

of conversations Turkle wants us to have were not necessarily more empathetic. So is face-to-face, eye-to-eye conversation itself inherently good, or is there more to it than that? That said, her final “guideposts” (pp. 319–33) are helpful for thinking through how we might overcome some of the negative impacts of digital communication and work toward a world in which creativity and human connection can flourish.

If one is looking for a book explaining what a conversation is and how to have a good one, Turkle’s book probably will not be of much benefit, but for someone looking for language to describe the relational difficulties that have arisen since the advent of the smartphone, *Reclaiming Conversation* offers a rich exploration that is, interestingly enough, rooted in great conversations between the author and others.

Reviewed by John Dyer, Executive Director of Communications and Educational Technology, Dallas Theological Seminary, Dallas, TX 75204-6411. ☆

Letter

Pursuing the Truth despite the Cost

David Fasold was a merchant marine officer on a commercial transport boat and so knew a lot about boats. He heard about the possible Noah’s ark at Dogubayazit, Turkey, from Ron Wyatt, and when he came with Ron to see it in 1985, he was sure that it was a wreck of a boat. In 1988, his book, *The Ark*

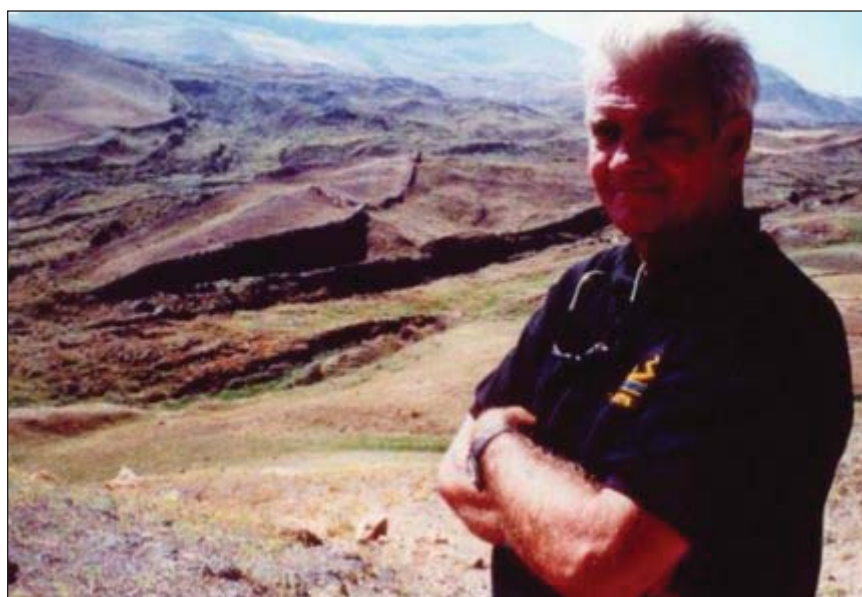
of *Noah*, which describes the reasons for his belief that the boat-shaped formation was Noah’s ark, was published. However, he had no training in geology. After several years of hearing from Ron Wyatt and others that the ribs, deck, and walls of the boat remains were composed of petrified wood, he began to have some doubts.

Fasold hired a TV crew from Germany to come with him to the ark site to photograph the petrified wood of the boat ribs, himself paying for the crew’s airline tickets and expenses. While they were there, he discovered that Ron had carved the eroded and weathered fractures in the structure so that the spaces between the fractures made the rock layers between the fractures stand out like ribs. Unfortunately, he could not see any petrified wood in them. So, Fasold had to tell the TV crew that he was sorry he had wasted their time, and he sent them home.

Because of his rising doubts, Fasold collected twelve samples from various places at the structure that were being described as petrified wood, along with an “iron bracket,” a part of an “anchor stone,” and a “reed stone.” With some risk, he smuggled the samples out of Turkey through customs. Somehow he got hold of me and asked me to voice my opinion. I had not been to the site, but I did a thin section study for him on all the samples he had collected. I then invited him to California State University Northridge and showed him what thin sections of fossilized wood looked like compared with thin sections of basalt and andesite. I also went to his house in San Diego and gave him a slide show on volcanic rocks so that he could understand what processes occur in the formation of volcanoes. When all of this was done, he had no doubt in his mind that the formation was not Noah’s ark.

David told me that his book, *The Ark of Noah*, was selling so fast that it was number 15 in world sales and that his book publisher was translating his book into five different foreign languages. But realizing now that the structure was not Noah’s ark, he cancelled all further publication of the book, likely costing him hundreds of thousands of dollars in royalties. David just wanted the truth.

He agreed to co-author an article with me for my website titled



David Fasold in front of what at the time he thought were the remains of the ark (photo provided by David Fasold).

"Bogus 'Noah's Ark' from Turkey Exposed as a Common Geologic Structure," which stated that the formation was not the remains of the ark. The article was later published in the *Journal of Geological Education* 44 (1996): 439-44.

Wikipedia, when recently checked, claims that Fasold later changed his mind and again believed that the site in eastern Turkey was Noah's ark. This is not true. David had invested his savings and sold his house in order to study the site for many years. Having canceled his book, he died in 1998 essentially penniless, unable to even pay for his hospital care. So, I honor David as someone who demonstrated integrity to the end of his life, always willing to accept the truth, no matter how much it cost him.

