

February 2009

life at CENTRAL

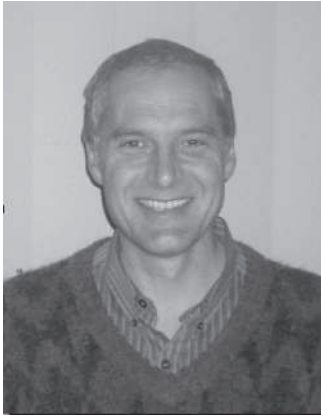
Central Baptist Church, Pretoria

life@central.org.za



Now may He who supplies seed to the sower, and bread for food, supply and multiply the seed you have sown and increase the fruits of your righteousness, while you are enriched in everything to all bountifulness, which causes thanksgiving through us to God.

2 Corinthians 9v 10.



PASTOR'S CORNER



Senior Pastor: Charles de Kiewit

Dear friends

We are looking to our God to **expand** the church here at Central. The first step was agreed to last weekend. As of the 1st of March 2009 we will be adding a **second morning service**. This we believe will create additional seating capacity, ease our parking pressure and attract those in our community who prefer an earlier service.

This will require hard work but at the same time this second morning service will also **provide opportunities** for more of our members to be involved. I would urge you to consider how God could use you in this ministry opportunity.

At our February quarterly meeting we will raise further matters for discussion relating to **our growing witness** in the Pretoria region. From these comments you no doubt can see why we believe a good theme this year would be an emphasis on ...**"Together building the body of Christ"**.

We have also realized that our current vision statement is too long. It could better be used to describe our approach to ministry. We have some ideas and soon hope to present a more concise statement.

Also, we are very aware of the **pressure** on us all in matters relating to the world economy and its impact on us as individuals and as a church. At the same time however we do want to trust God to provide for the ministry needs here at Central.

The ministry from 3 John has been a great encouragement and challenge to me and so I would like to repeat the opening greeting from John in this note.

3 John 2 Dear friend, I pray that you may enjoy good health and that all may go well with you, even as your soul is getting along well.

This is **our prayer** for you and your loved ones.

Charles

LIFE at CENTRAL MAGAZINE

Download the magazine in pdf format (colour) from the Central website:
<http://central.org.za>

Past editions (2006 to 2008) are also available.

Thank you to all those who contributed to this edition! Any articles or contributions for the next edition can be emailed to life@central.org.za.

Editors: Kim Gush, Daniel Salzwedel
Cover: Glynnis Cook

CARING MINISTRY

by Pastor Eric Robbins



"BELIEFS OR CONVICTIONS?"

Do you have strong convictions as a believer in Jesus Christ?

We have all met people who claim to believe in Christ but who can only be described as wishy-washy Christians, very far from what we know a real Christian should be. Not that you could really doubt their salvation. They are able to give all the right answers but there is really very little to show for it in their daily lives. The root cause for this sad state of affairs is a lack of conviction.

A belief is what you hold, but a conviction is what holds you. Our beliefs do form the basis for our convictions; but a belief does not become a conviction unless it includes a commitment to live by what we claim to believe.

So what is the evidence you and I should display as people with strong convictions? I want to mention just five. You will notice that they are nothing new - just the basic Christian disciplines. But today may I suggest that you honestly measure your own profession of faith against

these questions!

- *Do you really enjoy being in church?*
- *Are you very hungry for God's Word?*
- *Do you have a deep desire to pray?*
- *Are you seriously trying to be a witness?*
- *Are you seeking some way to serve God?*

Well, how well did you do in that assessment of your "conviction score"? I hope you scored at least 80%!

Now let me give you a very practical exercise to help you grow in your "conviction score". Pastor Charles preached on it a previous Sunday evening! Get down on your knees with your Bible and read Ephesians 1:3-14 out loud several times. Then ask yourself the question "are these just my beliefs or my strong convictions?"

Come on! Have you done it?

Pastor Eric

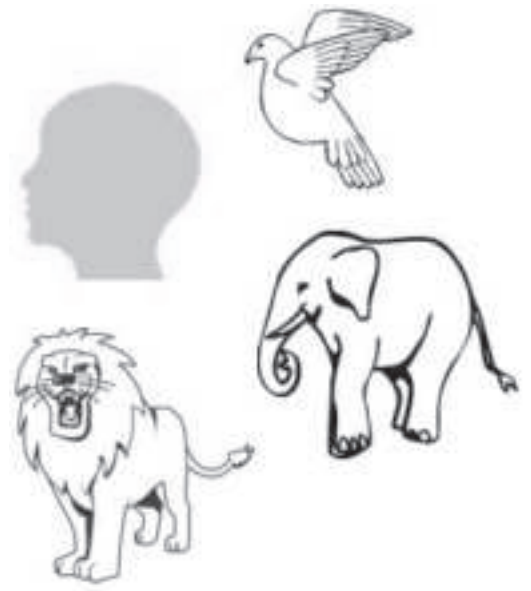
He replied, "Because you have so little faith. I tell you the truth, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you."

Matthew 17.20



LIFE ***WHAT*** ***IS IT?***

by Noel Durrheim



The vast diversity of life forms present on planet Earth, including plants, insects, animals and humans, ranging in size from microscopic to massive (more than a million different species of plants and animals have been studied), is truly mind boggling.

The giant sequoia (California Redwood) trees, which tower 83 meters, have a diameter of 9 meters and attain an age of 3000-4000 years. Man's expected life span, on earth, has been set at 70-80 years. The intricacy and complexity of a human being, is underscored by the fact that the human genome is made up of approximately three billion base pairs of DNA, arranged into 46 chromosomes. The human genetic code, in the form of a double helix, was only mapped in 2001.



This discovery has made it possible; inter alia, to determine the ancestry and paternity of individuals and for forensic scientists to track down criminals. It has also, unfortunately, led to clandestine experimentation in genetic engineering, which unless strictly controlled, could give rise to major problems for the human race.

Men of learning have invested untold time and effort in a vain attempt to find an answer to the vexing question: "WHAT IS LIFE?"

They have attempted to formulate definitions on the basis of the following disciplines: Physiological, Metabolic, Biochemical, Genetic and Thermodynamic, without arriving at consensus.

It was concluded that "Life is a phenomenon, impossible to define or to explain in all its varying aspects."

"God is the author of all life. God supernaturally intervened to create life early in Earth's history, under relatively hostile conditions and to sustain that life in the optimal time, place and form, for the future benefit of humanity" (Quote from Reasons to Believe creation model – refer "Creation as Science" by Hugh Ross).

God's act of Creation is painted in bold strokes in the account given in Genesis Chapters 1 and 2. The pivotal role of the Lord Jesus Christ in Creation is recorded in Col 1:15-18. It appears that God took special pains in creating man. "LET US MAKE MAN IN OUR IMAGE ACCORDING TO OUR LIKENESS" (Gen 1:25). Gen 2:7 provides us with further valuable insights:

"THE LORD GOD FORMED MAN OF THE DUST OF THE GROUND AND BREATHED INTO HIS NOSTRILS THE BREATH OF LIFE AND MAN BECAME A LIVING BEING."

God furthermore instructed man to multiply and to fill the earth.

