No Surrender
Whose Slave Are You?
Essentials
It takes less time to do things right than to explain why you did it wrong.

Aida Skripnikova* is...
(*try saying that real fast)

“A PIRATE FROM THE HOUSE OF PRAYER.”

Don’t miss her story, featuring soon in Kn!
Essentials!

(-Based on "Issues 7," GN 945)

WHHEW! IT'S BEEN TWO HOURS SINCE LUNCH! I'M SO THIRSTY!

I HAVE SOME WATER.

I'M CRAVING A NICE, COLD JUICE, SILVIA. WANNA POP TO THE CORNER STORE WITH ME?

SURE!

SEE YA.

SEE YOU SOON, TOD!

comic feature
AN HOUR LATER.

Hi, Tod!

Oh, hi, Alvero! How's your day going?

Tiring, but it's an inspiration to see how things are progressing! This mural is developing nicely. But...

Where are the girls?

You're back! What took so long?

That store didn't have any juice, but they did have ice cream...

Oh, and guess what?!

The store owner's cute son has a dog, and it was right in the middle of giving birth to puppies!
Hmmm, I think you should make her clothes more stylish.

How so?

I think they should complement her body more.

You mean less puffy around the hips?

Hmmm, not sure...

Hey, sorry we didn’t bring you guys any ice cream. Want us to pop out and get some for you too?

That’s okay, maybe on the way home.

Well, Alvero just got here.

Isn’t it almost time to go home?

... remember we agreed to put in a couple more hours before calling it quits?
Later that day.

It means a lot to have your help on this project!

It's a pleasure! We're happy to give you a hand.

Is something wrong?

I'm not sure how to say this ... I was hoping this project would be completed by next week...

And you're not sure we can make it?

If everyone applies themselves and works when it's time to work, and makes it a challenge to accomplish what's in their court—even take on more work—we could. But...

I understand!

It'd require more than just doing the minimum that's expected.

Yup, you've got to give it your whole heart!
Giving our all toward this could be very satisfying. And it would make the project more fun for everyone!

I was feeling the same way. Thanks for mentioning this, Alvero!

Back home.

So how did it go today?

Okay, I guess. But, man, this project is going to take forever!

Alvero was hoping to have it finished by next week.

You're kidding, right?

Nope.

We'll never be able to get it done!
Alvero mentioned that if we'd put our all into our jobs, then we'd accomplish more.

Ah, yes! Alvero is an excellent example of making the most of his work time.

Reminds me of that quote, "Cultivating a good work ethic, good work habits, and self-discipline is essential in order for you to be what I want you to be."

Personally, I still think next week is an unrealistic deadline.

Perhaps so, but you'd be surprised at how much the Lord can do through you when you apply yourself to a job.

We could each take some time this evening to ask the Lord about our work habits.

Maybe we could ask the Lord what He thinks about this project's deadline, and how we can each contribute more.

Great! I'm game.

And read those prophecies for devotions tomorrow.
That evening.

It’s imperative to move forward in everything. If you don’t move forward, then you’re moving backwards. This is true of everything—your spiritual life, the habits you try to cultivate, and your work. …

I know I’m not doing my best...how can I improve in this area?

Oh, Lord help me!

Thank you, Jesus, for these answers!

The following morning.

Listen to this neat Gn excerpt, “The eventual goal is learning: …

to discipline yourself,

to improve your work ethic,

to use your time wisely,

to form good work habits,

to fight against laziness and lethargy.”

Amen to that!
I got a word picture when I was praying last night.

Cool! I enjoy word pictures!

Work guidelines will train you, like scaffolding on a building. Once you've allowed for training and input from others, eventually you won't need the props and scaffolding, you'll stand on your own. That's the goal. But in order to arrive at that position, you need to accept what will look to you like scaffolding and things that appear to be boxing you in. This will be a test, because to you it will seem like you have to conform to something that you don't like.

It will take humility to be called back to the wall when you fall off or are in danger of falling. It will require a yielding of your independence and pride. This is the choice that's before you. Will you accept the challenge? Do you believe in Me that much—that I can change you, that I can change your nature, that I can help you?
That's so inspiring.

Do you think you could pray for me to have a change in my work habits and attitude?

Maybe we can pray for a special anointing for our team to finish this school project within our tight deadline.

A key, like that prophecy said, is humility—being yielded to helpful prods from others to keep focused and giving the work your all.

I promise you that what you give to Me I can mold to be the vessel that I want you to be. But I'm limited to what you give Me. If you give Me all, I'm able to use your all. But if I'm only given part, then that's all I can use. It's your choice!
I'm able to make the changes needed in you. I can do all things!

