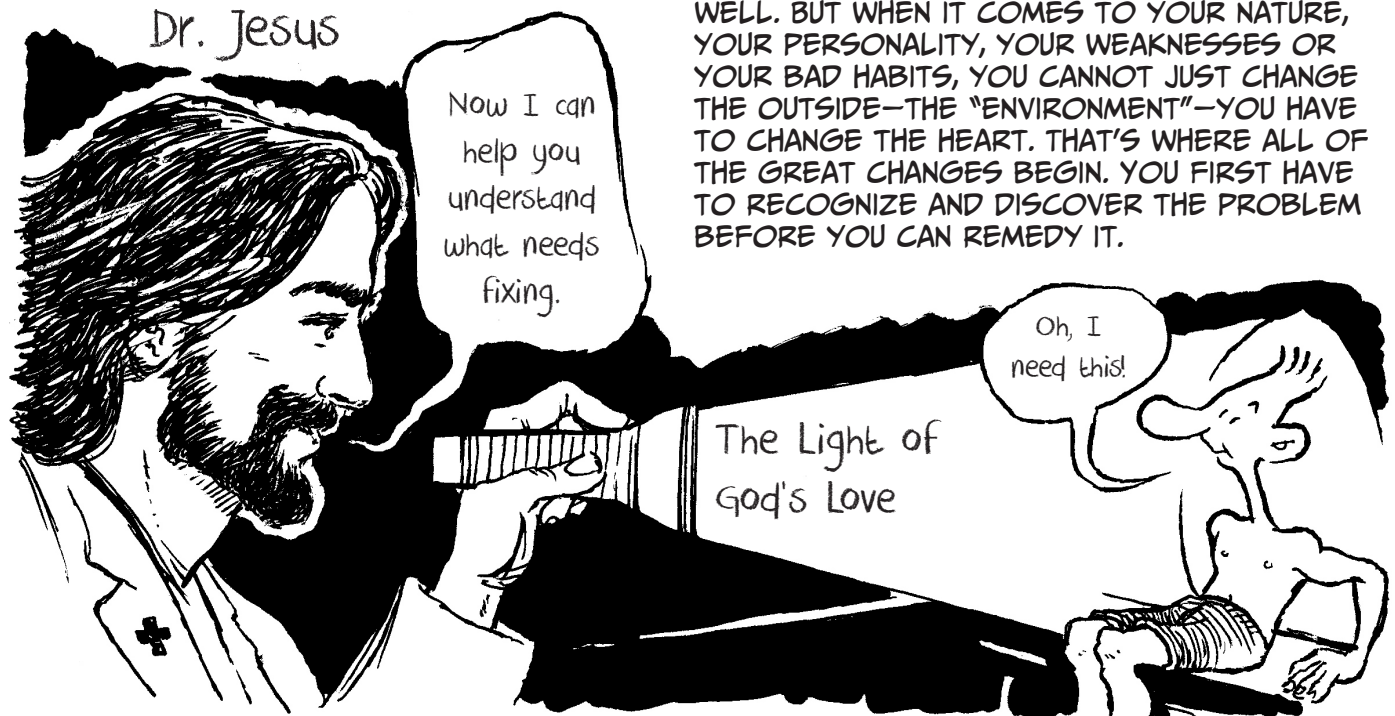
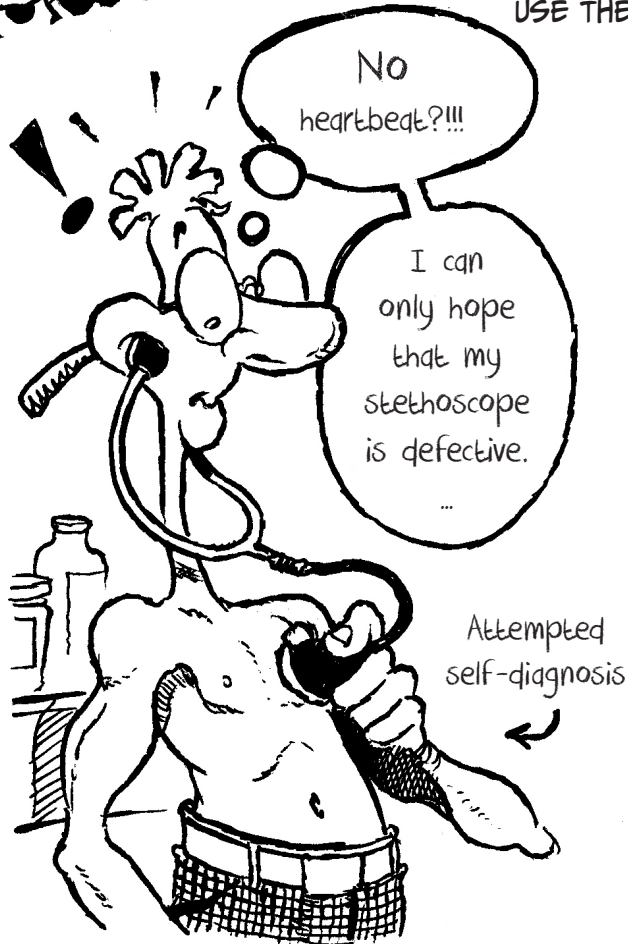