The horrendous practice of aborting infants has burgeoned in recent times; in excess of 50 million abortions per annum (i.e. more than 100 per minute) are reported worldwide! This serious violation of the sanctity of human life is not only condoned but also encouraged by the legislation of many countries. E.g. in the United States of America 40 million abortions have been performed since 1973, following the US Supreme Court ruling in the historic *Roe vs. Wade* case. The newly elected

president of the USA is not only pro-abortion but saw fit to issue an executive order, a few days after his inauguration, making federal funding available for human embryonic stem cell research! On 1 February 1997 abortion on demand was legalised in South Africa. This legislation, inter alia, empowers pregnant women to decide on having an abortion up to 12 weeks into pregnancy.

The foregoing are flagrant violations of the biblical view that life is given by God from conception (i.e. when an ovum is fertilized by a sperm to form a living cell, containing all the complex genetic characteristics referred to earlier), and going on to eternity. The Psalmist declared:

“FOR YOU CREATED MY INMOST BEING, YOU KNIT ME TOGETHER IN MY MOTHER’S WOMB, I PRAISE YOU BECAUSE I AM FEARFULLY AND WONDERFULLY MADE.” (Psalm 139:13-14).



John Stott in his book *“Issues facing Christians Today”* asserts that Psalm 139 has particular relevance to the abortion issue. He states: ***“What makes us a person is not that we know God but that He knows us; not that we love God but that He set His love on us. So each of us was already a person in our mother’s womb, because already then God knew us and loved us.”***

There could be a marked reduction in abortions, if health professionals and counselors took more time to inform women who are contemplating this step to terminate a pregnancy of:

- the inhuman trauma that will be inflicted on the unborn infant by the draconian procedures which could be employed to extract the child from it’s mother’s womb
- the probable long term physiological, psychological and spiritual suffering, including feelings of guilt, which could haunt her for the rest her life
- the alternatives to undergoing abortion e.g. raising the child or making it available for adoption

Is there any relief for those who are suffering the consequences of having undergone this procedure? Counseling by a Christian counselor who is suitably qualified to deal with such cases could be beneficial; however, the ultimate solution is to be found in accepting God’s offer of pardon and holistic healing

which is available to all on the basis of the atoning death of the Lord Jesus Christ.

The intimate relationship, which existed between man and his Creator, shortly after creation, was shattered when man chose to disobey God, notwithstanding the fact that God had warned him about the dire consequences that would emanate from such action. This included alienation from his Maker, spiritual death and a host of other ills, which are prevalent to this day.

The uncertainty and brevity of human life has been likened to:

- A vapour that appears for a little while and then vanishes away (James 4:14)
- A shadow and without hope (1 Chron 29:15)

The media blares out statistics of thousands of people, whose lives are taken on our country’s roads; hundreds of thousands, including children and youth, who have succumbed to the Aids pandemic. Victims of plane crashes – when a terrorist bomb brought down the Pan-Am flight over Lockerbie, Scotland, 270 people, including 35 young American students, who were on the way home after an overseas holiday, lost their lives.

An eighty-two year old lady, who despite her advanced age was physically fit, mentally alert, living in and maintaining her own home, was chatting with her eighteen year old grandson, when without warning she suffered a seizure. He picked her up and whilst cradling her in his arms, she said to him: “I want to tell you something -----“ – she slipped away without completing the sentence!

Many folk become so engrossed in the pursuit of temporal things, careers, prestige, wealth, etc., paying no attention to the warning of the Lord Jesus Christ:

“FOR WHAT SHALL A MAN BE PROFITED IF HE SHALL GAIN THE WHOLE WORLD AND FORFEIT HIS LIFE? OR WHAT SHALL A MAN GIVE IN EXCHANGE FOR HIS LIFE?” (Matt 16:26 R.V.)

Pastor Donald MacPherson made this pertinent observation: “I have conducted many funerals – and have never seen a hearse pulling a trailer containing earthly possessions of the deceased.”

Whilst it might be difficult to comprehend, it is

nevertheless a reality that God holds everyone personally responsible for the choices that they make, which will decide not only the outcome of their lives on earth, but also determine their eternal destiny.

When the Israelites stood on the border of the Promised Land, Moses confronted them with this challenge:

“I HAVE SET BEFORE YOU LIFE AND DEATH, BLESSING AND CURSING, THEREFORE CHOOSE LIFE THAT YOU MAY LOVE YOUR GOD, THAT YOU MAY OBEY HIS VOICE AND

THAT YOU MAY CLING TO HIM, FOR HE IS YOUR LIFE”. (Deut 30:19-20).

Some may argue that the foregoing is purely of historical interest and that it only applied to a specific nation.

Listen to what the Lord Jesus Christ, Who is the Life, the Fountainhead and Sustainer of all life (John 1:4 and 14:6) said, just prior to His Atoning Death on the Cross:

“THIS IS THE WAY TO HAVE ETERNAL LIFE – BY KNOWING GOD AND JESUS CHRIST, THE ONE YOU SENT TO EARTH.” (John 17:3 (LNT))

THIS IS REAL LIFE!

DEALING WITH DOUBT

by Pastor Eric Robbins

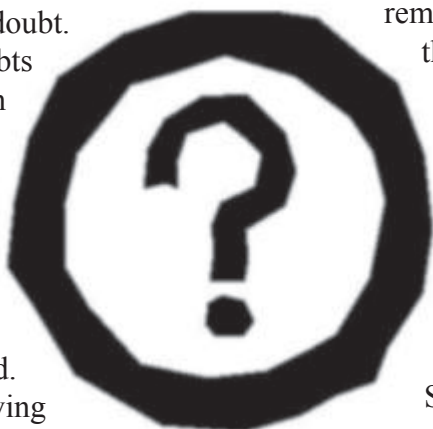
“**I** feel as though God really has let me down and I am finding it difficult to still believe in him”. Have you ever heard anybody speaking like that? Or have you perhaps even felt like that yourself? If your answer is yes, take heart, for you are not the only one.

Many Christians struggle with doubt, and it is therefore really important to understand something about the nature of doubt.

Where do our questions and doubts come from? Doubts originate in our minds, as our thinking is stretched into new and difficult to understand areas. These new challenges then make us question our hitherto simple faith in God and his Word, and so the seed of doubt is planted. Doubts may also come from having to face really difficult circumstances; situations where we find ourselves asking questions like “Why does a God of love allow me to go through all this suffering?” And so another seed of doubt is sewn. Then the devil takes control by magnifying our doubts to the point where they start to take over our minds and hearts. Remember how the devil caused Eve to

doubt when he said “did God actually say?” That was the beginning of the sin story!

Most people know that it is not “good” to doubt God, and so when they experience feelings of anger at God or even actually begin to doubt him, they don’t show it. It’s all smiles as usual on Sunday, but misery for the rest of the week! Their doubts are doing their destructive work of removing joy and godly conviction and the end result is an insipid and impoverished inner life.



It is far better to admit your doubts and learn to deal with them in Biblical manner than to let the vitality of your faith be eroded by a life of denial! Questions and even doubts are OK for a Christian! Someone once said if you don’t experience doubt from time to time you probably aren’t thinking! The problem is when doubts are not dealt with and are allowed to get big and ugly!

Doubts are like the early morning sun, starting off small and cool, but unchecked they become very big and hot till they dominate our spiritual

horizon and begin to scorch our faith and stunt our growth. So no matter where our doubts come from we need to recognize them and deal with them as soon as possible.

I have found the following four steps very helpful in dealing with my doubts.

1) *It's OK to have doubts*

If you do have doubts it probably means you are thinking honestly and growing in your faith. It is much better admitting your doubts than slipping into a state of denial and pretending you have no doubts. Subconscious doubt will eat away at the very heart of your spiritual life and lead to a state of insipid lack of conviction.