Let's focus on the background today. See if we can finish it.

Launch out! Get on the ball!

Let's focus on the background today. See if we can finish it.

Excellent idea!

Just buckle down; bite the bullet.

This is so tedious, Lord. But you can do it through me by the power of the keys.

I don't particularly care for painting, but help me to do a good job, Jesus.

Get in there and work—work hard!
When things are tough, hold on to this promise: Phil. 4:13.

I'm so tired!

I can do all things through You, Jesus.

Give to me freely of your time and effort.

Er ... Tab, do you think you could give an extra half-hour today?

Argh, that means I'll be late for the movie...

Help me, Lord!

Sure. What did you have in mind for me to do?

Obrigado, Tab.

Wow, she's really changed!
THE FOLLOWING WEEK.

WE'RE HAPPY TO TELL YOU THAT THE ESCOLA BOM PASTOR* IS RENOVATED AND READY TO BE USED AGAIN.

I'M SO HAPPY I WAS ABLE TO IMPROVE MY WORK HABITS THROUGH THIS PROJECT.

PRAISE THE LORD! YOU HELPED US GET IT COMPLETED IN TIME.

WHAT IS YOUR WORK ETHIC LIKE?

(*The Good Shepherd School)
S nakes & L adders

(Jesus:) Have you ever played the children's game “Snakes and Ladders”? You know how when you reach a ladder square, you’re able to move ahead and skip whole rows? Well, that’s what it’s like when you yield to Me and make the choice to do My will, whatever it might be. In those times, even if you have gotten quite far behind or away from the place I’d like you to be, I’m able to move you forward.
many squares, and even adjust My plan so that you are once again in My perfect will.

And so it is, My precious love, that you are in My perfect will for you now, and the things you are experiencing are all a part of My plan.

I have a marvelous and wonderful plan for this next year. I have seen it and engineered it already. There will be decisions for you to make, but just remember the illustration of the ladders and the way to get ahead. Even if you wind up sliding down at some point, you can always get back by choosing to once again put My will above your own, and say yes to Me, even if it’s very difficult and entails sacrifices that you didn’t want to make. When you make that decision, it instantly puts a ladder in your path, so that you’re able to climb back up to where I want you.

It’s not even so much the physical circumstances that matter—it’s the position of your heart. As long as your heart is in My perfect will, I’m able to make all the circumstances around you work together for your good. I can do that because I’m God, and I can do anything!

So always remember, even if you’re in a situation that seems difficult, or less than ideal, if your heart is right with Me, I will make it work out for the best!

Put your hand into Mine as you begin this next year. You are growing so beautifully into the vessel of love and usefulness that I want you to be. You are becoming the man I have destined for you to be. It’s all in the little choices, the little times of communing with Me and hearing My Words and obeying them. That’s where the great victories and steps of progress are made. That’s when you reach the ladders and get to skip ahead and pass over many difficult steps. My way is the easy way, even when it seems more difficult.

I love you, My sweet one. You’re in My will. You’re learning to hear My voice more clearly and depend upon it more fully. Those are the secrets to success. When combined with a willing, yielded heart, you are guaranteed success and victory, no matter what the circumstances.
Loneliness ... lovers ... dating. Does it hurt and you don’t know why? Do you see beauty but don’t know what to do?

I love you so much. Spend some time with Me, walking, talking, holding hands, and cuddling. Share your heart, your poetry, your dreams, your good times, and your sad times. Then I can give you sunsets, sunrises, walks by the beach, music, pictures of interest, and happy thoughts. All this and more I offer you, to take away the pain and loneliness that you may feel.

If you don’t know what to do, and you wish you had love and companionship, I can help you. You can make friends with someone and the three of us can walk together, you, your friend, and Me. That way you can ask Me what to do each step of the way. Do you know how much more smoothly things can go with your friends when we do things together?

That’s the only way it will work. Otherwise you’ll just be wandering a forest path, lost and not going anywhere. You could end up on some pretty rough trails, and who would want to walk there with you?

But if we walk together, many will want to walk with you, and you will not be lonely. We will all share My love and light together.
When I joined the Family a few years ago, I found that I didn’t know how to do many things. It seemed that I missed out on many important things that I should’ve learned when I was younger.

Being around Family teens (who were taught cooking and caring for children from a young age), I felt a bit inferior. When I had my own child, it became downright frustrating. How in the world could I care for my kid? I didn’t know how to make her food properly so that she wouldn’t get a stomachache or spit up. I was reading everything I found in the Home library, but I still had questions.

Two years earlier the CVC book had come out, but I thought it was just for teens. I hadn’t even bothered to look inside.

