

Hi Y'all. Here's my November newsletter. We did a lot this month, but the best thing was finally releasing my new book, *Running For The Glory of God*. It's targeted especially to Christian runners. (I know, not a huge target audience.) I hope that all of you are Christians even if you're not runners. I believe runners and non-runners will benefit from my running escapades and the lessons I've learned about God through them. I'd sure appreciate your support. Here's the link to get yours:

<https://www.amazon.com/Running...>



FREE BOOK



For those new to my newsletter this month, my book, *This is God's Plan?! How We Can be Certain in Days of Uncertainty*, is available to download it for free. <https://dl.bookfunnel.com/nfeg...> You can find links to my other books on my website, <https://www.bobjennerich.com>, or on Amazon.

Devotional: The Real Significance of October

Most of us know October 31 as Halloween; a day kids pretend they are something they're not by dressing up in costumes and trick-or-treating through the neighborhood. More important historically, it's also the day that Martin Luther nailed his 95 theses to the heavy wooden church door in Wittenburg, Germany, in 1517. Most often pictures artist's renderings portray Luther wielding a tool as big as a sledgehammer, defiantly nailing his theses to the door.

Most likely, the church door was probably more like a bulletin board, and Martin Luther was a good Catholic priest. He didn't intend to start a revolution, he just wanted to discuss the excesses and corruption of the Roman Catholic church of his day. The Church's practice of selling "indulgences," cash payments made to the church in exchange for the forgiveness of sins and to reduce time in purgatory, motivated Luther's actions. Luther believed that if the church could forgive sins, it should not charge money. God's grace is free.

Of course, Luther knew the church did not have the power to forgive sins. No one can forgive sins except God alone. That's why the selling of indulgences stuck in his craw to where he could not remain silent. He could have continued quietly in the priesthood and been a good Catholic soldier. But unlike Halloween trick-or-treaters, Luther could not pretend to be something he was not. He knew the Church was selling indulgences to raise funds to renovate of St. Peter's church in Rome, and he abhorred the Church's exploitation of the people who trusted it.

The nailing of the 95 theses was the match that ultimately set the world on fire. Luther may have only wanted to start a discussion, but his 95 theses went viral, and Luther found himself embroiled in something much bigger than himself. He had started the Protestant Reformation.

Luther did not enjoy the Constitutional right to free speech as we do in America. In fact, Pope Leo X excommunicated Luther from the Church, and the Emperor, Charles V of Germany issued the Edict of Worms (a city in Germany), which allowed anyone who found Luther to kill him without fear of punishment. Charles initially gave each German state the option over whether to enforce the Edict of Worms if Luther should fall into their hands. Later he revoked the option. Can you imagine that? The king approved of vigilantes killing Luther just for wanting a discussion. Power and greed can make people to do insane things.

Several princes and other supporters of Luther protested. They refused to obey the king over God, who prohibits murder. Luther's supporters became known as "Protestants," which is where the name derives. Luther escaped Charles V's death mandate and lived under the protection of a man named Prince Frederick. He translated the Bible into German so the average person could read and understand it. He preached the gospel of salvation by grace throughout his lifetime. It is impossible to overestimate Luther's effect on the world even now, 505 years after he posted his theses.

Luther recovered the gospel that salvation is by grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone. It was always there, but the Church had manipulated it for its own benefit. If not for Luther's courage, we might still be under the yoke of indulgences, fear of purgatory, and salvation by keeping sacraments. I praise God for Martin Luther. He knew if he didn't speak the truth, his priestly robe would be no more than a costume like kids wear on Halloween. The Holy Spirit compelled him to fight against falsehood and corruption. Where might God be calling us to do the same today?

Personal Update

On the racing front, I ran in the Colony half-marathon in the Colony, Texas. Too slow this year to place in my age group, but at least I finished! I ran this one with a couple of my young running friends. Hard to keep up with the young bucks!



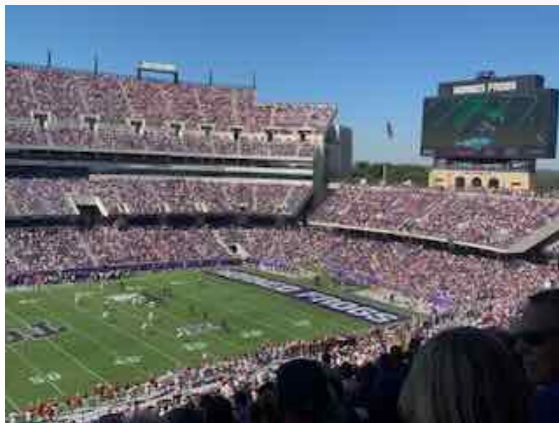
We saw one of our favorite bands, The Indigo Girls at The Granada Theater in Dallas. We've been going to their concerts for 30 years now.



We're college football junkies too. We went to the Red River Rivalry game between Texas and OU at the Cotton Bowl. Civil War in our house and I came out on the wrong end of this one. Been a Sooners fan my whole life and couldn't wear the burnt orange even though my son attends there.



We went to see OU at TCU the next weekend, and that didn't work out so well for this OU fan either. TCU pasted them.



We went to UT to visit our son and watch UT beat Iowa State. I can wear the burnt orange, but not against OU.



We went back to TCU to watch them beat Kansas State.



We were on a quest to see Aaron Judge hit his 62nd home run. I'm no Yankee fan, but I'm a huge fan of baseball history, and when there's a milestone to see, I'm there. the Yankees were in Texas for four games against the Rangers. We went Monday night, no home run. They were playing a double header on Tuesday. We went to Game 1, but no home run. After Game 1, we bought tickets for game 2. Finally, in his first at bat, he made history. So cool to be there for it!.





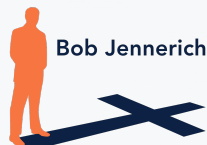
Grace Redeemer Community Church

I'm in the middle of a sermon series in Daniel. If you're interested, you can listen to the sermons on my website <https://www.bobjennerich.com> or <https://www.graceredeemerchurc...> If there's anything you need prayer for, I'd be happy to pray for you. Just let me know. Strictly confidential of course.

Reflection on God's Grace

The love of Christ always helps us see beyond the faults of others. - **Victor Manuel Rivera**

Romans 8:1: There is therefore now no condemnation for those in Christ Jesus.





Bob Jennerich



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