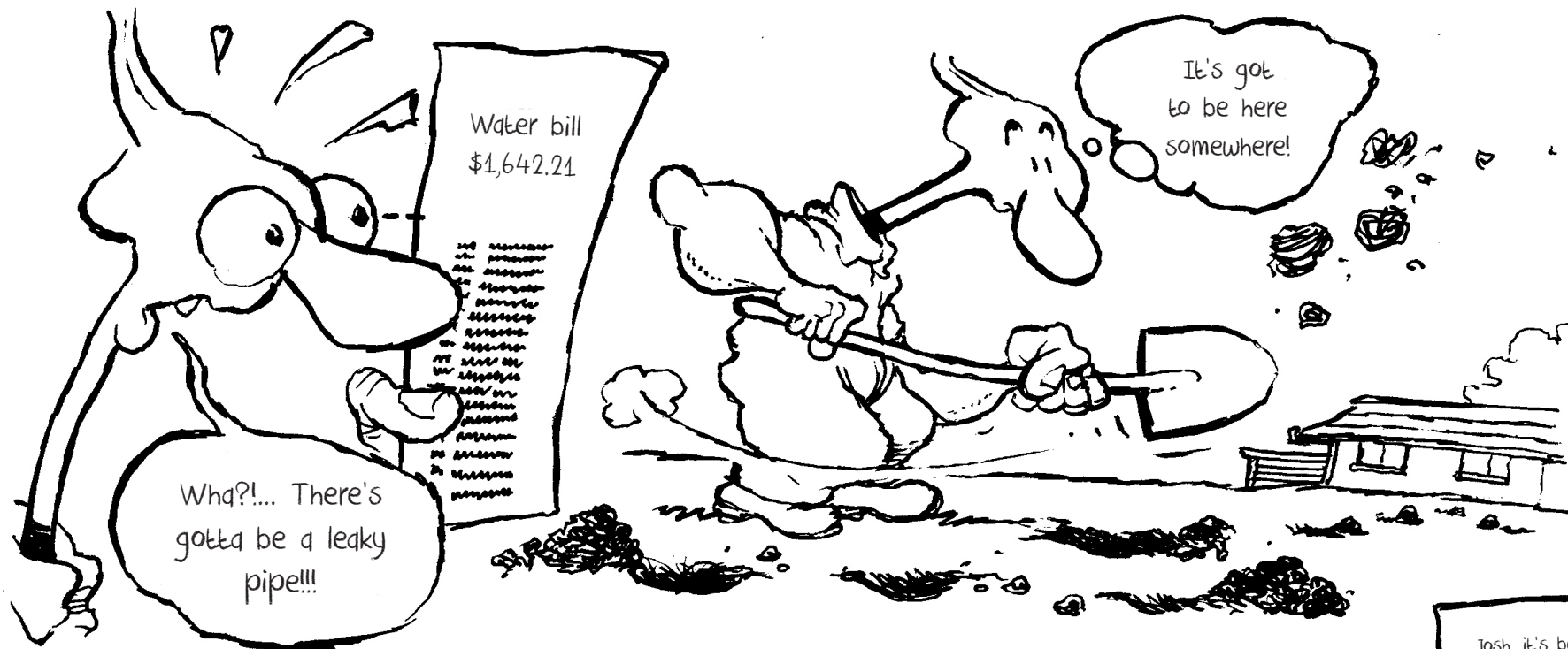
THE SEARCH FOR THE LEAKY WATER PIPE

GOD'S WORD SPEAKS TO EVERYONE, BUT OFTEN IN DIFFERENT WAYS. ITS TRUTH SHINES IN A *UNIQUE* WAY ON EACH PERSON'S LIFE, BRINGING FOCUS AND CLARITY TO PLACES OF YOUR LIFE AND HEART THAT NEED IT.

DISCOVERING THE DIFFERENT AREAS OF YOUR LIFE THAT NEED TO BE WORKED ON, DISCOVERING HOW TO GO ABOUT MAKING PROGRESS, AND THEN DISCOVERING HOW TO LET WHAT YOU HAVE LEARNED FROM GOD'S WORD WORK IN YOUR LIFE ARE THINGS THAT DO NOT USUALLY COME EASILY OR QUICKLY. SOMETIMES THERE ARE PERSONAL ISSUES THAT YOU CANNOT EVEN SEE FOR YOURSELF, AND WHEN BROUGHT UP, YOU SEARCH FOR AN UNDERSTANDING, BUT IT DOESN'T ALWAYS MAKE SENSE. WHEN YOU USE THE LIGHT OF GOD'S WORD TO BRING UNDERSTANDING, THEN HE CAN DO THE WORK.



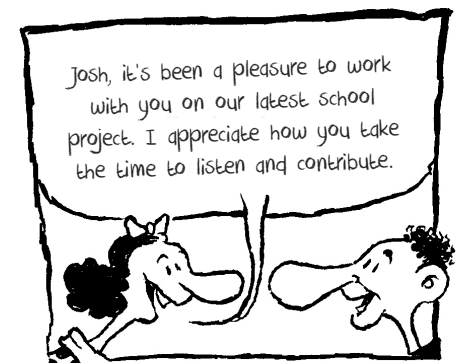