One day my husband opened it and found a treasure. Everything I ever wanted to know was in the CVC book. All the Letters were nicely organized. It covered pregnancy, childcare, cooking, how to plan meals, sewing, art, safety—everything I wanted to know about. (And tons more!)

I first studied about pregnancy. As I read, I became confident when going to see doctors. Now I wasn’t just nodding to what the doctors told me. I had questions to ask, and I checked with my CVC book to see if it was okay to do this or that.

Then I studied about childcare. After that, I wasn’t afraid of caring for toddlers anymore. I learned how to keep them occupied and happy.

When we opened our own Home, I didn’t know how to make a weekly meal plan, but it was all spelled out in the CVC book. I needed a new dress and didn’t have money to buy one, so I learned how to sew my own. I needed to progress in a new language and once again, help was in the CVC book.

All I did was read the Letters and pubs listed, practice, and it worked!

When I joined the Family, I dropped out of university, which really upset my parents. But when I told them that I was once again studying, using a very cool correspondence college, they looked at my student card with joy and awe.

CVC has helped me feel more confident.
(Jesus:) Thoughts and pictures float through your head, like movie reels in fast-forward mode. Where do those thoughts come from? Where are they going? What purpose do they have?

A lot of times the reason you’re feeling depressed is because you’ve opened a channel to a certain wavelength, and allowed yourself to think about something. Maybe you don’t even remember now what it was, but it opened a crack to a certain emotion, allowing it to seep in.

So if you are feeling down, and don’t even really know why, you can counter these attacks through using real mind power, the power I gave you to resist any influx of negativity.
Still not getting anywhere? Prayer power, praise power, and the power of keeping your mind set on things from Above will do wonders in lifting you out of a slump, or the mental mud you feel stuck in. It works like magic! Though you can’t understand it, you’ll see that these things work.

Challenge your mind to really go places for Me. Explore the mysteries I lay before you now, the mysteries of thinking thoughts from Above and seeing the physical effect on your everyday life.

It’s your mind. It’s up to you to make it behave. Use it, channel it, hone its skill, focus on a goal, control it, teach it, and let it rock! It’s up to you what good it’ll do for you and for the others affected by it.
Of making many books there is no end, and of the reading them there is even less end.

I’ve given you this desire for knowledge for a reason: I want you to be ever reaching forward for all that I wish to teach you throughout your life. I send information your way when I know it will most benefit you, and when you can use the knowledge for My glory, in service to Me in some aspect of your life.

Trust Me that I will give you what you need, and that what you don’t read isn’t really necessary and wouldn’t be all that fulfilling for your thirst for knowledge.

Your thirst for knowledge is really a thirst for your Creator—to know Me and My ways more—and in this I am pleased. But pray that you won’t be sidetracked by books that turn out to be time wasters. There are so few hours in a day to do all that you need to do for Me and with Me, and I can fill you so many times over, with just as much as you can absorb at a time.

You don’t need to seek out a worldly source of knowledge when you have a heavenly source right at your doorstep. I have treasure vaults filled with knowledge, and in coming to Me you have the key to it all, for you are Mine, and I long to fill the thirst that I created you with.

I know all about the joy of learning, ever learning, and coming to a fuller knowledge of God’s wonderful ways and inventions. I know the satisfaction you have when you discover something new. I know how fun it is to discuss ideas and new discoveries with your friends.

So don’t worry, I know and I understand your desires, and I do not frown upon them. I only ask that you use the wisdom I am offering you. I ask that you be prudent with your time, and that you devote your precious minutes and hours to the things I put high on your priority list. As you seek My Kingdom first and put your personal desires in subjection, so will I add unto you all the knowledge your heart desires in My good time.
YOU, THE READER & ENDTIME TROOPER, WILL REMEMBER THE GRIPPING LAST ISSUE WHERE YOU WERE LEFT WITH THE HAUNTING IMAGE OF A HAND PRESSED AGAINST STEAMING GLASS.

OH, JACK!

OH, ROSE!

WHOA! HOLD IT RIGHT THERE!!

Looks like we got the wrong "HAND PRESSED AGAINST STEAMING GLASS" scene.

WELL TRY THAT AGAIN...

ADVERTISEMENT

YES!

USE "SORRY-LORRY TRUCK REPELLANT."

SIMPLY SPRAY YOUR PHONE BOOTH WITH "SORRY-LORRY"

...AND YOU CAN KISS YOUR MENACING-TRUCK BLUES GOODBYE!!

GRRRRRR
WHOSE SLAVE ARE YOU?

YOU CAN BE A SLAVE OF THINGS! YOU CAN BE WORKING FOR THEM, INSTEAD OF THEM WORKING FOR YOU!

