



INTER-NATIONAL HARVEST

John 4:35



Romans 1:5

"Unto the ends of the earth"

VOL. 26, NO. 11

THINGS TO COME MISSION

NOV., 1984

Indonesia India Philippines

HELP WANTED:

Japan

SERVANT: Someone to do often undesirable work for the sake of others. Needs strong sense of self-worth in God's eyes and true compassion for others. Must be personally acquainted with the greatest Servant of All, Jesus Christ, in order to continue His training. Work requires being on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Work involves travel in countries where the climate and conditions are much different than here in America. No experience is required. Travel to such countries as Brazil, Indonesia, Philippines, India, Kenya, Nigeria, and, perhaps, China, Korea, Japan, and other countries besides opportunities in Key West, Florida and other parts of the USA. Applicants send for information to TCM, P.O. Box 96, Cope, Colorado 80812.

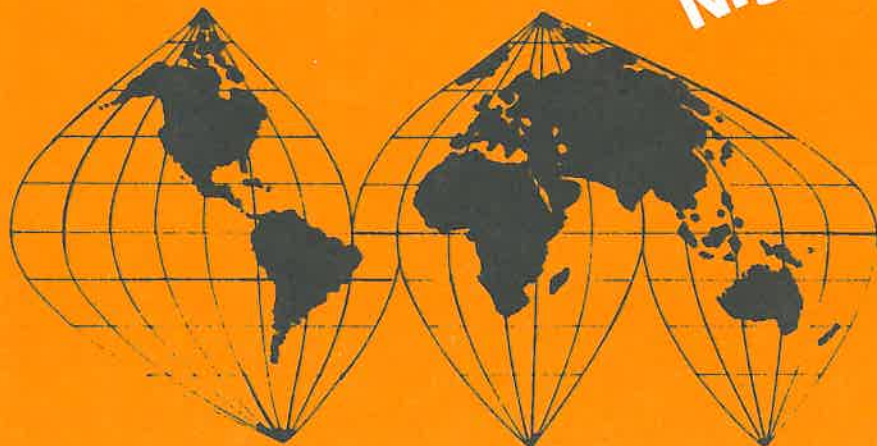
China

Brazil

Korea

Kenya

Nigeria



The Director's SHARES:

As Director of the Things to Come Mission, Inc., I have had many opportunities to preach and teach the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. Ten of the last eleven years I have enjoyed helping in the Ministry at Wyoming Grace Youth Camp. The past two years I have been privileged to teach the Jr. age group at camp and help with sports and Campfire programs.

I wish it were possible for each of you to read all the interesting letters and see the bountiful gifts that are given to keep the ministry going forth in each of the countries where we are labouring. Many are praying every day for the Missionaries and some are praying for the National workers. Thanks to those who abide so faithful in the Lord's work.

It is wonderful to hear of the ways in which the Lord is blessing on every field

of ministry. Oh, that we might be faithful in upholding the Missionaries and National Workers and National Christians and the different ministries in prayer that the Lord Jesus Christ would get all the glory.

Praise the Lord with us for a new Missionary for work in the Philippines — Jennifer L. Townley! Praise the Lord for possibly having three young couples at our board meeting this fall in Ohio — all interested in Missionary work! Praise the Lord for a legacy received this year to help the work of printing of literature and booklets for Foreign work, for Office Needs, etc.!

If God is calling you to labour on some mission field, you will never be happy in any other job! Would you like an application? Write today!

Eldred Sidebottom, Director

The Call to the Mission Field

Our subject makes Christians hide in their pews when they hear it from the mouth of their pastor or from some missionary sharing with their church. Many will even break out into a cold sweat, and some just turn off their mental switch so that the voice they hear no longer is heard by them. Many of us want to shrug off the idea that we may be hearing God's call by saying we never were called, when in fact it would often be more accurate to say that we just didn't accept the call.

I believe that before we reject the idea that God COULD be calling any one of us to the mission field, that we ought to try and better understand just what a MISSIONARY CALL MEANS, and how it relates to what God is trying to do in the world.

We all know that God is in the process of working out a great mission — the redemption of mankind, and that He has decided that in this task He will not only redeem man, but that He will use man to help redeem mankind. Each believer, therefore, has a special role in God's plan.



Each believer becomes "God's fellow worker" (II Cor. 6:1). Because of this, God calls men and women to Himself and gives to them His vision and His mission. God then places them in His Church. He makes them His representatives. He is not selective from the viewpoint of excluding some and choosing others, "Whosoever will may come."
Con't on Pg. 4

MINISTERING TO "THE INDIVIDUAL"

Greetings in the matchless name of Jesus Christ!