2) *So recognise your doubts and articulate them*

Keeping a journal forces you to express yourself and thus helps you understand your doubts better. Talking to a buddy is also a big help. Having to explain your doubts to someone else often helps cut them down to size. Then expose your doubts to the Word of God and express them to God in prayer. I have found the Psalms very helpful in this regard. David had major doubts at times and expressed them to God in the Psalms. God has put these psalms in his Word for our encouragement today.

3) *Admit your limited understanding*

We don't have full knowledge. Deut 29:29 says:

"The secret things belong to the Lord our God, but the things that are revealed belong to us and our children forever; that we may do all the words of this law."

Even the greatest intellects through the millennia haven't cracked every mystery, so why should you suddenly be able to unravel all the mysteries of life? God's Word reveals the essentials of salvation and helps us understand many of the mysteries of life, but it doesn't give us pat answers for every situation or doubt that we face. Like some of the writers of the Psalms we are often left without specific answers, and just need to rest in the certainty that God is still there and still in control.

4) *Shift some of your doubts from your head to your heart*

I hope it's not too much of a simplification to say that we think with our heads and feel with our hearts! That being so, our doubts obviously therefore have their origin in our heads. But if we are going to learn to deal with doubt we need to learn to process our doubts in our hearts as well. As you do this you don't need to loose your head (faith is not anti-intellect) but you learn to involve your heart as you grapple with your doubts (even the sharpest intellects need faith to really find peace). So let your heart help you find peace in your mind. You need faith in someone bigger than yourself – bigger than your own mind and own ability to understand and control everything – and there is peace in that!

The writer of Psalm 73 discovered this truth. Listen to how he put it:

*"As for me my feet had almost slipped. For I was envious of the arrogant when I saw the prosperity of the wicked... they have no pangs until death, their bodies are fat and sleek, they are not in trouble as others are... All in vain I have kept my heart clean and washed my hands in innocence... but when I thought how to understand this it seemed to me a wearisome task, **until I went into the sanctuary of God...** Then I discerned their end... you set them in slippery places you make them fall to ruin. Nevertheless I am continually with you. You hold my right hand. You guide me with your counsel and afterward you will receive me to glory. Whom have I in heaven but you? There is nothing on earth that I desire besides you. My flesh and my heart may fail but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever."*

As children of God each of us already have this kind of relationship with God. And we need to discover for ourselves that this love relationship is sufficient to absorb all our doubts. We need to master the art of expressing and then processing our doubts with Christ. This does not mean that all doubts will disappear forever but it does mean that your doubts will take on a new perspective and that you will draw closer to him than ever before.

Do you have this kind of simple but liberating faith in God? Or are you in bondage to your own intellect?



WOMEN's VALUE



Dear Friends

Already into February of 2009 – it seems a bit late to be wishing you blessings for the new year, but I will do so anyway. I am challenged to make Jesus the centre of every area of my life this year causing me to be a woman of influence to all those around me, starting with my family and moving to those I minister to as well as others whose paths I cross on a daily basis. May you too become a woman of influence for God's sake through 2009.

Our family was privileged to spend 3 whole weeks at the beach in December. Charles and I are so aware that an annual holiday as a family of 6 is quickly coming to an end, so we did all we could to make this holiday memorable. It is quite something planning an outing which will be enjoyed by all members of the family – boys, girls, teenagers, tots and geriatrics (which Charles and I are considered to be). We thank the Lord for a level of patience each member is forced to practice, making it possible for enjoyable family outings.

One such outing was visiting a small game park in Oribi Gorge. It was fun scouting out wild animals at the same time experimenting a little 4-wheel-driving for the first time, ending the morning with lunch with friends at a nice little coffee shop overlooking a beautiful view of the gorge.

When I think of this I can't help but considering the life we are called to live as Christians. Our Christian family is made up of all sorts of people, boys, girls, old, young, strange, simple, theologians, young in the faith and the list goes on.

Whatever category of Christian we fit into we need to practice patience and demonstrate love even if it means stepping

out of our comfort zone for the sake of my brother or sister and of course mostly for the sake of the Lord Jesus Christ and His Kingdom.

*Love never gives up.
Love cares more for others than for self.
Love doesn't want what it doesn't have.
Love doesn't strut,
Doesn't have a swelled head,
Doesn't force itself on others,
Isn't always 'me first,'
Doesn't fly off the handle,
Doesn't keep score of the sins of others,
Doesn't revel when others grovel,
Takes pleasure in the flowering of truth,
Puts up with anything,
Trusts God always,
Always looks for the best,
Never looks back,
But keeps going to the end
(1 Corinthians 13:4-7)*

Our outing to Oribi Gorge ended up being enjoyed by all. If one had refused to come because of a lack of interest not only would the day not have been the same but the one left behind would have missed out on a great time.

Time and time again I have discovered that when I don't feel like doing something for the Kingdom but do it anyway, those are the times I receive the greatest blessing.

May I encourage you to stretch yourself this year, to step out of the familiar, out of your comfort zone into a ministry, to practice patience with people who are different to you, to demonstrate love to those around. You will see the blessing God has waiting for you. Added to this you might just realise that being a Christian and being involved in Christian ministry is actually enjoyable.

*Luv in Christ
Carol*

Kay Arthur

An inspirational author and speaker



Since founding Precept Ministries International with her husband Jack, in 1970, with the vision to establish people in God's Word, International Bible teacher and four-time Gold Medallion award-winning author Kay Arthur has

authored more than 100 books and Bible studies. Kay is also the teacher and host of Precepts for Life, a radio and television program, which reaches a worldwide viewing audience of over 94 million, teaching them how to discover Truth for themselves. Today God is using Precept Ministries to reach nearly 150 countries with inductive Bible studies translated into nearly 70 languages. Kay serves as Executive Vice President and shares the office of Precept CEO with Jack.

The Arthurs live in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

Selected works

- Lord, Teach Me to Pray, video teaching series
- Lord, heal my hurts
- Speak to my heart, God
- A Marriage Without Regrets, *Gold Medallion Book Award Winner*
- The New Inductive Study Bible, *Gold Medallion Book Award Winner*
- His Imprint My Expression, *Gold Medallion Book Award Winner*
- Lord, I Need Grace to Make It Today, *Gold Medallion Book Award Winner*
- How To Study Your Bible

- Standing firm in these last days
- Israel, my beloved
- Lord, I want to know you

Discover the limitless power of God's names: Creator, Healer, Protector, Provider...

- Living victoriously in difficult times

When painful, frustrating circumstances invade your life, it's easy to wonder why life so often seems unfair – in this study you can learn why God allows suffering.

The ...	Is ...
Greatest joy	Giving
Most destructive habit	Worrying
Most effective sleeping pill	Peace of mind
Greatest asset	Faith
Most powerful communication	Prayer
Most contagious spirit	Enthusiasm
Greatest loss	Loss of self respect
Worst to be without	Hope
Most beautiful attire	Smile

GARDEN CORNER

PEPPADEW – a rare new food

Peppadew is the only new food raw material produced in the past twenty years - kiwifruit was the last one! Peppadew is indeed a completely new concept, described as half chili and half fruit.



The remarkable development of peppadew started a few years ago when Johan Steenkamp, a successful tomato farmer and businessman of Tzaneen, discovered a non-indigenous chest-high bush of the

capsicum family which bore chili-like fruit. He was attracted by the high yield of the bush and the unique pepper-sweet taste of the fruit, which was too hot to eat raw. There is no record of the fruit ever having been eaten before, or of it being cultivated commercially.

