

The young man who gave me the two words “A Book” said that he had never read the Bible before.

He had come to me to ask for a dollar while I sat in my truck. I asked him what he wanted and he said “A cigarette.” I told him I had never smoked but my Dad did while I was growing up ... so I got lots of second hand smoke. I asked him what kind and he replied “Black and Mild, Cream.” So I bought him a pack and 3 large sugar cookies. One for me (of course!) and the other 2 for him.

I told him he probably ought to find something healthier than smoking to help him get through the day. We all got things we

turn to that are like that. Those of us who don't smoke might eat too many sugar cookies! Regardless of who you are you got weaknesses that you turn to to cope with how hard life can be. I was trying to help him see that coping through life wouldn't truly satisfy. He told me he could relate to what I was saying. I encouraged the young man to read the Bible for himself. I told him that's where he could find good things to turn to in life, far better than anything this world has to offer.

“For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain.”

Philippians 1:21 NIV