How thankful we ought to be, that in such a time as ours, when there is a constant spirit of fear, chaos and conspiracy, we as Christians can retain a spirit of "power (over-coming), of love, and of a sound mind." (II Tim. 1:7)

Thanks to the indwelling Spirit of the Living Lord, "we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us."



We do thank and Praise Our Great God and Saviour, who has given us the privilege to be His Ambassadors, and has called us into the ministry of reconciliation.

Certainly the duty of an ambassador is one of representation on behalf of a monarch, and with the representation, the proclamation of His Kingdom and Majesty.

So likewise we as ambassadors for Christ represent the King of all Kings; and are called to proclaim His Great Love

where with He loved us, as well as "the wine of the Wrath of God which will be poured out without mixture" upon all who will not accept His Pardon (John 3:36). "Oh, the Goodness and Severity of God."

How great the responsibility is our "ministry of reconciliation"? As God has given us the privilege to minister here in the Key West area, we are increasingly coming into awareness of our emphasis on "MINISTERING TO THE INDIVIDUAL", instead of "Ministering to the ministry".

Let me clarify. So often when we are called by God into the ministry and are sent out into the mission field (whether at home or abroad); we unconsciously lose sight of the "individual soul", and become increasingly over involved in the "administration" of the ministry. Now let me hasten to add that administration is indeed a necessary and important aspect of the Welcome Home Ministry, but it is not the object of the Welcome Home Ministry. JESUS DIED FOR PEOPLE: CHRIST JESUS CAME INTO THE WORLD TO SAVE PEOPLE (SINNERS). INDIVIDUAL PEOPLE. By way of comparison: so often we as husbands, wives, parents, etc. get so involved in providing for the household, that there is not time spent with the "individual" in the household. The JOB REQUIRES MUCH TIME AWAY FROM HOME: WE HAVE BILLS TO MEET (which most of the time is a result of bad budgeting or stewardship), HOUSE PAYMENTS MUST BE MET, and on and on and on. All these are absolutely, unmistakably, real necessities in the ministry — BUT IT IS NOT THE MINISTRY. THE INDIVIDUAL must be reconciled to God. "Charity (Love-

Con't on Pg. 7



God's call to Himself is for all men. It has nothing to do with race, color, national origin, or the such. It is simply God's call to all mankind to His Kingdom and domain. Following an obedience to God's call to Himself comes another call — the call to serve in God's mission. Again God is not selective: His call is for all believers at all times, in every place to be a part of His mission. It has nothing to do with gifts, needs, circumstances, or counsel. It is simply the CALL of God to labor in His Mission. I say this because today we are busy worrying about My calling, my gifts, my mission, my part, my ability, etc. Instead of being so concerned about



ourselves, we should be asking, "What is God trying to accomplish in the world, and what part does He want me to play?"

The problem is that many of us are not even asking the right questions, let alone getting the right answers. As we examine the Word of God we will note that the great men of Scripture who were called by God realized their call when they realized WHO it was that was calling them. All of them, Abraham, Moses, Isaiah, Paul — all of them understood what God wanted them to do after they understood who He was. Their sense of understanding and direction came about as they saw what God was really like and what He was doing. Because of this it was not THEIR MISSION, THEIR VISION, THEIR CALLING; rather, it was GOD'S. The thought is that God not only calls us to come to Him, but also to Go. We need to understand that God wants us to go and besides this to do something. The

disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ understood that they were not only called to God's love and salvation but that God wanted them to do something. So when they heard the direction of the Lord Jesus Christ to "Go into all the world," they began where they were, and committed themselves to the point that many of them offered their lives in the process.

The Scriptures plainly teach that when God calls a person, Abraham, Moses, Jonah, the disciples, and Paul, for example, He also sends him. This does not always mean a change in geographic location for all of us, but it does mean a new direction in how we live, and WHO we live for. One thing is for certain and that is THAT ALL ARE CALLED TO SERVE in God's great mission. I believe that there is a mis-emphasis on FULL TIME CHRISTIAN SERVICE. We must all understand that we are to be FULL TIME CHRISTIANS. Don't misunderstand me: I do not want to put down those who are presently serving Christ as FULL TIME CHRISTIANS even though they are plumbers, electricians, doctors, etc. But I do want each of you to realize that you must try the door, and perhaps try it more than once before you say, "I am just not called to the mission field or the pastorate, etc."

