leonard Cox 399-2468
Sunday: Sunday School: 9 am
Worship Service: 10:15 am

Church of the Nazarene
Pastor: Bob Willis
Third & Caldwell
899-2080 or 899-3797
Sunday: Sunday School: 9:45 am
Worship Service: 10:50 am
Evening Service: 6 pm
Wednesday: Evening Service: 7 pm

First United Methodist Church
1116 Sherman 899-3631
Pastor: Rev. Janet Hernandez
Saturday: Worship: 5:30 pm
Sunday: Adult Classes: 9:15 am
Worship: 10:30 am
Wednesday: Wednesday Nite Live 5:45 - 6:45 Simple Supper "Free will Offering 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Classes for all ages

Goodland Bible Church
109 Willow Road • 899-6400
Pastor: Chad DeJong
Sunday: Sunday School: 9:30 am
Morning Worship: 10:45 am
Evening Worship: 6 pm
Wednesday: AWANA (Winter) and prayer: 7 p.m.

First Baptist Church
Pastor: Travis Blake
Bateman's Funeral Home, 211 E. 11th
890-3450
Sunday: Sunday School for all ages: 9:30 am (Child care provided)
Morning Worship: 10:30 am
Thursday: Bible study 9:30 a.m.
Wheatridge Center

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
13th & Center
Church 890-2115 or Rectory 890-6969
Priest: Father Hal Lycett
Holy Eucharist: 10:00 a.m. Sunday
10:00 a.m. Thursday
Morning Prayer: 8:00 a.m. Wed. - Sun.
For emergencies 890-6969

Harvest Evangelical Free Church
104 E. Hwy. 24 • 890-7918
Pastor: Brian Fugleberg
Sunday: Worship: 10:30 am
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.
Wednesday: Youth group meets at 7 p.m.
at Scherlings', 827 Caldwell.

Seventh Day Adventist Church
1160 Cattletrail
Pastor: Mike Larson
Saturday: Sabbath School: 9:30 am
Worship Service: 11 am

Emmanuel Lutheran Church
13th & Sherman • 890-6161
Sunday: Christian education/fellowship: 10:15 a.m.
Worship Service: 9 am
Wednesday: Confirmation: 6 pm

Church of Christ
401 Caldwell
890-6185
Sunday: Bible Study: 9:45 am
Worship Service: 10:45 am
Wednesday: Bible Study: 7 pm

The following sponsors urge YOU to attend your chosen House of Worship this Sabbath:

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North Main

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208 W. 2nd

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3023 W. 31

Internet tonight! Call 899-2338.