



# FORWARD IN WRITING

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# FORWARD IN WRITING

- Biblical Purpose
- Strategic Purpose
- Practical Methods and Tools



# **BIBLICAL** PURPOSE IN WRITING

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- God is a God of communication (Gen 1-2)
  - Thus says the Lord x 419 OT
  - Spoke in many ways (Heb 1:1-2)
  - Communicated in His Son (Jn 1:14-18)



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- God is a God of communication (Gen 1-2)
  - Thus says the Lord x 419 OT
  - Spoke in many ways (Heb 1:1-2)
  - Communicated in His Son (Jn 1:14-18)
- God values, uses written language (2 Tim 3:16, Ex 17:14, Rev 21:5)



- God desires His people to:
  - Teach one another (Col 3:16-17, Tt 2:3)
  - Make disciples (Mt 28:19, 2 Tim 2:2)
  - Proclaim His hope (1 Pet 3:15)

## BIBLICAL PURPOSE IN WRITING

10 YEARS AGO



Letter



NOW



OMG! Letter

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  - Teach one another (Col 3:16-17, Tt 2:3)
  - Make disciples (Mt 28:19, 2 Tim 2:2)
  - Proclaim His hope (1 Pet 3:15)
- How can we do that most effectively in various contexts?

## AFTER EDEN

by Dan Lietha



The world's first language barrier problems actually came much earlier than the Tower of Babel.





# STRATEGIC PURPOSE IN WRITING



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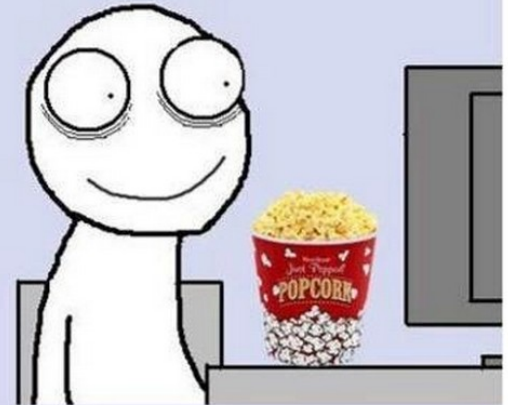
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- Allows broadcasting (Rev 1:11)

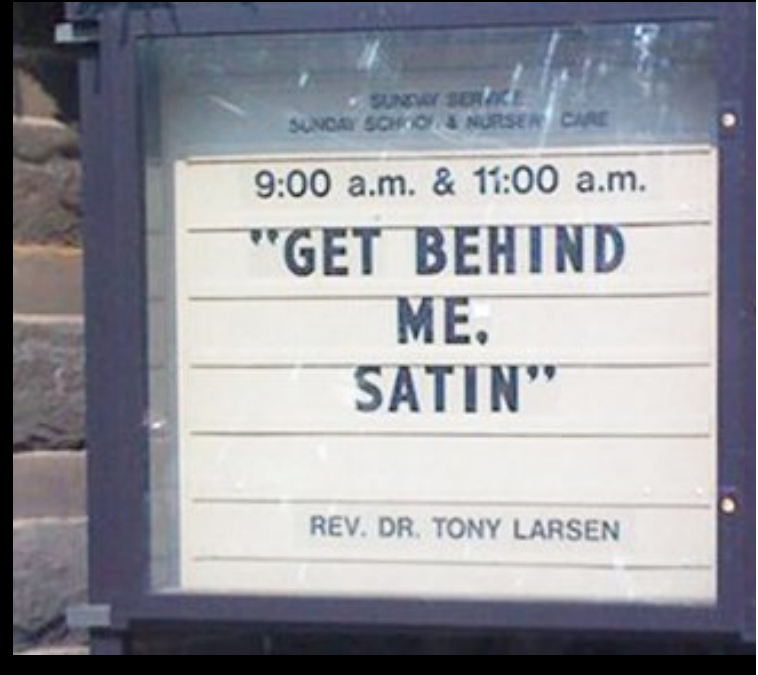
**No, I don't watch soap operas.  
I have Facebook.**



**There's a new episode  
every 5 minutes.**

# STRATEGIC PURPOSE IN WRITING

- Allows asynchronous communication (Is 30:8)
- Allows precision (Lk 1:3-4)
- Creates a record (Ex 17:14, Deut 6:6,9)
- Allows broadcasting (Rev 1:11)
- Aids visual learning (Gal 6:11, Rev 1:11)





# STRATEGIC PURPOSE IN WRITING

- Allows diverse presentation (2 Cor 13:10)



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- Allows diverse presentation (2 Cor 13:10)
- Allows compounding (Heb 1:1-2)

Tried to signal my wife  
across the food court to buy  
me an extra McNuggets  
and now I'm in 3 gangs  
and have to kill someone  
named Snake.