Let's suppose that you hear God's call and you decide that full time service is to be your vocation. Again we must realize that this is only the first step in a long journey. At this point many allow emotional appeals, sermons, books, and the like to influence them unduly. If we are to truly find God's will in our call, He must be the One Who has the greatest amount of sway in our decision. I need to add here something that I heard Vernon Anderson say one time and that is: "God has enough carpenters, plumbers, electricians, and such, what He needs now is new missionaries proclaiming the Gospel of the Grace of God." I must agree with this statement.

If we see that this Missionary Call business is to be discerned like any other matter, in a practical sense, it will liberate us to understand God's will. We will make this decision by faith through prayerful study of the Word of God, seeking godly counsel, and depending upon the Holy

Spirit of God to direct us. Discerning the Missionary Call need not be any more difficult than any other decision involving God's will. It is very plain that God wants "Every believer to be witness for Jesus Christ." And our motto ought to be "Every one win one."

We must discuss, however, the obstacles that can prevent and blind us from clearly understanding and discerning the missionary call.

The first obstacle has to do with our thinking: Most people that I know say to me: "I have never felt called to go to the mission field." Receiving God's call is primarily hearing and accepting, not feeling. The real question is not "do we have a call to serve," but rather "have we received the call." The basic matter is not feeling or hearing, but listening and accepting. God's Word calls us. We are ALL "ambassadors for Christ," and we need not feel slighted in this matter. Paul stated, "for me to live is Christ." He was not bragging. We are all in the same situation. As the world looks at the believer, they are seeing Christ's representative. The question is: "What kind of representative are they seeing?" If the world only sees Christ through us, what kind of Christ are we showing them?

The second obstacle seems to be, "I am not equipped to go to the Mission Field." "I don't have the education, or ability, or physical health, or personality, or whatever." What we are doing with this excuse is putting too much emphasis on ourselves, and not enough on God. God has purposefully chosen the weak things of this world to use in His great Mission. God's Spirit lists five kinds of witnesses in I Cor. I: Fools, the weak, the base, the despised, and the nobodies. (See I Cor. 1:26-28) Each of these five have one thing in common, they are to be preaching the cross of Christ. In receiving God's call the emphasis is not on the man, but on the power and ability of God.

The third obstacle is that we must have some special vision such as that of John on Patmos, of Paul on the Damascus road, of Gideon on the thrashing floor, of the prophets, etc. Isaiah's experience is quite often quoted by those using the vision

excuse. For your information you have that kind of vision. Read please II Cor. 5:14-21 and you will see that this is true. God has committed to us, each of us, the "word of reconciliation." He has also said, "Now then are we ambassadors for Christ." If we build our confidence in decision-making by studying God's Word, relying on the Holy Spirit direction, and becoming informed about the need for missionaries, we will see more visions than any of the Bible characters, and we will realize that God is calling us to His Mission.

A fourth obstacle is that of failing to understand or learn about missions and missionaries. We proclaim that we do not really know the plight of the unreached peoples of the world, and, therefore, if God wants us on the field He will give us that kind of information. How silly! What we are saying is that we are simply not interested in missions for missionary service. Again, it is not that we do not have the call, it is simply that we are not accepting the call. Since God thought His plan important enough to send His Son to die for it, then surely we had better find out what it is and how we fit in. If we are not willing to be involved in that for which Christ died, what does this say about our love toward Him?

What does it take to discern God's call to the Mission Field?

1. We must be surrendered to the total Lordship of Jesus Christ. (Community Bible Church of Rootstown has a double commitment: To the Lordship of Jesus Christ, and the authority of God's Word) This surrender means that we must decide first of all that we will do whatever God asks us to do. There is no room for maybe's. We must not say, "Lord, show me what you want me to do and then I'll decide whether or not I'll do it." We must be willing to serve Him in any way.
2. We must make ourselves available to God. Isaiah said, "Here am I, Lord, send me." We must do the same. I am sure that if we offer, God will not refuse, and I am just as sure that we already know that, and that the reason we do not offer is because we are afraid that God will send us. *Con't*

The Editor Speaks:

INTERNATIONAL HARVEST has a new format and cover.

You will note that IH has a new look as well as a new format. We are trying to improve the way we bring you news of Things to Come Mission and our missionaries. We are going to try and bring you articles on Missions and Evangelism that will keep you up to date on what is happening, not only in TCM, but in other works reaching the lost for Jesus Christ. We are going to include articles that concern missions around the world, and we are going to include missionary stories and Christian human interest articles.

You will note in this issue that we have included an article by one of our Board members, Pastor Roy J. Kelsey. If you have suggestions either for articles or for things that you would like to see included in IH, please do not hesitate to share them with us.