So far, the consumer peppadew product has taken three forms - bottled fruit (in hot and regular versions), sun dried and sauce. To produce normal bottle product, the fruit is cored by hand, sliced once and bottled. The open bottle then enters a "syruper" where a sweet-savoury solution is added. Peppadew was first placed on the SA market in 1997. Peppadew is rich in beta-carotene, vitamin C and fibre.

RECIPE

Tuna Stuffed Sweet PEPPADEW Piquanté Peppers (Canned peppers)



Serves 4

Ingredients:

- 12 PEPPADEW™ Sweet Piquanté Peppers
- 1 can drained, flaked tuna
- 1/2 cup sliced celery
- 1/2 cup diced ripe olives, drained
- 1/4 cup sliced green onion
- 1 tbsp lemon juice
- dash pepper
- 2 hard-cooked eggs, chopped
- 1/3 cup mayonnaise or salad dressing

Instructions for Preparation:

1. In a mixing bowl combine the tuna, celery, olives, onion, lemon juice and pepper.
2. Add eggs and mayonnaise, toss gently.
3. Cover and chill.
4. Fill each Pepper with tuna mixture.

When Jesus Looks

When Jesus looks upon my life,
What picture does He see?
Does He see His own reflection,
Or does He just see me?

Does He see His likeness,
The product of His hand,
Or just another Christian,
Who never took a stand?

What about the other folks,
I meet along the way.
Do I show them Jesus,
To brighten up their day?

When someone looks into my eyes,
Can they truly see
That calm and gentle peace of God,
That dwells inside of me?

When folks are in my presence
Do they know His Spirit's there?
Can they see that He's the one
Who guides me everywhere?

I try to be like Jesus,
Every single day.
Spreading love and kindness,
All along my way.

I'm afraid that I have failed,
I could not pass the test.
Deep inside my heart I know,
I haven't done my best.

That's why His Spirit dwells in me,
He's helping me to learn.
In every situation
Where I need to turn.

He knew I'd never pass the test,
That's why He took my place.
He gave His life to save my soul,
He suffered my disgrace.

Now I try to be like Him,
I must represent Him well.
So other folks will want His gift,
And turn their backs on hell.

Other folks should see the joy,
That Christ has given me.
They should want to have it too,
Especially since it's free.

They should begin to ask me,
What is it they must do.
Just how it is they go about,
Getting Jesus too.

Then I get to tell them,
This wondrous gift is free.
It only takes a humble heart,
A prayer on bended knee.

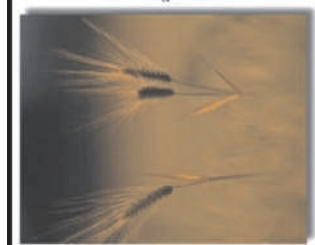
Someday when I'm face to face,
With the Lord who made me free.
Will He see His own reflection,
Or will He just see me?

by Chick Velasco
(Shortened)



Most assuredly,
I say to you,
unless a grain of wheat
falls into the ground
and dies, it remains alone;
but if it dies,
it produces much grain.

John 12:24



CAMPUS OUTREACH JOHANNESBURG



2009 COJ
Staff Team

Front Row (L to R): Beth Rocker, Stephanie Garrett, Noma Lupuwana, Haddon Gooch, Jennifer Carcagente, Cion Strickland, Jonathan, Dawson, and Hudson Gooch, Casey Prinsloo. **Second Row:** Haley Miedema, Lerato Mahange, Jackie Snider, Pinkie Shuping, Jamie Smith, Khanyi Mthimunya, Poppy Chaba, Charity Somo, Fifi Photoane, Jennifer Gooch, Kris Viljoen. **Back Row:** Paul Miedema, Aaron Carroll, Tim Byrd, Stephan Strydom, Sammy Rabolele, Thabo Chaba, Brandon Paschal, One Mokgatle, Neal Gooch, Jeff Viljoen.

OVERALL MINISTRY UPDATE

Campus Outreach is a network of interdenominational ministries targeting strategic college campuses around the World. Our vision is "Glorifying God by Building Laborers on the Campus for the Lost World."

OVERALL VISION

Campus Outreach is a ministry built on relationships. It is through these life-on-life relationships that varsity students come to know Christ, mature in their relationships with Him, and share their lives and faith with others through evangelism and discipleship.

We prayerfully REACH students with the gospel of Christ, BUILD them into mature disciples of Christ, EQUIP them to be disciplinators for Christ, and then MOBILIZE them into places of service in the church and world.

The vision sketch to the right represents the key aspects of Campus Outreach Johannesburg's vision, starting with our core of communion with Christ as the center of all of the other elements of our lives and work.

CURRENT MINISTRY

February marks the beginning of our 2009 school year as first years arrive and we start a new year of evangelism and discipleship. Our 27 staff (15 Americans, 12 South Africans) represent 4 campus works as well as an administrative team to help us function on 2 continents effectively. We are currently ministering at 4 campuses: Tuks, UJ-Kingsway, UJ-Bunting, and Wits. We are so grateful for CBC and our local partnering churches that minister to and with us in building up the Kingdom of God.



Above is our 2009 Leadership Team-- we just added 4 new members, 2 of which are South African (back row)

09
Leadership
Team and COJ
Vision Sketch

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- ➊ Please pray for our ministry on the 4 campuses. Pray especially that God would deepen His work in our student leaders that they may be more equipped to love God and His people more.
- ➋ Pray for our US and RSA staff as most are pulling off campus this year for significant time to raise support. The financial crisis is felt in the US as well as here in South Africa.
- ➌ Please pray for our staff's walks and relationships with God. That God would root us in grace for a lifetime of ministry.

WEBSITE: WWW.COJOHANNESBURG.ORG
OFFICE: 011-482-8459





by Quentin Saunders

The youth of Life had a great year! We have a consistent group of 25 youths, with some Fridays reaching up to 40. We make sure that we give teaching from God's Word and we regularly share the gospel with the teens. We also have great fellowship, fun and games.

We had lots of fun especially with welcoming our grade 8's from Blast Off. Their initiation gave us a good laugh and I am sure they enjoyed it - you can see the photos below. It was all fun though, and I had to go through it myself...yes that is me in the picture! This year Brandon left as leader of Life as he felt that God wants to use him in a different ministry. We want to thank him for the

awesome job that he did as leader. He is certainly missed!

Last year we raised some money by offering parking for the rugby! We had a great time as you can see. With some of the money that we made we bought cans of "baked beans" which I handed out to people coming to the office for food. This was a great way to reach out to the community. We had our yearly formal dinner and the theme was: "The Oscars". Everyone looked snazzy!

Last year we didn't go on a camp but we are planning one for this year from the 6th to the 10th of July, so parents and youth start saving! There is a team from the States that will do all the teaching as well as lead us in worship. We will have a couple of fundraisers to assist with the camp fees so please support us. We are planning a car wash, garage sale and a sports day - so watch the bulletin!

We are really looking forward to this year and we are trusting God to speak to the youth through His Word. This year we will focus on getting to know God. Who is God? If we say that we love God then surely we need to know what the Word of God says about Him.





"It's one thing to affirm that God is free to do as God wills in this world. The real crunch comes in allowing God the freedom and trust to act in one's own life."

