

Brian's life mission statement

My mission on earth is to enact Truth through songs, splashes of beauty, concepts, words, and human organization in ways that open profound conversations with God, and to help others do the same.

A few things I believe:

- I am a follower of Jesus Christ
 - I believe he lived and died and came back to life
 - that he created the universe
 - that he is separate from creation, though chose to enter it
 - that he loves me
 - that he came to release the physically, socially, and spiritually captive
 - that he is demanding and dangerous
 - that humans live forever, body-soul-mind-strength, in Heaven or Hell
 - that faith requires rationality, irrationality, daring, commitment, and choice
 - that he acts, speaks, and heals
 - that I don't understand everything, but can know enough
 - that he entered history at a particular time and messed lots of people's lives up
 - that he is gentle
 - I am a follower of Jesus Christ
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Vows

- Jesus - I vow to you to live a life of sexual purity. There is no circumstance—*zero*—in which sexual involvement with a woman other than Barb would be warranted.
8/10/90, Tahquitz Camp
- Jesus - I vow to you to live a life of spiritual purity. There is no circumstance—*zero*—in which personal involvement with another god would be warranted.
3/2/02, Culver City, CA

I am a follower of Jesus Christ. Who?

- The one in whom we live and move and have our being
 - God who rejected his rights and became a zygote, a puking, pooping human baby child of a disgraced teenage girl.
 - Healed sick people, welcomed children, affirmed women, scolded religious hypocrites.
 - Taught with wisdom.
 - Called everyone to change, repent and be his followers.
 - Allowed himself to be captured and killed by Roman and Jewish oppressors.
 - Came back to life.
 - Helps me every day.
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Some Morning Prayers

Father - Expand and sharpen my vision so I can see the universe through your eyes.

Son - Intensify my love so I will act with sacrifice for your kingdom.

Spirit - Deepen my longing for you so you can craft the New Me without hindrance. *Amen.*

Glory be to you, Father, to you, Son, to you, Spirit. As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be: Your Kingdom without end. Let everything I do today bring you glory and extend your Kingdom. *Amen.*

Some Evening Prayers

Look down, O Lord, from your heavenly throne, and illumine this night with your celestial brightness; that by night as by day your people may glorify your holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Visit this place, O Lord, and drive far from it all snares of the enemy; let your holy angels dwell with us to preserve us in peace; and let your blessing be upon us always; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for your love's sake. *Amen.*

Guide us waking, O Lord, and guard us sleeping; that awake we may watch with Christ, and asleep we may rest in peace. *Amen.*

Let the morning bring me word of your unfailing love, for I have put my trust in you. Show me the way I should go for to you I lift up my soul. *Amen.* Ps 143:8

All the Arts, from All the World, for All of God

Reality: People communicate in almost 7,000 languages around the world, not just through spoken words, but through artistically-rendered song, drama, dance, and story.

Reality: These people have nonexistent or imperfect relationships with God, struggle with violence, disease, social upheaval, anger, sexual promiscuity, anxiety, fear.

Reality: God gave every culture their unique gifts of artistic communication to tell Truth, bring healing and hope and joy in response to these problems, but many of these gifts lie dormant, misused, or dying.

Imagine this reality: All cultures are using all of their gifts to worship, obey, and enjoy God with all of their heart, soul, mind, and strength.

Affirmations From Friends, God

I removed these for this web site version because, well, I was embarrassed.

Traveling to ICTM, Durban 2009

- Look for contexts to talk about issues, ideas, research. Enjoy the sharpening.
- Ask people about their professional and personal lives. Star-breather holds me together and talks with me, so I can show interest, be truly engaged in their joys and struggles.
- Don't defend myself, SIL, missionaries. Speak frankly, clearly, as though what I do and who I am is worthy of interest and respect. It is.
- Every day - read Scripture, ask God for help and energy to learn and love, sing a song. Take the Renovare book.
- Do things in groups when they include women.
- Email Roger for accountability.
- Run or exercise three times during my sojourn.
- Do email for 30 minutes every day.
- Call Barb and Lydia a few times on Skype.
- Send a post card to Mindy in LA up.
- Father - please help me sense, recognize the people you want me to develop ongoing relationships with.
- Have familiar fiction – perhaps an audio book - to calm down with every night.
- Every night and morning - give God the people and events of the previous and next days, and Barb, family, SIL Arts work.
- Don't be uneasy, feel like I should be somewhere else. God wants me to be in Durban (right, Father? Right.).
- Remind myself that I have a PhD from UCLA, and am leading the development of deeply rooted innovative training. I have every professional right to interact with everyone, anyone there.
- Encourage and welcome others who need it.
- Each night, make a list of that day's deeds of God (Ps 66:5) that show all God does for me (16). Then say each thing aloud as litany, refrained by v. 20.
- Type a review of each day, with action items, people to remember, papers to get.

May the Mind of Christ My Savior

Devotional version

May your mind O Christ my Savior live in me
from day to day
by your love and power controlling all I do and say.

May your Word O God dwell richly in my heart
from hour to hour
so that all may see I triumph only through your power

May your peace O God my Father rule my life in everything
that I may be calm to comfort sick and sorrowing

May your love O Jesus fill me as the waters fill the sea
you exalting, self abasing - this is victory.

May I run the race before me, strong and brave
to face the foe
looking unto you O Jesus as I onward go

May your beauty rest upon me as I point to all that's true
and may they forget the channel seeing only you

Take My Life and Let it Be

Devotional version. Havergal

Take my life and let it be
Consecrated, Lord, to Thee;
Take my hands and let them move
At the impulse of Thy love.

Take my feet and let them be
Swift and beautiful for Thee;
Take my voice and let me sing,
Always, only for my King.

Take my lips and let them be
Filled with messages from Thee;
Take my silver and my gold,
Not a mite would I withhold.

Take my moments and my days,
Let them flow in endless praise;
Take my intellect and use
Every pow'r as Thou shalt choose.

Take my will and make it Thine,
It shall be no longer mine;
Take my heart, it is Thine own,
It shall be Thy royal throne.

Take my love, my Lord, I pour
At Thy feet its treasure store;
Take myself and I will be
Ever, only, all for Thee

Sustaining Scripture

- Johshua 22:5
- Psalm 52:8
- Psalm 63:1-3
- Isaiah 64:4
- Psalm 73:23, 24
- Psalm 80:3, 7, 19
- Psalm 89:15-17
- Psalm 147:10
- Isaiah 26:3, 4
- Isaiah 30:15
- Romans 8:31ff
- 2 Corinthians 4:10
- Ephesians 2:6,10
- Ephesians 6
- James 4:7, 8