The International Harvest magazine is an official organ of Things to Come Mission, Inc., P.O. Box 96, Cope, Colorado 80812. Letters should be addressed to this mailing address.

We are going to include a section "Letters to the Editor" in future issues. If you have comments on any article or editorial comment in IH, please let us know.

The Editor...

Prayer & Praise

KENYA

Invitations have come from Kenya to send missionaries there to teach and train pastors and evangelists. There is a need for evangelism and church planting. The Vernon Andersons have spent July and August in Kenya to lay the foundation for future more extensive ministry. Pray for the Andersons as they work in Brazil this fall and for another couple to follow up the Andersons in Kenya.

Call to the Missions Con't from Pg. 5

3. We must depend on God to give to us the power and strength to do the job He sends us out to do. (Phil. 4:13 states: "I can do all things through Christ, which strengthens me." Do we believe that?)

If we are willing to meet the above thoughts and requirements, God will call us to serve Him. We will close with some questions that may help us in discerning a missionary call:

1. Do I have a clear understanding of God's plan for mankind as revealed in His Word? ("To make all men see..")
2. Am I really willing and open to God's Call to serve Him where ever He wills?
3. Am I really considering God's perspective and assessment of the world's spiritual condition? (All have sinned and come short of God's glory) Romans 10:13 states: "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." But Romans 10:14 states: "How shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher?"

Things to Come Mission, Inc. has needs on several fields for missionaries right now. We need several people for Brazil, Nigeria, Key West, Florida, Kenya, Indonesia, India, the Philippines, and we need missionaries to open new fields that have not as yet been touched with the Gospel. China, with one quarter of the World's population, needs the Gospel.

Again we state, "The fact is not that we do not have the call from God, but the fact is that many are not willing to accept the call." How about you?

The Call to the Mission Field

Rev. Roy J. Kelsey
Pastor of Community Bible Church
Rootstown, Ohio



Ministering to "The Individual" Con't
 in-action) NEVER FAILETH". CHARITY
 must have an OBJECT to **express** its love
 to. I cannot love my desk, nor my office;
 but I can love *you* (an individual). When the
 Apostle Paul exhorted the Corinthians, he
 said, "Blessed be the God and Father of
 our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of
 mercies, and the God of all comfort; who
 comforteth US (people) in all our tribulation,
 that WE MAY BE ABLE to comfort THEM
 (OTHER PEOPLE) which are IN ANY
 TROUBLE, by the comfort wherewith WE
 OURSELVES ARE COMFORTED OF
 GOD." (II Corinthians 1:3,4)

The Apostle Paul also exhorted Timothy
 (II Tim. 2:2) saying, "And the things that
thou hast heard of *me* among many
 witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful
 MEN (PEOPLE/INDIVIDUALS)...". May I
 also exhort you my brethren in Christ
 Jesus; let us follow JESUS CHRIST, and
 HE will make us to become, "FISHERS OF
 MEN".

"AS THE FATHER HATH SENT ME, SO
 SENT I YOU."
 IN HIS WORTHY NAME AMEN:

P.S. This month at Welcome Home
 Ministries has been one of travail, work and
 increase to the Glory of God. We are
 presently putting to practice the message
 of this newsletter — exhortation,
 ministering and disciplining the
 INDIVIDUAL. PRAY FOR US IN THE
 LOVE OF CHRIST.

OUR NEEDS ARE:

- ...A couple to work full time with our KEY
 TEEN CHRISTIAN PROGRAM
- ...3 full time staff people to teach Bible,
 assist in counseling and overseeing a
 woman's ministry and jail ministry
- ...Funds to open one building for a
 women's ministry. Cost is \$500.00 monthly.
- ...A Good running window VAN.

TRIUMPHANTLY IN CHRIST LOVE,
 Beth, Becky, Bob Xavier & W.H.M. Family

A Living Memorial

Given by:

In Memory of:

Janice Wilson

Mrs. Kingsbury

Gertrude Livenspire

**Gertrude Rodgers
 Dorr Livenspire**

**Mrs. Catherine Tracy
 Mrs. Virginia Gunn**

Mr. & Mrs. Ed Cecil

**August Nelson
 Mary Manuello**

Mrs. F. Eoff

Floyd Eoff

Mr. & Mrs. Wilbur Lane

Mrs. Lorraine Sweet

Christina Smith

Mr. & Mrs. David Grable

Mr. & Mrs. Archie Smith

Mr. & Mrs. Eldred Sidebottom

Mr. & Mrs. Mike Morgan

Mr. & Mrs. Ron Beebe

Margaret Fromer

Mr. & Mrs. David Mapés

Mr. & Mrs. James Schutter

Tony and Eva Vanderlinden

Mr. & Mrs. Ed Bowers

Dorothy Good

Howard Jeanson

Irving Lewis

Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Johnson

Nancy Jeanson

Blanche Kollmorgan

Mr. & Mrs. DeLyle Beyer

Mr. & Mrs. Oscar Potter

Doris Gast

Grace Smalley

Christine Stieler

Mr. & Mrs. Vincent Vaughan

Carol Kusky

Mildred Werner

Mr. & Mrs. George Williams

Eleanor Strommen

THINGS TO COME MISSION, INC.