John Indermark

PERSONAL EVANGELISM

by Ken Nicholson

We've all seen people sitting or standing around, waiting for whatever. Ever sensed a stirring in your spirit to go and tell them something about Jesus? They obviously have some time to listen to you. The trouble is – what do you say? Something that is short, sharp and to the point. No time for a long sermon! The Lord has been teaching me a method of late, which I felt I should share. How better than through a recent actual experience which only took two minutes, yet the effect of that brief encounter could still be ongoing as I write weeks later.

For starters, let me say that I have learned the value of having a smile on my 'dial' when I go out into the market place. Go around with a grim expression and people will take one glimpse of you and look away. Such countenances are to be seen wherever you go. But wear a smile and you stand out from the crowd. Some people will smile back at you and some even greet you as you pass them by – quite amazing – complete strangers! Try it out next time you're out there.

Some weeks ago I took our vehicle to the local agents to book it in for repair. While they took it into their workshop for closer examination, I sat in the customers' waiting area where there was another customer sitting – a woman probably 35 to 40 years of age. Normally I don't approach ladies, but as we were the only ones there, I took a glance in her direction with – you know what – on my face and she smiled back. I then asked her the obvious question: "Are you also waiting for your car?" to which she gave the obvious reply. I knew I would not have much time, so I immediately 'swung into action' in this way:

"My name is Ken. May I ask what is your first name?" "Evelyn", she answered.

"Evelyn, although you and I are complete strangers to each other, I do know something about you, which you might be quite unaware of yourself – and actually it's really wonderful."

At that point a staff member interrupted by telling

her what he had to about her car, and that she should go to the counter etc. As soon as he had left I just said: "If you would just give me a minute – I won't take long." "Yes", she replied, "I am very curious to know what you know about me."

"I know that Jesus loves you. He thinks you are precious, and He would very much like to have you as His personal friend and there is no limit to what He would do to make it possible for you to love Him also, so that you can be with Him forever. As a matter of fact, He loves you so much that He died on the Cross for you. Now that's a clear demonstration that He is waiting to forgive every sin in your life, to share His own life with you and to offer you all that He has. Even now He would be prepared to come into your heart, your life, your experience, and reveal Himself to you – if you would just give Him a chance. Evelyn, would you be willing to give Him that chance?"

"Of course, I've always given Him that chance from my childhood days," she replied. "Do you regularly read His Word, then?" "Well, sometimes I read the Bible." With that I took a small Gospel of John out of my pocket. "I would like to give you just one book of the Bible - John's Gospel – which you can keep in your handbag. Then, whenever you find yourself waiting, for your car or whatever, you can take it out and do some reading. Just look at this insert first, where the writer (John Stott) suggests a way to read it – a chapter a day, and he gives a prayer for you to say before you start. On the last page or two, you'll find a simple explanation on how you can make a real commitment to Christ."

She thanked me for it and went to the counter. I did not show it to her, but in the inside cover, I put an invitation to come to our church as well.

I learned what I said to Evelyn from two different sources. The introduction is a quote from an article by Ralph Neighbour, a pastor in Singapore, published in 1994. The rest of the message is taken from a book by Dr. C.S. Lovett of *Personal Christianity* in the U.S.

FIRST YEAR'S CAMP

by Quentin Saunders



Well, it is a new year and Pretoria is already flooded with new students. Some students left the Jacaranda City and many of them will be missed at Central. We look forward to seeing new faces, and we are also excited to see where the Lord will use these students for His service at Central.

This year we had the opportunity to go on a camp for first years. We had 10 students join us as we went off to the Sunvalley Campsite near Delmas. I know that as a Church we regularly prayed for the first year students that would come, and God was faithful.

We hoped to be an encouragement to the students as they take on this new chapter of life. In the devotions we encouraged them to focus on God. They were encouraged to meditate on who God is as He reveals Himself to be in Psalm 145. We also looked at Deuteronomy 1 and they were reminded to trust God and not to fear anything, because as God was faithful in the past, so He will be faithful in their years of studies. They just need to trust Him!

The theme for the camp was "passion". The topics were: a passion for God, a passion for the Word, a passion for the Church, and a passion for the lost. Thanks again to Tim, Kevin and Paul for doing the teaching. We got some good feedback and godly relationships were formed. Thanks to Sunny and Koki who were helpers at the camp, and to the Campus Outreach staff team that welcomed us as we arrived!

We don't know how many of the students will be or are serving at Central at the moment, but God's work is bigger than that. He is building His Kingdom and our desire is just that the students will glorify God wherever they are...

THE UNFINISHED TASK OF WORLD EVANGELIZATION TODAY

And how you can get involved

by Peter Vumisa



Introduction

Before we can decide whether a task is finished or unfinished it is necessary to define both its nature and extent. What is the extent of the Christian task? The answer is an obvious one, **it is a global task!** The Gospel must be preached to the entire world (Matt. 24: 14), and we must have disciples “from every tribe and tongue and people and nation” (Rev. 5: 9).

What is the nature of the task? According to Scripture the supreme task of the church is world evangelization.

This leads us to another important question. What do we understand by the term “evangelization?” Or to put it more concretely: When is a country or a people considered evangelized? Is it when they have heard the gospel once? Twice? Ten times? A hundred times? Or is it when the Bible has been translated in their language? Or when a church has been established?

In his book “Understanding Christian Missions,” Herbert J. Kane says, “A people might be said to be evangelized when everyone has had the gospel presented to them often enough and clearly enough to enable them to make an intelligent response for or against Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord.”

Unfinished Task in terms of the Generation Gap

Evangelization of the world is not something that can be achieved once and for all because every generation needs to be evangelized all over again.

Every thirty years we have an entirely new group of people in need of the gospel. Herbert Kane’s opinion on this is that one generation may be predominantly Christian while the following one is only nominal. This in turn may be followed by a third generation that is more pagan than Christian. After the second and third generation Christianity tends to take on cultural overtones, and its adherents lose all desire to share their faith with friends and neighbors. Historically the church goes through times of renewal and advance, and also times of stagnation and decline.

If the task is never finished, what then remains to be done? The answer is: **PLENTY!**

Unfinished Task in terms of World Population Growth

In the 1970s the world population was approximately 3.9 billion and was increasing at the rate of 80 million every year. At that time approximately one third of the world population were professing Christians, but again more than half that number were Roman Catholics.

The world population now stands at 6.6 billion, of which according to 2007 estimates Christianity now stands at 2.2 billion people. However this figure is reduced by an estimated 1.2 billion who are nominal Christians. The other 4.56 billion consist of Muslims (1.35 billion), Traditional religions (262 million), Hindu (888 million), Buddhist (386 million), Chinese Folk Religions (388 million), Non-Religious/Atheist (941 million people), and other religions including Judaism (259 million people).

Different regions have different rates of population growth, but in the unusual case of the 20th century, the world saw the biggest increase in its population in human history due to medical advances and massive increase in agricultural productivity made by the Green Revolution.

In 2000, the United Nations estimated that the

world's population was then growing at the rate of 1.14% (or about 75 million people) per year, down from a peak of 86 million per year in 1987. In the last few centuries, the number of people living on Earth has increased many times over. By the year 2000, there were 10 times as many people on Earth than there were 300 years ago. According to data from the CIA's 2005–2006 World Fact books, the world human population currently increases by 203,800 every day. The 2007 CIA fact book increased this to 211,090 people every day.