BUT SEEK YE FIRST THE KINGDOM OF GOD AND HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS, AND ALL THESE THINGS SHALL BE ADDED UNTO YOU. (MATTHEW 6:33)

SEEK FIRST MEANS: FOREMOST AND ABOVE ALL!

BEFORE EVERYTHING ELSE, AND MORE THAN EVERYTHING ELSE!

IT MEANS WORKING FOR GOD AND OTHERS MORE THAN FOR ...

YOURSELF, OR MONEY, OR PLEASURE,

OR HEALTH, OR EDUCATION, OR GOVERNMENT

... MORE THAN FOR ANYTHING ELSE!

IF YOU DO THAT, THEN ALL THESE THINGS SHALL BE ADDED UNTO YOU!—WHATEVER YOU NEED!
GOD'S ECONOMICS IS UTTERLY CONTRARY TO THE ECONOMICS OF MAN!

MAN'S ECONOMICS SAYS:

SELF-PRESERVATION IS THE FIRST LAW OF NATURE.

GOD'S LAW OF ECONOMICS IS:

PART 1

"HE THAT LOSES HIS LIFE FOR MY SAKE AND THE GOSPEL'S, SHALL SAVE IT;"

PART 2

"BUT HE THAT SAVES HIS LIFE" [SELF-PRESERVATION], "THE SAME SHALL loose IT."

(MARK 8:34-35)

IF YOU SPEND YOUR LIFE TRYING TO SAVE YOUR LIFE, YOU'RE GOING TO LOSE IT AND LOSE ETERNITY TOO!

SPEND YOUR LIFE LOSING YOUR LIFE FOR OTHERS—THAT'S THE SECRET OF SAVING IT!

YOU CAN BEGIN BY MAKING SURE THAT YOU BELONG TO GOD!
TO DO THAT, JUST SAY THIS SIMPLE PRAYER AND MEAN IT:
"JESUS, I DON'T WANT TO BE A SLAVE OF THINGS! PLEASE COME INTO MY HEART AND MAKE ME A MEMBER OF YOUR FAMILY IN HEAVEN FOREVER. HELP ME TO SHOW YOUR LOVE TO OTHERS AND TELL THEM HOW THEY TOO CAN BECOME MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY IN HEAVEN. AMEN."

(Xn: Yes, we know YOU'RE saved already ... so as well as enjoying mo' MO, feel free to download this fresh new addition to the Comictrax family. You can find it on the MO site complete with GP address. Don’t forget to pray before passing it out, so you can be sure to reach the hungry sheep who need it most!)
**Jesus:**

**NEVER LET THEM TAKE YOU ALIVE.**

Never let those demons catch you lying down. Don’t throw away your defense just because your situation is looking bleak and times are rough. Think of how much worse it would be if you threw away your shield of faith and let the Enemy run all over you. If you think things are bad now, wait till you’re in his prison camp.

Fight to the death and if you’re going to go, you might as well take a lot of them down with you. Except, you’re not going to go down!—I’m going to hold you up and protect you from getting taken in a fight. The only way I can lose you is if you give up, put down your weapons and invite all the little devils to come bind you up and carry you off.

Don’t let that happen! When your back is against the wall, just draw your sword and keep fighting. Don’t listen when they taunt you or try to tell you to give it up. They’re only doing that because they know they’ll never win otherwise. They’ll never break through your defense. Hold strong in My name.

**No surrender.**

*The keys are really an absolutely amazing, awesome gift that the Lord has given us.*

—Mama

(ML# 3381:17)
What’s wrong, Dan?

I know what you mean!

But remember what Peter said?

"In order to achieve a long term goal, you have to have short term goals."*

1. Make a commitment in your heart.

2. Ask Jesus to change your style, your mode of operation.

3. Participate in the Activated program by sending in addresses...

4. By getting out the magazines...

5. Pushing for subscriptions...

6. Realizing that this is all part of feeding the sheep.

7. You must also follow up personally on people...

8. And begin to teach them.

9. Get out the activated material—the mags, the books, the booklets...

10. These will help ground your sheep in the word.

11. Make disciples of all nations: win them, shepherd them.

12. Make them a part of you...

and they too can be FRUITFUL!

They too can become SHEPHERDS!

They too can become PREACHERS OF THE WORD!

And you will begin to see the fulfillment of the ERA of ACTION!

Since you’re all interested in learning more about the Endtime, you can open your first Activated magazine to page ten, “The Future Foretold!”

* Taken from ML #3298:188; 163-170.

You’re Christians? I’m so curious about who Jesus really was!

