During the years of education and preparation of my life to enter the practice of surgery, I often heard surgeons use the expression that surgeons in their practice must utilize "reverence for tissue". This concerns the absolute requirement that surgeons in their operative procedures on their patients must always acknowledge and utilize "reverence for tissue". As a Christian, I always appreciated this instruction and have always attempted to be reverent for the tissues of my patient, to whom I owe a sense of total responsibility. This honorable attribute of mind set has always been part of my attitude toward my patient and the patients' tissues, which are experiencing my surgical endeavors toward him.

As my surgical life has progressed, I have often, in recent years, wondered why in surgery we do not hear instruction in surgical procedures about "reverence for God or for Christ", as we operate upon His children to make them well and to remove their surgical problem whatever it may be. The term, "reverence", actually means adoration, awe, homage, honor, and veneration. These terms actually are descriptions not only of our attitudes toward God but also of our inner respect and care for God's creation and the tissues of man's body, which God has brought forth in human beings and animals. Truly man's tissues are amazing and worth our awe and adoration. This is particularly true in plastic surgery and neurosurgery in my experience.

Thus, in my surgeries in America and on the mission field in "reverence for tissue" and my personal reverence for God, I began my surgical procedures with prayer and an attitude of true reverence for God and His amazing creation of life and all of its fascinating attributes. An accident victim's heart can become my patient's heart, restoring his life and his total being. A donors' skin graft can restore a huge skin defect after an accident or a burn. It is really amazing and worthy of one's reverence and his awe and true veneration.

In American surgery, William Halstead and his associates at Johns Hopkins, brought forth great thought and surgical procedures totally changing American and worldwide attitudes toward the performance of surgery. One hundred years following the time of Dr. Halstead, we should read his writings and considerations, as we deeply consider the thoughts and writings of Halstead and his disciples. As in the Christian religion, we continue to require not only our own reverence and spiritual guidance in life but the wonderful mental and spiritual thoughts of others, who have brought our profession to its present amazing status. Our hope for the future must lie in the study and influence of the men of God who have preceded us. Thanks be to God and His guidance and direction.
Dr. Bill’s book of poems Poetic Thoughts of Life and Hope will be published February 2009. Following is one of the poems:

**A SURGEON’S PRAYER**

Please give my heart total renewing through
Receiving in its stead, the heart of Jesus Christ
Then let me receive a total exchange transfusion of the Healing Blood — “type J.”
His heart, His hematocrit, His life within the hemoglobin —
Never tiring, always loving, always making whole —
Myself and those I touch.
May my MRI be Thy Massive Resurrection Infusion;
The scalpel of Thy word cutting free the adhesions
Between soul and spirit, joints and marrow.
Thus may be liberated, totally set free —
Free at last! Free at last! And whole in Thee! Amen

William Standish Reed, M.D.
August 22, 1995

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**Coppi’s Encounters with God**

Romans 12:2: says do not copy the behavior and customs of this world, but be a new and different person with fresh newness in all you do and think.

I was an employee of Adams Golf, Plano, TX before my marriage to Standish and I am also a morning person so I would finish all my tasks at home and set off for the office early, earlier than called for. I find that mornings are unusually beautiful!

Arriving at work one morning I was greeted by a momentous sound of crickets. The sound radiated and filled the air around me. I watched intensely as they leaped triumphantly and playfully. Their long rhythmical antennas swaying to their playfulness. The friction of their small leathery forewings produced a very loud shrill noise. They were everywhere – making their very own music. Understood by them and them alone.
Noisy….shrilling….friction and conflicts. Forming….molding us until the music is ours and ours alone.

Life is a gift from God..dance to the music you hear within! You are fearfully and wonderfully made.

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**CALANDER 2009**

**March 27-29** Church of the Resurrection Lenten Healing Event
Tampa, FL - speaker

**April 23–26** Resurrection CFO Lake Yale, FL

**May 20-24** CFO Annual Meeting,
Blackstone, VA

**Oct. 3-7** CFO Southern California Healing Camp, Encino, CA - speaker

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February 2009

Change Service Requested

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We would love to have your email address