A NATURAL FIRST RESPONSE MIGHT BE TO TRY TO FIX THE OUTSIDE PROBLEM—TO FIX THE THINGS THAT PEOPLE SEE—SO THAT IT LOOKS GOOD AND LIKE EVERYTHING IS FUNCTIONING WELL. BUT WHEN IT COMES TO YOUR NATURE, YOUR PERSONALITY, YOUR WEAKNESSES OR YOUR BAD HABITS, YOU CANNOT JUST CHANGE THE OUTSIDE—THE "ENVIRONMENT"—YOU HAVE TO CHANGE THE HEART. THAT'S WHERE ALL OF THE GREAT CHANGES BEGIN. YOU FIRST HAVE TO RECOGNIZE AND DISCOVER THE PROBLEM BEFORE YOU CAN REMEDY IT.



IT'S LIKE SEARCHING FOR A LEAKY WATER PIPE BURIED UNDERGROUND. YOU CAN KNOW THE GENERAL AREA OF THE LEAK, AND YOU CAN START DIGGING IN ORDER TO FIND IT, BUT WITH YOUR FIRST OR SECOND ATTEMPT AT DIGGING YOU MAY NOT FIND THE LEAKY PIPE, AND IT REQUIRES SEARCHING AGAIN, DIGGING ANOTHER HOLE OR TWO, UNTIL YOU FIND IT, AND YOU CAN THEN REPAIR IT. EVEN AFTER YOU'VE REPAIRED THE PIPE AND FILLED THE HOLES AGAIN, YOU STILL NOTICE ON THE SURFACE WHERE THE PROBLEM WAS BECAUSE THE DIRT WILL LOOK AS IF IT'S BEEN DISTURBED FOR A WHILE UNTIL THE EARTH SETTLES AND VEGETATION RETURNS.