ASSOCIATE MISSIONARY PROGRAM

Many missions have programs whereby believers in local churches serve as Local Representatives for that Mission. They serve in whatever way they can to promote the Mission that they represent.

Things to Come Mission believes that this type of program may benefit them, and, therefore, TCM is introducing their own ASSOCIATE MISSIONARY REPRESENTATIVE program.

RATIONALE:

The Associate Missionary Representative program provides an "Official Representative" in the many churches and areas where believers are both praying for and supporting TCM and TCM's Missionaries. The task of each AMR (Associate Missionary Representative) is to promote and represent TCM in local churches, fellowships, study groups, Prayer & Bible Study groups, Missions groups, and to persons who are interested in both missions and TCM.

I. PERSONAL REQUIREMENTS:

- a. Agree wholeheartedly with TCM's doctrinal statement.
- b. Agree wholeheartedly with TCM's purpose, goals, and policies.
- c. Agree wholeheartedly with TCM's Methods and Approach to Missions.
- d. Each AMR must be a spiritual example in his or her local church.
- e. Each AMR must be committed to studying God's holy Word.
- f. Each AMR must be committed to missions (II Cor. 5:14-21)

II. DUTIES — RESPONSIBILITIES:

- a. Promote and represent TCM in every area possible in the AMR's own geographic region.
- b. Make presentations to churches, Bible Study groups, Fellowships, Missions groups, and to all other interested persons.
- c. Collect names and addresses of people interested in the work of

- TCM — send same to Director.
- d. Start TCM "Prayer Groups" and Missions Study groups as well as "Support Groups."
- e. Assist with accommodations for TCM visiting missionaries and other personnel.
- f. Help arrange meetings for TCM Missionaries and other personnel.
- g. Help arrange Missionary Conferences where TCM is featured.
- h. Assist with travel for missionaries and TCM personnel visiting the AMR's area.
- i. Report quarterly your AMR activities to the Director of TCM.

III. APPOINTMENT OF AMR:

- a. All AMRs are appointed for an indefinite term.
- b. All AMRs are appointed upon recommendation of their local pastor, the Director of TCM, a Board Member of TCM, a Missionary of TCM, or after one's own application has been reviewed and acted upon by the TCM Board of Directors.
- c. All prospective AMRs must fill out an application and submit the same to TCM's Director, who will review the application and present it to the Board of Directors at their next meeting.
- d. All AMRs are appointed by the Board of TCM.
- e. If any AMR is found misrepresenting TCM, or living contrary to accepted Christian walk, they will be, upon proper examination, relieved of their duties as an AMR of TCM.

IV. FINANCES:

- a. All TCM-AMRs serve as a "work and labor of love." (The AMR receives no salary)
- b. Any offerings received must be sent to the TCM office.
- c. TCM will send a tax receipt for all

MUCH TRAVEL — MUCH PROFIT!



Schmidt family gathering for Memorial of Henrique Schmidt Biguacu, Santa Catarina



Edio Alves Vieira

This year of 1984 has been one of much travel for me and it has been all used for the glory of God. Ministries have been expanded, souls have been saved, Christians have been encouraged. My heart has been moved to further service. And we trust as you read the results you too will be challenged to go, to give, to pray and to encourage others in His great work of Missions.

January began with Vernon Anderson, Joe Watkins and I going to Key West, Fla., to help encourage Bob and Beth in their work there. How they do need our help, our prayers. We felt this was a very profitable time and it showed us a little of what all is involved in the ministry there.

In March, Bob Travis, Vernon Anderson and I travelled to Brazil for a month to see

the work of the Lord there and to encourage the saints and to see what we could do to cause them to go forward. Our Founder and Director of the work, Henrique Schmidt, passed away in August of 1983 and so the trip was needed and was used in many wonderful ways.

We had a time with each of the pastors and workers and then met all day with the leaders to seek a plan of operation in Southern Brazil. TCM is working in the States of Sao Paulo, Parana and Santa Catarina.