Unfinished Task in terms of Least Evangelized People Groups

Statistics on the number of people groups on earth keep changing. This is so because researchers keep updating the old lists and as they do so, new groups are being discovered that were not included in the previous lists. The other reason for the increase is that new ways or methods of classifying people groups have been developed. According to Dr. Todd Johnson and Peter Crossing (Priority Peoples: A customized approach) people groups can be classified according to culture (ETHNOMETRICS). This type of classification is an affirmation of several important points regarding people: (1) the centrality of indigenous cultures to local expressions of Christianity, (2) the right to exist of minority tribes and peoples, (3) their autonomy in their own areas, (4) their importance from the Christian standpoint vis-à-vis the world's dominant peoples and cultures, (5) the need to reduce the imperialistic influence of more dominant peoples (especially western culture) in non-western local churches and lands.

It is also an affirmation of the necessity to view people, not primarily as nationals of a given country, but primarily as members of the natural homogeneous units to which they belong and through which they may most effectively be described.

The other way of describing a people group is through world languages and their relationships – LINGUAMETRICS. This includes language speakers, language influence, language usage, and lingua francas.

The two methods can be combined to provide a third approach involving culture and language, resulting in a single integrated listing of what is termed ETHNOLINGUISTIC PEOPLES. Some cultures may be identified with a single language, while others may

consist of people speaking several different languages yet still identified as single cultures.

According to the latest ethnolinguistic information, there are 24 000 people groups, of which 13 000 are unreached peoples. In 1995 the estimate was 10,000, but now it has increased to 13,000. The rationale for this is complex: while there has been undoubted progress among the unreached people in the past 10 years, there has also been an increasing awareness of the significance of subdivisions among ethnolinguistic peoples. A good example is the Somali people who in 1970s were represented as a single group. But those who work among Somali are well aware of major clan divisions.

Conclusion

There you are, it is clear: the task of world evangelization is still plenty and its extent is global. The Gospel must be preached in the entire world (Matt. 24: 14), and we must have disciples “from every tribe and tongue and people and nation” (Rev. 5: 9). New generations need to be reached with the gospel even in the so called Christian countries. Research has shown that there are still many least reached or unreached people groups in the world today.

Your involvement in meeting this challenge is very important. You can be involved by (1) **PRAYING:** (praying for world evangelization and praying for missionaries and church leaders), (2) **GIVING:** (supporting the work of mission financially), and (3) **GOING:** (your physical participation in short term or long term mission work).

References

- i) J. Herbert Kane, *Understanding Christian Missions*. Baker Book House, Grand Rapids, Michigan, p.433, 1974
- ii) *Ibid.*, p. 433
- iii) *Ibid.*, p. 434
- iv) M. Todd Johnson, David B. Barret. *International Bulletin of Missionary Research*, January 2007
- v) http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/world_population
- vi) Todd M. Johnson, Peter Crossing. *Priority Peoples: A customised Approach (Mission Frontiers, January-February 2005 edition)*, p.8-9

Miracle of Life Pregnancy Calendar Translation Project

Lauren's main project for this year is coordinating the translation of the *Miracle of Life Pregnancy Calendar* from Uzbek to Tajik. The original *Miracle of Life Pregnancy Calendar* was written by a midwife from Sweden in Turkish and has been translated into 9 different languages. It is about 34 pages long with beautiful pictures of the developing baby and gives sound medical advice on pregnancy and early childhood development.

From early childhood, motherhood is a primary life ambition for the majority of Tajik women and is held in high regard. However, in many cases, very little "practical" information is passed on to expectant mothers to prepare them adequately for pregnancy, childbirth and early motherhood. Often, misinformation and "old wives tales" dominate the cultural understanding of pregnancy, childbirth and early motherhood. Thus pregnancy is a time marked with unnecessary anxiety, vulnerability, marriage tension, illness and fear, for many Tajik women.

Because of these very real felt needs, young mothers and mothers-to-be are particularly teachable, open to input and appreciative of counseling. In addition, abortions are a very common method of birth control even among married couples. We hope that the beautiful pictures of the unborn child will show women what they are actually doing when having abortions.



Lauren and Linda (from the USA) who are both working on the calendar

- > **Praise God that we have received the necessary funding for the translation, printing and distribution of this valuable resource.**
- > **Pray that we may have much wisdom in translation and adapting the calendar so that it will be a useful tool for pregnant women and those working with them here.**
- > **Pray that having the calendar may result in better health care for pregnant women and a decrease in abortions.**

I have to learn that the aim in life is God's, not mine. God is using me from His great personal standpoint, and all He asks of me is that I trust Him, and never say - Lord, this gives me such heart-ache.... He simply asks me to have implicit faith in Himself and in His goodness.

Oswald Chambers

Loving Babies in Need...



By Miriam Cain

In 2008, ABBA House admitted 34 babies, placed 28 babies for adoption and nine babies left us who were not adopted. This often means they returned to their birth-family, but in other cases, they moved to foster care or a children's home for long-term care. We have now cared for more than 380 babies since we opened our doors in April 2000. Currently we have 14 babies, ranging from a very little one-month-old who is 1.7kg, to our miracle baby who is almost a year old. He is still small for his age, but no longer malnourished – in fact he's getting rather round! He's attempting to crawl but at the moment his best efforts leave him looking like a beached whale ☺ so he resorts to rolling to get to where he wants to go. We are trusting that he will meet his adoptive family soon.

In order for an adoption to be finalised, a baby needs to follow a medical and a legal route, and complications with either, can result in an alternative placement. Our first baby admitted in 2008 had medical complications. And sadly we discovered that he is severely mentally handicapped. His life expectancy is very low, but he is currently doing well in one of AFM's homes for sick babies.

Another baby became very complicated in a legal sense. We proved the truisms that you shouldn't believe everything that you read in newspapers and that there are two sides to every story. AFM/ABBA Adoptions, who takes legal responsibility for most of the babies in our care, really does seek to act in the best interests of the child. I have a high level of trust in their integrity and professional ability. Please continue to pray for this baby, the family and our social workers.



We have several babies in the Nursery at the moment who are delayed either medically or legally, please pray that the obstacles will be cleared so that they can meet their forever families soon. While I think we run a very good temporary

shelter, we cannot match the benefits that come from living in a stable family. Please pray that more South African families will be led to adopt our babies and consider whether this isn't something that God is calling **you** to do. If you would like to help ABBA House, whether through praying, giving your time or finances, you are welcome to contact me at info@abbahouse.co.za.



We pray about the future of each baby we have in our care. We pray that God's Will be done, that they will have a loving and secure family. Yet we know we live in a fallen world. The effects of sin mark each of us, that, of course, holds tension with God's sovereignty and that is sometimes difficult to understand. When things don't seem to go the way we think they should it's such an encouragement to know that God is always there and He always cares. That is so beautifully expressed in the poem below that I thought I would share it with you as it holds true even in the most difficult of our own situations.

What God Has Promised

Annie Johnson Flint

*God has not promised skies always blue,
Flower-strewn pathways all our lives through;
God has not promised sun without rain,
Joy without sorrow, peace without pain.*

*God has not promised we shall not know
Toil and temptation, trouble and woe;
He has not told us we shall not bear
Many a burden, many a care.*

*God has not promised smooth roads and wide,
Swift, easy travel, needing no guide;
Never a mountain rocky and steep,
Never a river, turbid and deep.*

*But God has promised strength for the day,
Rest from the labour, light for the way,
Grace for the trials, help from above,
Unfailing sympathy, undying love.*

08 February 2009

A "NOTE" FROM THE MUSIC MINISTRY.

I am forced to say what I intended to say in a three page review of the music ministry in one paragraph. Because Kim wouldn't allow me any more space*! Here goes!