# STRATEGIC PURPOSE IN WRITING

- Allows diverse presentation (2 Cor 13:10)
- Allows compounding (Heb 1:1-2)
- Provides at-your-own-pace instruction (1 Cor 4:14-16)



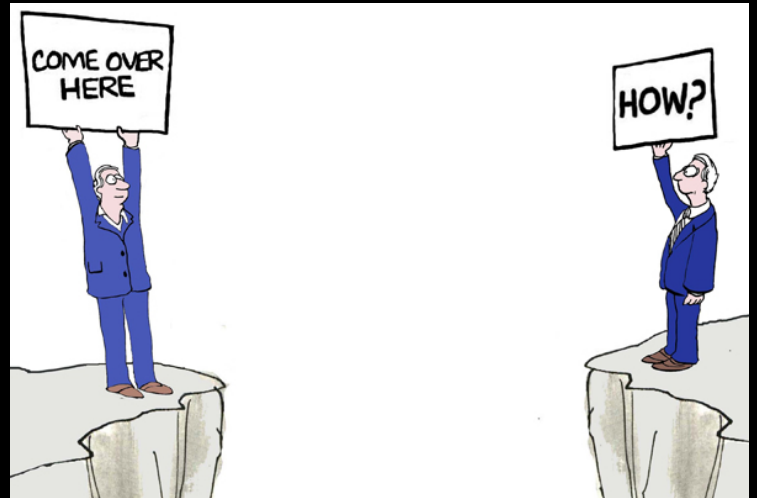
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- Allows compounding (Heb 1:1-2)
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- Provides a safeguard (Php 3:1)
- Can stir the mind (2 Pet 3:1)





# PRACTICAL METHODS AND TOOLS



## 9 QUESTIONS FOR BEGINNING WRITING

- 1. What am I responsible for?
- 2. What am I passionate about?
- 3. What do I have to offer in those areas?
- 4. Who else writes on those topics, and what can I learn from them?
- 5. Who am I trying to reach? What is their age and other demographics?



## 9 QUESTIONS FOR BEGINNING WRITING

- 6. Who else is effective in reaching those demographics, and what can I learn from them?
- 7. How to decide when to address an issue or not?
- 8. How is God using me to edify others, and could that ministry be broadened through writing?
- 9. How can I improve my personal communication to others through writing?



# 10 STEPS FOR BEGINNING WRITING

- 1. Answer the 9 questions
- 2. Begin to develop a habit of writing. Start small.
- 3. Begin writing brief comments on passages, write brief notes to edify others.
- 4. Open “new media” accounts, begin to become familiar with these tools








# 10 STEPS FOR BEGINNING WRITING

- 5. Begin to learn reading, viewing habits of audience
- 6. Begin to learn how to use pictures, video, multimedia
- 7. Find likeminded media sources (people, blogs, etc.) to follow.
- 8. Communicate with other writers, seek counsel



# 10 STEPS FOR BEGINNING WRITING

- 9. Write! Write! Write!
  - Status update (40 characters is best)
  - Tweet (71-100 characters is best)
  - Blog post (300-700 words)
  - Editorial (700-900 words)
  - Journal Article (8,000 – 12,000 words)
  - Book (50,000 – 100,000 words)
- 10. Redeem the moments. Use small moments. Don't wait for big ones.



11 THE WORDS OF WISE MEN ARE LIKE  
GOADS, AND MASTERS OF *THESE*  
*COLLECTIONS ARE LIKE WELL-DRIVEN NAILS;*  
*THEY ARE GIVEN BY ONE SHEPHERD.*

12 BUT BEYOND THIS, MY SON, BE WARNED:  
THE WRITING OF MANY BOOKS IS ENDLESS,  
AND EXCESSIVE DEVOTION *TO BOOKS IS*  
*WEARYING TO THE BODY.*

– ECCLESIASTES 12:11-12