

# SPIRITUAL GOLD DOT ORG

...IT'S GOD'S WORD, YOU CAN COUNT ON IT...

© 2014 Spiritual Gold, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

“My desire and hope is that Spiritual Gold will reach our world with the positive message that God is alive and has the answers for the problems facing us today. In his messages on the Spiritual Gold website, my husband, Richard, takes the Scriptures and breaks them down so that we can understand and receive practical advice as we live one day at a time.” —Mary Strauss



## The Life of Christ

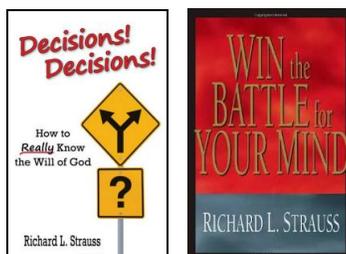
In the preface of *Growing More Like Jesus*, which grew out of his 255-message *Life of Christ* series, Dr. Strauss wrote, “I’ve known it was true since the early days of my faith in Christ, but the immense importance of it began to grow on me only recently. I’m talking about God’s great goal for my life as a believer in Christ—that I grow to be more like my Savior. ...As I have read and studied God’s Word, I have been struck with the many references there are to being like Jesus. And as I have examined my own life, it has become embarrassingly apparent how far I have to go. That’s why I decided to do some serious study on the subject. Then in August 1989 it was determined that I have a terminal illness called multiple myeloma, cancer of the bone marrow. ...The expectation of seeing my Savior very soon has had a powerful impact on my determination to keep pressing on to be more like Him. My prayer is that this book will help you in this all-important quest and that you won’t need to contract a fatal illness before you see how momentous an issue it is.”

The Life of Christ sermon series ran from March 1974 to April 1984. As you can imagine, it is quite comprehensive, though by no means an exhaustive study of Christ. Remember that John tells us that if all the things that Jesus did were written in detail, the world itself would not contain the books that would be written! The series looks at many characteristics of Christ, including His compassion, His honesty, and His

*continued on back page*

## Dr. Strauss Books Available

Dr. Strauss’ ministry continues in print. ECS Ministries has re-published *Decisions! Decisions! How to Really Know the Will of God* and *Win the Battle for Your Mind*. These books are available on Amazon.com, as are many gently-used copies of Dr. Strauss’ other books.



## Dear Spiritual Gold,

“Richard’s teaching has been a blessing to me. I listened to many of his tapes and read materials that he had written in my younger days. The Lord used him to enrich my life and ministry. So I was thrilled to realize recently that this material was online. I especially liked the series on the ‘Kings’ and look forward to listening to it again.”

-D.S., North Carolina

“Wanted to let you know that as a new Christian I am truly blessed with finding Dr. Strauss. ...[He] is amazing, I love listening to him. His faith in God along with his sense of humor is just what I needed. ...I truly believe God brought your husband into my life to better understand God’s gift to us in the Bible. I can feel your husband’s love for God in his teachings. I am truly blessed.”

-Vera, United States

“Doc will always be our favorite Bible teacher I think. Although Doc Mark comes pretty close. Thank you so, so much Mary for all your and the other servants’ hard work and following through with God’s plan for my favorite website. May God continue to bless Spiritual Gold to His glory.”

-D.&J. S.

[“Doc Mark” is Dr. Mark L. Strauss, one of Richard’s four sons. You can hear him each week on The Cove podcast: <https://itunes.apple.com/us/podcast/the-cove-crb-podcast/id481418257?mt=2>

—ed.]

## Year-End Giving

This ministry operates solely on gifts. In fulfillment of our ministry's mission, our Board of Directors strategically supports pastoral training ministries here and around the world—including Africa and the Middle East.

If you'd like to make a donation, please send a check payable to Spiritual Gold, Inc., 749 Willow Glen, Escondido, CA 92025. You may use a credit card online via PayPal (<http://spiritualgold.org/gifts>). Spiritual Gold is a 501c3 not-for-profit organization. Your donations are tax deductible to the full extent of the law.

## The Life of Christ (cont.)

submissive spirit. It also considers His leadership as He made disciples, and His relationship with God the Father through prayer. First Peter 2:21 tells us that Christ has left us an example to follow in His steps—a reference to the way Jesus handled opposition. Have you ever faced ridicule at work for being a Christian? Have you ever had to do what was right even when it wasn't popular? Dr. Strauss asks, "Wouldn't you like to face situations like that with confidence and courage, and then be able to look back on them knowing that you did what God wanted you to do, and you did it in the way He wanted you to do it? That's one of the great helps we get through studying the sufferings of our Lord Jesus Christ. He was the supreme example of confidence and courage in the face of persecution. He always did the will of His Father. Always."\* Let us press on in 2015 to be more like Jesus!

\* from LC-225, *Master of Every Situation*, October 17, 1982

## More Than 1500 Messages Online

N.O. via email says: "I use Dr. Strauss' teachings as the resource for our church Sunday school. I always tell myself that when we get to heaven, he will be the first person I will seek out so I can confess to him that I am guilty of 'plagiarism' :) This is indeed a pot of spiritual gold and it continues to be a blessing to me in particular and the congregation I teach Sunday school. Thank you for making it available (for free)."

Want to try your hand at teaching? Consider starting with something that many Christians have likely not considered. P\_\_ sent an email to us about such a topic: "The series on rewards is one of my all time favorites. I am amazed how many Christians think it's wrong to seek to earn rewards in heaven. Dr. Strauss does such a great job of making the case for a great God who greatly rewards those who seek to please him. I think the danger of not believing in rewards is spiritual pride & not being accountable for how we live. ...Thanks again for this true spiritual gold."

You can find over 1500 messages at [SpiritualGold.org](http://SpiritualGold.org). Dr. Strauss' messages from 1974 to 1993 cover 23 books of the Bible and 52 topics, from Aging Gracefully to the Will of God. Written transcripts are available for 7 series, including Rewards.

## Around the Globe: Ministries Supported by Spiritual Gold

The harvest is plentiful but the laborers are few. Evangelical Theological College of Ethiopia is working to produce more laborers to go out to the nations, teach, and gather the harvest. Most ETC graduates are serving the Lord in Ethiopia, where 33% of the population is Muslim. Please join us in praying for a bountiful harvest among the Muslims.

## I'll See You in the Morning

"I cannot begin to describe how much finding this website has meant to my spiritual walk with God. Through listening to the Life of Christ series, I have never been so in love with My Savior. I just finished reading 'I'll See You in the Morning' and have tears in my eyes for two reasons. The first is the pain and sorrow of losing a loved one. The other is watching Richard and Mary, through all of their struggles and trials, praise and exalt God. I pray that I will live with that kind of faith. To trust in our Heavenly Father, that His will is sovereign and I just need to trust in Him."—G.H.

*I'll See You in the Morning* is the account of Richard and Mary's journey, based on diary entries from the time of Richard's battle with multiple myeloma. It's a free download available here: <http://spiritualgold.org/pdf/seeyouinthemorning.pdf>