[* did you submit on time? - Ed]

Beginning of the year, time to look ahead and to take a quick peak over our shoulders at last year. I believe we have managed to create a good worship environment for the congregation. Our musicians have united in the goal to glorify God in all we do in practice and execution. And we intend to continue building on it. This year presents its own unique challenges- the primary being the start of two morning services. We will be under added pressure and I would appeal to those who believe they may have some musical ability to speak to me or any of the worship leaders. The work is demanding, but the rewards are worth it! The only down side is that you will have to work with some grumpy people like Tim and Mark and the odd cantankerous musician such as Adrian. I would like to thank all the worship leaders, musicians and technical staff who selflessly give of themselves to glorify God's name.

Let us continue to make a joyful noise to the Lord our God!





God will always take care of you!

**So believe in him,
do what is right and good,
and enjoy all that he has given you.**

**Be happy in knowing God,
and your heart will be full.**

**Follow God,
do your best to please him,
and he will bless you in everything
you do.**

**He will make your goodness
shine like the noonday sun.**

**Take some time each day to be
with God.
Be still and quiet.
Wait for God,
and he will come to you!**

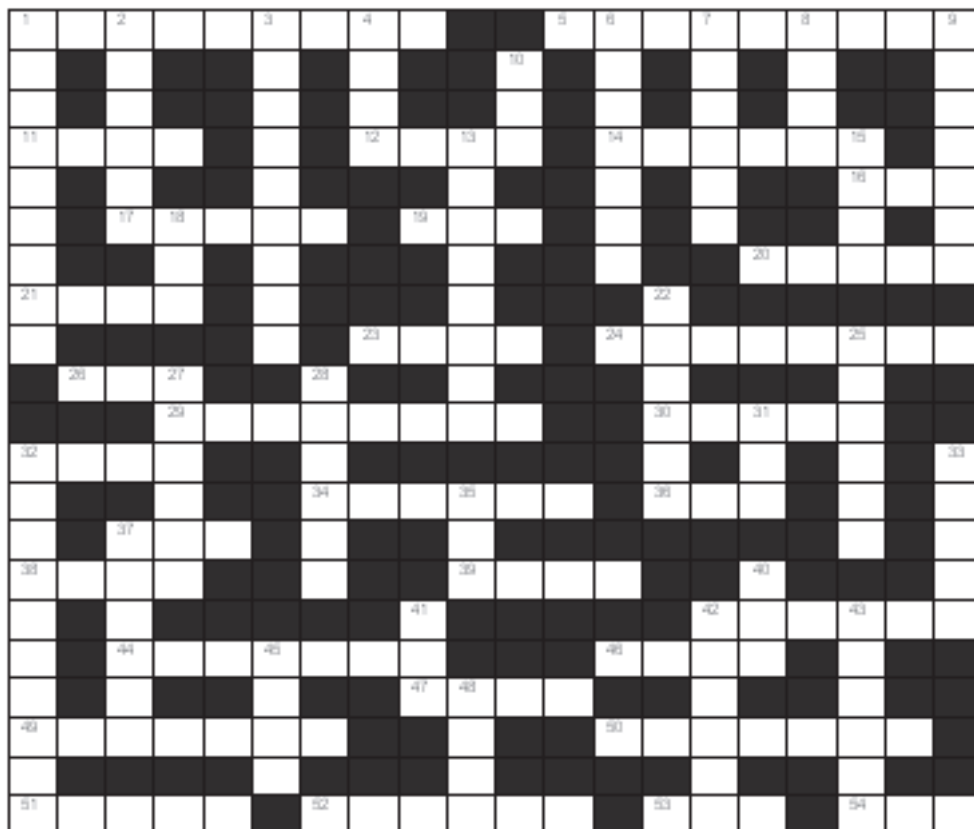


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CROSS WORD

by Lana Pelser

*... about rivers,
mountains and
animals in the
Bible. In some
cases there are
references to the
King James!*



DOWN

1	Lev 11:17	Bird, forbidden as food
2	Gen 8:4	Where the Ark came to rest
3	Ps 104:26	Mythological sea-monster
4	Num 7:3	They pull wagons and carts
6	Ps 29:6 KJ	Now a name of a one horned animal. May be a 2 horned ox in Bible times
7	Josh 11:17	One of the mountains mentioned there
8	Gen 4:2	He kept flocks but was later killed by his brother
9	Ps 84:3	This bird found a home
10	1 Kings 10:22	One of the animals that came with Solomon's trading ships
13	Matt 17:20	What can you move when you have enough faith?
15	Josh 15:10	Mountain (of Esau)
18	Prov 6:6	Small industrious insect
22	John 19:29	Sponge with vinegar was on this stick
25	Rom 11:24	The fruit of this tree
27	Prov 24:31 KJ	Coarse herb with stinging hairs
28	Job 8:14	Housed in a fragile web
31	-	Not old
32	1 S Df S 2:12 KJ	Dove
33	Deut 14:18	Large bird - unclean
35	-	Young goat
37	Lev 11:30 KJ	Kind of lizard
40	Num 20:22-28	Mountain where Aaron died
41	-	Donkey
42	Deut 3:16	River - border of the Ammonites
43	Ps 80:13	Wild beasts will "Eat up"
45	-	Unwell
48	Mark 9:48	"--- does not die"

ACROSS

1	Lev 11:30	Unclean animal that changes colour
5	Gen 2:14	Fourth river in Eden
11	-	Female horse
12	Gen 2:20	What did Adam give to the animals?
14	Matt 3:4	John's clothes were made of ----- hair
16	-	To hear with
17	-	What does the tongue do?
19	Luke 11:42	Garden herb
20	Is 11:7	Not lion food, but Is. says lions will eat ----
21	Matt 8:20	Where do birds stay?
23	Prov 31:13	Linen was made from the fibres of this plant
24	Luke 19	Zaccheus climbed in this fig tree
26	Job 37:8	Animals stay there
29	1 Kings 10:22	Ivory, mentioned here, comes from this very large animal
30	Ex 19	Moses was given the law there
32	1 Thes 5:21	--- everything.
34	Matt 21:5	The King rides on a ----
36	-	Foot of a lion
37	-	Birds ---
38	Matt 3:10	What will be cut down?
39	Matt 15:27	Who will eat the crumbs?
42	Mark 1:9	Jesus was baptized in this river
44	1 Sam 30:12	The Egyptian ate figs and ----
46	Ps 128:1	Blessed are those who --- the Lord
47	-	Fish --
49	Job 39:13	Big bird who flaps her wings
50	Ps 137:1	By what river did they sit and weep?
51	Rev 12:14	The woman was given ----- wings
52	1 Kings 18:19	Elijah built an altar there
53	Heb 11:12	"stars in the ---"
54	Gen 22:13	What did Abraham sacrifice?

God Moves in a Mysterious Way

God moves in a mysterious way
His wonders to perform:
He plants His footsteps in the sea,
And rides upon the storm.

Deep in unfathomable mines
With neverfailing skill,
He treasures up His bright designs
And works his sov'reign will.
Ye fearful saints, fresh courage take;
The clouds ye so much dread
Are big with mercy, and shall break
In blessings on your head.

Judge not the Lord by feeble sense,
But trust him for His Grace;
Behind a frowning providence
He hides a smiling face.

His purposes will ripen fast,
Unfolding every hour:
The bud may have a bitter taste,
But sweet will be the flower

Blind unbelief is sure to err,
And scan His work in vain;
God is His own interpreter,
And He will make it plain.

by William Cowper



God gave us two ears and one mouth
for a reason....