We had a memorial service with the Schmidt family and many souls were reached for Christ. What a time of joy was ours in these homes.

One church had closed its doors and we were used of the Lord to get the doors open and another leader to go forward in the work. A letter just received from the President of the TCM of Brazil Aroldo (Harold in English) states: "This moment I like to tell you about my activities on my visit made on the 6th to 9th of April in Santa Catarina (Uru Mountain), where you also visited with us that brother Aleixo. I found the situation much better, praise the Lord. Many things are being done, and also more in order. We had four meetings in church and three visits in houses. The results were blessed. We had four decisions for Christ. Good reasons for rejoicing."

We had four nights of meetings in the church in Araraquara with the Keipers and
Con't

Things to Come Mission Con't

expenses incurred by an AMR in official duties for TCM.

d. TCM will provide literature and Visual aids for use by AMRs in representing TCM.

e. AMRs should seek to get TCM and TCM missionaries into local church budgets where possible.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT: TCM, P.O. BOX 96, COPE, COLORADO 80812.

Ask for AMR Application!

Much Travel — Much Profit! Con't



*Mr. & Mrs. Jose Correa
Lapa, Parana*

Leo was our interpreter. A number stood for salvation and for service. Pray with us that these people will follow thru with their commitment and that others might see the results of yielded lives to the Lord's service and want to follow suit.

The News from the Philippines tells of the conclusion of another year of training at the International Grace Bible Institute and the Mindanao Grace Bible Institute and we are rejoicing that more workers are available for the work. The Annual Conference for the Workers and Pastors and Bible Women has been held and great victories have been won in the Youth Department. Praise the Lord for these victories.

Our Thanks to those who are so very faithful in praying for the work and workers, for those who faithfully support with their finances these workers and for the encour-



*Aleixo Schurt and family
Donna Emma, Santa Catarina*

aging letters that we receive to continue the work of Things to Come Mission. Thanks for your faithful Stand for the Gospel of the Grace of God. Let's send that message to the four corners of the world.

We are also happy to have some applications from young people here in the States that are interested in Missions. Pray they will follow thru on their commitment and help us reach out further.

Eldred Sidebottom, Director

Prayer & Praise

NATIONAL WORKERS

In all TCM fields we are financially helping national workers. When gifts are received at the Cope office marked "national workers" for a specific country, that money is used totally for the support of national workers in the country designated by the donor. Our missionaries know the value of investing in nationals and each of them uses part of his own personal support to aid national workers. A comparatively small investment has been greatly multiplied and is definitely, eternally prosperous.

BRAZIL

For years we have believed that a

training program must be established in Brazil. It was even more apparent when Eldred Sidebottom, Bob Travis and Vernon Anderson spent a concentrated ministry of three weeks there, March 7-29. A large house was purchased for use as a missionary residence, church and training center in Curitiba, Parana State, Southern Brazil. The unanimous decision of the board members, Warren Keipers and Brazilian workers was for the Andersons to come to Brazil to initiate the training program, strengthening the churches and spreading out the work. Vernon and Darlene and Amy have agreed to take up this challenge after spending two months in Kenya this summer. Please pray for a couple to join them in this important task.



FIRST GRADUATION DAY FOR CHRIST: Picture shows the student body and faculty staff of the International Grace Bible Institute in Clarin, Misamis Occidental.

“HOLD ME!”

Our privilege of being day-care for our two-year-old Stephanie means that three days a week, as soon as she gets in the front door, she says, “G’ampa, hold me!” or “G’amma, hold me!” When she reaches up with outstretched arms and twinkling eyes, we sweep her up into our arms and she throws her tiny, loving arms around our necks. Then there are kisses and hugs. After this display of affection, she is ready to run and play, or have us read her a book.

There is a whole world of Stephanie’s crying out: “Hold me, love me, share with me.” Have you ever sat in a church service surrounded by other worshippers and felt miserably lonely? Have you ever been present in the midst of your whole family with friends all about you, and felt lonely? I remember once coming back from a very difficult mission of several weeks duration. We had a number of guests in the home. The whole family was busy. I was due to leave on another mission in just a few days. My comment to my wife was, “I feel lonely.” She answered correctly: “We’re all here!” Even so, I still felt lonely.

In a recent Reader’s Digest, one story tells of a lonely girl in the midst of hundreds

of college students. She appeared to be a good student, a loving and sharing person. A few weeks later she jumped from a cliff to her death. Later, when her college professor, Leo Buscaglia, inquired from fellow students about her, not one person even knew her name. Albert Schweitzer said, “We are all so much together and yet we are all dying of loneliness.” I am sure the Lord gave me the above experience of loneliness amidst family and friends to teach me a lesson about missions.