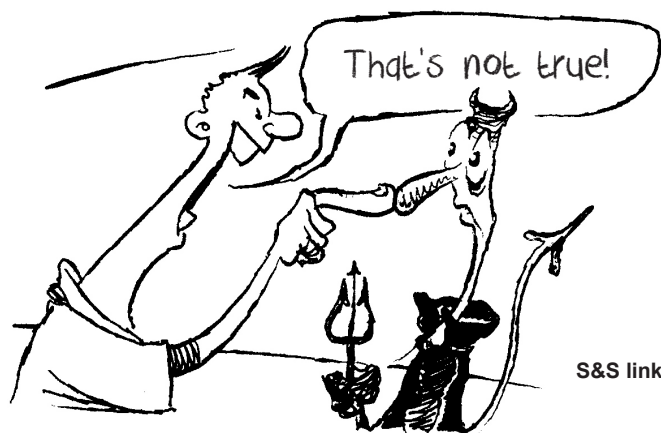
THAT'S SIMILAR TO PROBLEM AREAS OF YOUR LIFE: YOU MAY NOT UNDERSTAND THE REAL PROBLEM AT THE BEGINNING, AND IT REQUIRES A LITTLE DIGGING, MISSING, AND THEN HITTING, BEFORE YOU ARE ABLE TO PINPOINT THE PROBLEM. THEN YOU HAVE TO GO ON TO REPAIR IT, AND YOU WANT TO MAKE SURE THAT YOU REPAIR IT WELL, SO THAT THE FIX WILL HOLD UP. THE EVIDENCE OF THE PROBLEM MAY LINGER A LITTLE LONGER, OBSERVED BY WHAT REMAINS ON THE SURFACE, BUT DON'T LET THAT DISCOURAGE YOU. IT STANDS AS A REMINDER OF THE PROBLEM YOU OVERCAME, AND IT'S A GOOD REMINDER TO YOU TO CARE FOR THAT AREA OF YOUR LIFE AND TEND WELL TO IT.



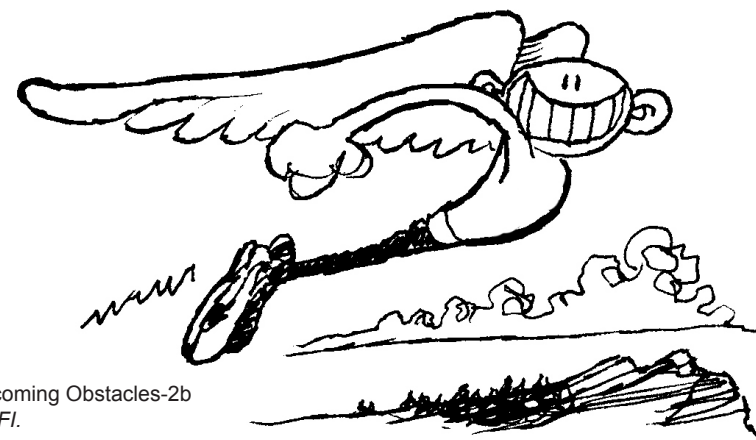


WHEN YOU TURN TO GOD FOR HELP, HE WORKS WITH YOU FROM THE INSIDE OUT. IT'S ON THE INSIDE THAT THE GREATEST CHANGES AND BEST RESULTS OCCUR. HE CAN FIX WHAT'S WRONG ON THE INSIDE, AND THAT CHANGE WILL BRING ABOUT RESULTS THAT WILL LAST MUCH LONGER AND EVEN CHANGE YOUR "OUTSIDE." AS YOU'LL LET HIM HELP YOU CLEAR OUT THE MESS AND FIX THE PROBLEM, THEN THERE IS HOPE OF GREAT CHANGE IN SIGHT.

THE REALLY LASTING CHANGES COME FROM LETTING GOD, THROUGH HIS WORD AND INSTRUCTIONS, DIG DEEP AND CHANGE YOUR HEART, MIND, AND SPIRIT. THEN WHAT COMES OUT OF YOUR MOUTH, IN YOUR ACTIONS, AND THROUGH YOUR DEEDS, WILL START TO REFLECT THE POSITIVE CHANGE THAT HAS TAKEN PLACE IN YOUR LIFE BECAUSE YOU LET GOD FIX THOSE "LEAKY PIPES."



"CREATE IN ME A
CLEAN HEART, O GOD,
AND RENEW A RIGHT
SPIRIT WITHIN ME"
(PSALM 51:10 ESV).



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