James 1:19

Beneath the Cross of Jesus

Beneath the cross of Jesus
I fain would take my stand,
the shadow of a mighty rock
within a weary land;
a home within the wilderness,
a rest upon the way,
from the burning of the noontide heat,
and the burden of the day.

Upon that cross of Jesus
mine eye at times can see
the very dying form of One
who suffered there for me;
and from my stricken heart with tears
two wonders I confess:
the wonders of redeeming love
and my unworthiness.

I take, O cross, thy shadow
for my abiding place;
I ask no other sunshine than
the sunshine of his face;
content to let the world go by,
to know no gain nor loss,
my sinful self my only shame,
my glory all the cross.

by Elizabeth Clephane

*In faith there is enough
light for those who
want to believe and
enough shadows to
blind those who don't.*

Blaise Pascal

BETHESDA OUTREACH MINISTRIES

a ministry of
Evangelical Baptist Missions



"Whoever speaks, is to do so as one who is speaking the utterances of God; whoever serves is to do so as one who is serving by the strength which God supplies, so that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belongs the glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen."

1 Peter 4:11

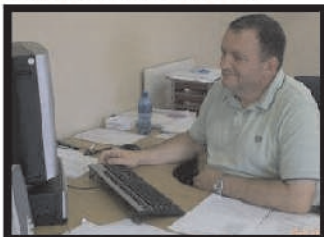
Inside this issue:

School News	2
Construction Progress	2
Praise and Prayer Requests	3
Welcome Msiza family	3
Grade 3-8 School pictures	4

Raised to Praise

January 2009 Newsletter

From the Director



Dear Friends of Bethesda,

This year began with the sound of the starting gun. We are off the blocks fast and running and the team at Bethesda is eager to see what God is going to do in 2009.

The Matjeni's have moved to their home in Soshanguve. The children are settling in well to their new environment. I can now say that we officially have our first community home outside the Bethesda village. The Matjeni children are still attending our school at Bethesda so we get to see them daily. I am tremendously excited to see this first step toward growth in the community.

Since the Matjeni move, we are painting, making repairs where needed in the house. We are interviewing couples for the new houseparent position for that house. The goal is to be ready for 8 more

children soon.

Last week, Lois was called to the office because there were two police officers to see her. When she arrived she observed that there was a 2 year old girl with the two officers. This little girl was abandoned on the streets at 12:30pm the night before. The little girl was wandering about until a kind gentleman took her to the police department. The police did an investigation and found that the mother is sick and up on charges. The mother is now in prison facing neglect charges as well as the charges that had already been established against her. We are thankful for Jones and Lenah Phago who willingly added this little one into their home of already 8 children until we have the new houseparents trained and in place.

As I walk home from the office and look around at all that God has done, I thank Him for leading, guiding and directing daily some big and some insignificant decisions that are made for

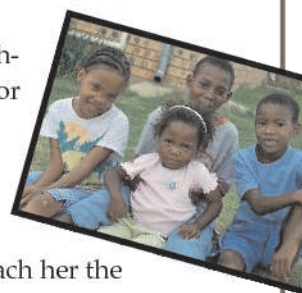
this ministry. Please pray that God will grant wisdom as decisions are made daily that affect the face of this ministry.

A big thank you to everyone who makes this ministry possible through generous gifts and resources so that Bethesda can reach out to a helpless 2 year old, walking the streets at mid-night, and take her in to give her a place to sleep, nourishment for her physical body, and teach her the Words of God that will impact her life forever. For that we give glory to God!

'til He comes, or takes us Home,

John P. Mylon

John, for the Bethesda team



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0400

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Branch Code: 011245

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Outreach

Account Number: 011818743

United States Details:

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Bethesda Outreach

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Phone: 317 872 4488

Fax: 317 872 4489

For U.S. online giving, go to

www.ebm.org

and follow links

to online giving

We're on the Web!

www.bethesdaoutreach.org

Managerial Staff:

John & Lois Mixon

Michele Geurink

Ruth Rising

Trainers:

Roger and Carol Cryan

Josh Mack

Houseparent Supervisor:

Fritz Shikwambane

Houseparents:

Elias & Mamitjie Matjeni

Jones & Lenah Phago

Fritz & Masello Shikwambane

John & Primrose Kolokoto

Jack and Maria Msiza

Houseparent Assistants:

Christinah Moagi

Mary Nkadimeng

Judith Maogi

Maintenance Supervisor:

Jones Phago

Maintenance/Grounds:

Elvis Raphakgadi

Dorah Maluri

Teachers:

Josephina Molekoa

Elizabeth Maboea

Joanna Culver

Heather Rumley

Tonya Small

Compassionate Care for African Orphans

Bethesda Outreach, a ministry of Evangelical Baptist Missions, was born in October of 2000 out of a desire to show compassion to children in Africa who had been orphaned by AIDS.

Bethesda's mission is to encourage and assist the local church in meeting the needs of orphan children that they may become disciples of Christ. That mission is accomplished through Bethesda's Children's Village, Orphan Care Resource Centre, and Hands of Mercy Ministry.

Bethesda Outreach Ministries is registered as a non-profit organization.

For more information, please visit our website at www.bethesdaoutreach.org.

Opportunities to Help

Capital Project Needs

Front loader for tractor- R65,000.00/\$9,500.00

Village road construction- R480,000.00/\$80,000.00

Completing new home- R200,000.00/\$28,500.00

*cabinets, sinks, tile, cupboards for bedrooms, light fixtures

Furnishings for new home- R300,000.00/\$42,000.00

New school building- R1,100,000.00/\$160,000.00

Children's Home Needs (for donors in South Africa)

Non perishable food

Good clothing

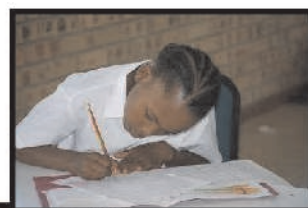
Grade 3 & 4 start school



Rudolph, Thandiwe, Joanna, and Kelebo-gile enjoy break time.



Miss Rumley helps Boipelo in class.



Above: Blessing

works hard

Left: Miss Small

helps Blessing

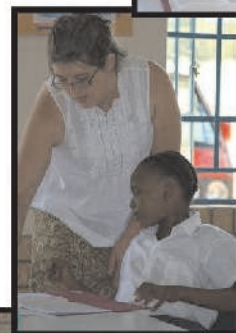
Below: Bongani

enjoys the reading

carpet, and Lerry

enjoys soccer at

break!



Bethesda students in Grade 7 and up attend Pretige College, a local high school. They too, were excited on their first day of school!

Bethesda
OUTREACH
Compassionate Care for African Orphans

10 YEARS !



Thank you Pastor Charles and Carol for your faithful ministry to Central (and beyond) over these last 10 years.

He will be with you also, all the way, that faithful God. Every morning when you awaken to the old and tolerable pain, at every mile of the hot uphill dusty road of tiring duty, on to the judgment seat, the same Christ there as ever, still loving you, still sufficient for you, even then. And then, on through all eternity.

Thomas Kempis

Wiser Early Riser? Central is introducing a 2ND MORNING SERVICE !

Time: 8am

From 1st March 2009





When you lie down, you will not be afraid;
Yes, you will lie down and your sleep will be sweet.
Proverbs 3:24

*"Have courage for the great sorrows of life,
and patience for the small ones. And when you
have laboriously accomplished your daily task,
go to sleep in Peace. God is awake."*

Victor Hugo

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So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work.

2 Corinthians v 7-8