The heathen are not really out there in the regions beyond hoping for us to preach the gospel to them. They have no idea what the gospel is. In fact, they do not know of the existence of the one true God, Almighty Creator, nor His Son Jesus Christ Who died for them. At the same time, the heathen are lonely, full of fear and despair. Deep down they are calling out with pleading eyes and outstretched arms: “Hold me!” They are looking for love that embraces.

What does it mean to be in the world *In Christ’s stead*? If we are a manifestation of Christ’s love, how then do we reach out to the heathen? We reach out in love. If we
Con’t

"Hold Me!" Con't

fill up the mind with doctrinal creeds, hermeneutics and homiletics, outlines, and pulpit skills, will we reach the world? All these things are superstructures. Coming back to the core: we reach the heathen by love. Using our own life example, my wife and I were drawn to Christ by a quiet, joyful landlady who loved us in a way we could see and feel. Her gentleness, open door, time sharing became the sweet smell that drew us to her loving Saviour. When Christ came into the world it was because He wanted to save the world. But the most important aspect of His coming was that God *so loved* the world that He gave His Son. The motive was not to save but salvation is the result of God's LOVE.

Leo Buscaglia mentioned, "Love must be expressed physically." The Apostle Paul wrote, "Greet one another with a holy kiss." The Greek noun "kiss" (philema) embodies the verb "love" (phileo - "to love/kiss"). Christ came to us in a physical body to express His perfect love in many physical ways, finally surrendering that body of flesh on the cross. Years ago while my wife was holding our dying Laurel, our 11-year-old firstborn, Darlene looked up into the eyes of the Filipino doctor and with her own tears said, "This is how much we love the Filipinos." How often afterwards Pastor Undag would repeat that phrase when he would introduce me at evangelistic meetings: "Here is a man that *loves* us Filipinos so much that he gave us his daughter." Why did he say this? Because he knew that if we were to reach the Filipinos, it had to be through *obvious* love. The Apostle Paul was a *see-able* manifestation of Christ's love. Paul wrote love letters to the believers using highly endearing terms, "My dearly beloved and longed for." As he departed from the saints, he embraced them and kissed them and they all wept together. A modern day songwriter expresses it, "He touched me, O, He touched me."

Whatever sharing the gospel means, it must include sharing our love. Mother Theresa, the famous Catholic sister who seeks out the dying and suffering in India, has found a secret — she has learned to love the heathen where they are — consequently she has won the world's

acclaim through that love. Couple her love and our message and the world would be won to Christ. I Corinthians 13 exhorts us that we may have a great knowledge, supernatural faith and be able to speak many languages, but if we do not have love, all is in vain.

Love must be studied. It is not natural. The college professor mentioned above, Leo Buscaglia, started a non-credit course on Love, not the love that world talks of but genuine, sacrificial love. The class overflowed and the class scheduled for 7 p.m. often continued until midnight. With what results? All the students went out practicing what they were studying. Many lives were affected. Is there a Love course at your Bible college or seminary?

Each of us has felt this need for love, this loneliness. We are born crying for affection. Since we all feel this way, why are we so cold to those around us who feel the same way? They are crying out, "Hold me!" Because we have not learned to show affection, half the world has not heard the gospel. We as the Christian Church have not learned to love. The love we do have hovers about self-pleasure and personal gratification. There is no greater joy than to give love. To receive love is joy, yes, but to give love is greater.

Perhaps our error in thinking of the mission fields is just envisioning millions of foreign people without salvation. Our vision should better be developed to see millions of souls lonely and longing for love. The Bible tells us many times that Christ looked at the multitudes and had compassion/pity. The word "compassion" comes from the word that means "to be moved as to one's inwards." As we learn compassion, we are moved inwardly, our feet go, our arms reach out, love flows from our lives, the world perceives we are Christians.

Perhaps your church has seen little or no growth lately. You have the right message from the right messenger presented in excellent facilities. Why doesn't your church grow? Down the street is a growing church which has neither the fine messages nor the gifted messenger. Visit that other church and most likely you will detect the answer. Love is shown there

and love is what people want and long for. Reaching out with love in your church is not just loving the church clique you belong to; not just loving the faithful few who attend your church, but it means reaching *outside* your church to all those unloved souls. A man and his wife recently joined a different church because their former pastor was becoming a dictator. Long they searched the community, attending various churches, finding only one where people openly expressed affection and love. This couple was drawn into that fellowship not by the doctrinal statement but by the manifested love of the brethren. Later on they would accept the doctrine, but first their hearts were touched and attracted by evident love of the brethren.