Lorence G. Collins
ASA Friend
lorencec@sysmatrix.net



A CALL FOR BOOK REVIEWERS

The readers of *PSCF* have long appreciated the many insightful book reviews published within its covers. If you would be open to being asked to contribute to this interesting and important service of writing a book review, please send a brief email that describes your areas of expertise and preferred mailing address to Patrick Franklin at patrick.franklin@prov.ca.

This information will be entered into a database that will bring you to the book review editors' attention when a book of interest to you and *PSCF* readers becomes available for review. Of course, if a book is offered to you, you would still be able to accept or decline the mailing of the book.



UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE® Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation (All Periodicals Publications Except Requester Publications)

1. Publication Title Perspectives on Science and Christian Faith	2. Publication Number 0 0 2 8 3 7 4 0	3. Filing Date 9/22/2016
4. Issue Frequency Quarterly	5. Number of Issues Published Annually 4	6. Annual Subscription Price \$50.00
7. Complete Mailing Address of Known Office of Publication (Not printer) (Street, city, county, state, and ZIP+4®) 218 Boston St, Ste 208, Topsfield, MA 01983		Contact Person Lyn Berg Telephone (include area code) 978-887-8833
8. Complete Mailing Address of Headquarters or General Business Office of Publisher (Not printer) Same as above		
9. Full Names and Complete Mailing Addresses of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor (Do not leave blank) Publisher (Name and complete mailing address) American Scientific Affiliation, 218 Boston St, Ste 208, Topsfield, MA 01983 Editor (Name and complete mailing address) James Peterson, Roanoke College, 221 College Ln, Salem, VA 24153 Managing Editor (Name and complete mailing address) Lyn Berg, 218 Boston St, Ste 208, Topsfield, MA 01983		

10. Owner (Do not leave blank. If the publication is owned by a corporation, give the name and address of the corporation immediately followed by the names and addresses of all stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of the total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, give the names and addresses of the individual owners. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, give its name and address as well as those of each individual owner. If the publication is published by a nonprofit organization, give its name and address.)

Full Name	Complete Mailing Address
The American Scientific Affiliation, Inc	218 Boston St, Ste 208, Topsfield, MA 01983

11. Known Bondholders, Mortgagees, and Other Security Holders Owning or Holding 1 Percent or More of Total Amount of Bonds, Mortgages, or Other Securities. If none, check box ☒ None

Full Name	Complete Mailing Address

12. Tax Status (For completion by nonprofit organizations authorized to mail at nonprofit rates) (Check one)
☒ The purpose, function, and nonprofit status of this organization and the exempt status for federal income tax purposes:
☐ Has Not Changed During Preceding 12 Months
☐ Has Changed During Preceding 12 Months (Publisher must submit explanation of change with this statement)

13. Publication Title Perspectives on Science and Christian Faith		14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below 9/1/2016	
15. Extent and Nature of Circulation Worldview		Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months	No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date
a. Total Number of Copies (Net press run)		1644	1632
b. Paid Circulation (By Mail and Outside the Mail)	(1) Mailed Outside-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 (Include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)	1289	1277
	(2) Mailed In-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 (Include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)	0	0
	(3) Paid Distribution Outside the Mails Including Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales, and Other Paid Distribution Outside USPS®	193	195
	(4) Paid Distribution by Other Classes of Mail Through the USPS (e.g., First-Class Mail®)	4	2
c. Total Paid Distribution (Sum of 15b (1), (2), (3), and (4))		1486	1474
d. Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (By Mail and Outside the Mail)	(1) Free or Nominal Rate Outside-County Copies Included on PS Form 3541	49	48
	(2) Free or Nominal Rate In-County Copies Included on PS Form 3541	0	0
	(3) Free or Nominal Rate Copies Mailed at Other Classes Through the USPS (e.g., First-Class Mail)	1	1
	(4) Free or Nominal Rate Distribution Outside the Mail (Carriers or other means)	38	33
e. Total Free or Nominal Rate Distribution (Sum of 15d (1), (2), (3) and (4))		88	82
f. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15e)		1574	1556
g. Copies not Distributed (See Instructions to Publishers #4 (page #3))		70	76
h. Total (Sum of 15f and g)		1644	1632
i. Percent Paid (15c divided by 15f times 100)		94.41	94.73

* If you are claiming electronic copies, go to line 16 on page 3. If you are not claiming electronic copies, skip to line 17 on page 3.

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE® Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation (All Periodicals Publications Except Requester Publications)

16. Electronic Copy Circulation x	Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months	No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date
a. Paid Electronic Copies	156	166
b. Total Paid Print Copies (Line 15c) + Paid Electronic Copies (Line 16a)	1642	1652
c. Total Print Distribution (Line 15f + Paid Electronic Copies (Line 16a))	1730	1740
d. Percent Paid (Both Print & Electronic Copies) (16b divided by 16c × 100)	94.91	94.94

☒ I certify that 50% of all my distributed copies (electronic and print) are paid above a nominal price.

17. Publication of Statement of Ownership
☒ If the publication is a general publication, publication of this statement is required. Will be printed in the 12/1/2016 issue of this publication. ☐ Publication not required.

18. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner
 Vicki Best, Director of Operations and Development
 Date 9/22/2016

I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).