We have a special Contato class every Wednesday evening.—You’re welcome to drop in!

I met the Lord six months ago through some Family members who were clowning...

My shepherd met the Lord a year ago through some Family members who were clowning...

art by Zeb
UNIVERSITY OF OBLIVION, SLUMBERIA:

In a recent breakthrough, generating a flurry of scientific speculation, famed scientist Dr. Billy Bob Boredom announced Thursday the discovery of compelling evidence closely linking accomplishment with human effort.

“This signals a new era in laziology, and has changed aspects of my personal life as well,” announced Boredom. “Furthermore, the finding has momentous potential to increase the general awareness of people like myself who have, for example, recently discovered the merits of spending fewer hours sitting around staring at stuff. The laziological community is very excited.”

In his public journal, Dr. Boredom details the thoughts that eventually led him to a series of experiments and the said conclusion. “If left to take their evolutionary course, would the dishes that have been waiting for me in the kitchen for two days naturally shed their outer layer of plant and animal life? After further investigation I discovered that not only was every last dish crustier than before, but the trash can was exhibiting bizarre behavior that can only be likened to an active volcano. I was disappointed, yet intrigued enough to engage in further study.”

Dr. Boredom immediately explained his theory to the “Institution for Giving Lazy People a Swift Kick in the Behind” (IFGL-PASKITB), and consequently received a generous grant. Then, employing a combination of scientific knowledge and sophisticated equipment, he engaged in a series of rigorous and carefully planned tests in order to determine whether or not his theory had merit.

Boredom’s experiments yielded intriguing results, such as a fascinating relationship between going to bed before 1:00AM ... and the dramatic decrease in walls bumped into during the day.

Surprisingly, it was also discovered that some of Dr. Boredom’s favorite computer simulations, such as “FIFA Sockem Soccer 2002,” “Mosquito Hunter Extreme,” and “Attack of the Alien Surfer Dudes” were in no way related to excellence in scholastic achievement.

At one point in his research Dr. Boredom went as far as to leave the comfort of his home in order to engage in a witnessing activity. An early entry in his public journal explains, “I was astonished to see that after employing a fossil-fueled vehicle to relocate my molecular structure (and clothing covering it) to a local university, I was able to engage in witnessing that significantly raised my level of adrenalin, even causing my mind to lose track of time and space. Test results point convincingly to a link between 20 souls won, and the relocation of my posterior from its natural habitat.”

After the release of Dr. Billy Bob Boredom’s report, several of his peers amongst the scientific community appeared optimistic that his findings could lead to other important discoveries. Many are hopeful that a cure may soon be found for some of the world’s most dreaded diseases and disorders, such as Mañanaitis, Time Deficit Disorder (TDD) and Mad Landlord Disease (MLD).
WE ARE TRYING
TO HAVE A
SERIOUS
COMIC STRIP
HERE!!!

WE NOW
GO INTO
REWIND
MODE
TO TAKE
YOU BACK
TO THE
"MEAN-
LOOKING
TRUCK"

SHE'S...

Choose the best sound effect.

A. CRUNCH!
B. PTOOEY!
C. SPLAT!
D. LUNCH!

...GONE.
HASN'T THAT HAPPENED TO YOU BEFORE, Reader?

YOU'RE TRYING TO PUT THROUGH A POWER PRAYER...

AND THIS LORRY TRUCK OF DISTRACTION and LEATHARGY TRIES TO...

CRUSH YOU BEFORE YOUR PRAYER GETS OFF THE GROUND...

BUT YOU DON'T GIVE UP...

...and YOU GET LIFTED OUT OF THIS WORLD

AND NOW BACK TO THE ACTION

I'LL SAY IT AGAIN. SHE'S GONE

NO PROB. BY USING MY SPECIAL AGENT POWERS. I WENT AHEAD AND READ THE NEXT PANEL OF THIS COMIC STRIP. I KNOW WHICH REBEL TERNITY WILL TRY TO CONTACT NEXT.

MEANWHILE IN ANOTHER RUN-DOWN SEEDY SPACE GHETTO...

...A RUGGEDLY RUGGED FIGURE SLEEPS IN A CYBER-CLUTTERED ROOM.

SUDDENLY HE IS WOKEN BY A MYSTERIOUS MESSAGE APPEARING ON HIS COMPUTER SCREEN. OKAY, SO HE'S A VERY LIGHT SLEEPER.

This is your mother. Your room is a BIG mess! Clean it.

Gulp!

Then a second message comes

This is NOT your mother...

The Doormat has got you

Wha?!!

The Doormat?

'GOT ??' 'YOU ??'

DON'T MISS THE NEXT BIT!