"Above all these things put on love," says the Bible. "The whole law is fulfilled in one word," — love. I Cor. 13:13 lists faith, hope and love, three things promised to remain when everything else fails. Furthermore, love is rated "the greatest," greater than faith and greater than hope. As God, He needs no faith because He has total knowledge of Himself. As God, He needs no hope — He IS our Hope. The transcendent Biblical attribute is love. God loves unreservedly and teaches us to love. Faith can only be expressed God-ward, and the same with hope. Love, however, is both God-ward and man-ward. Love is an exchange between men and God, and between mankind. It flows both ways: He loves us; we love Him. I love my family; my family loves me. First, I love the lost, second, the lost lost me, and next they love my Savior: a procession of love.

How can love be expressed? What can we do to win the world through love?

Remember that love costs. It has a high price, demanding time, energy, finances, loss of privacy, even loss of position. Love does not sit on a pedestal nor live on top of the mountain. Love is expressed as we *talk* to people. We tell them we love them and that God loves them. We take time to seek for the lonely people and talk to them. We ask questions that give them a chance to express their feelings. Then we determine to listen to them. Conversation is essential if we want to win the lost to Christ. Be attentive to know who that lonely

person is, what his hopes are, what problems he is facing, and what need of his you can help meet. Hospitality is an expression of love. Invite people into your home. Treat them. Show them that your circle is big enough to include them. We are asked, "Why is it that the work grows more rapidly on the mission fields than here in the United States?" One reason is that overseas we are actively engaged in increasing our circle. Our homes are people center, by our own choice. Our table is stretched for every guest.

Often overseas we meet foreign tourists on the street. Usually we try to introduce ourselves, invite them home for a treat. Talk. We want to show our guest that we love him and we do love him because God has put this love in us. These world hitchhikers are lonely and seeking and so glad to be welcomed into a home. At the railway station in Madras we met a young woman with a heavy pack on her back. We invited her to share our dinner. As we talked and listened, she told of her two children though still single. One father was American and the other English. We had compassion on this girl. Our conversation was long but we wanted to show her we loved her. Soon the tears were flowing from her eyes. Love had opened her heart so she could listen and receive the gospel.

Some of these lessons we learned when we moved into a village house in India. Our quarters were joined with those of a Muslim family on the other side of the partition. Just our living there somehow meant a great deal to our small congregation in the village, and to the Muslim family. It opened a door to speak of God's love. Not just our mouths were speaking, but we were sharing life with them. An aged widow woman in the church had no roof on her little hut. Our love would be a farce if we could go on living in our house, but not help her get the few palms she needed to shelter herself. We saw the roof put on and she called us in to dedicate her grass roof for the Lord. We call these things expressions of love. James 1:27 refers to this as "pure and undefiled religion."

As missionaries we must not merely go to a foreign place to preach the gospel to people. We must fall in love with them

Con't

Contrasts

The Philippines is a land of contrasts. On my way to participate in a Teachers' Leadership Clinic, I noticed some of these contrasts. I left Cebu City, the second largest city in the Philippines, in our pickup headed for Mactan Airport. This is a modern, air-conditioned airport. From this airport, I had a comfortable 50-minute jet ride to Davao City, on the island of Mindanao. The airport in Davao City is also quite modern, like the one in Cebu, but once you leave the airports and jets things begin to change. The first change comes as you walk out the front door of the airport in Davao. In order to get to the main road crossing to catch a bus to Tagum, you must ride a three-wheel motorcycle. No longer can you ride the modern transportation. The ride from the airport to the crossing was only a couple of miles. Along the way, I could see caribou (water buffalo) grazing, nipa houses, goats, pigs, and chickens along the side of the road. I reached the crossing and waited for several hours for the bus.

The busses are quite interesting. You enter the side and try to move down the center aisle toward the rear. You step over fish, rice, corn and suitcases. My suitcase had been loaded on top of the bus. You find a seat near the back. You have to sit on a seat that is made for only two people and the seat already had two seated. The conductor makes them move over so you only get half a seat. You can't believe how many people and animals they can get into these busses — surely *not* like the jet ride.

The ride to Tagum takes us through many contrasts. You notice fish markets — the bus stops at these to load and unload people and fish. There were lumber mills along the way and rice fields in which farmers were plowing with their water buffalo and one-handed plows. I also noticed one farmer had a motorized plow with two large steel wheels and two handles he held in his hands as he walked behind the plow. There were coconut plantations all along the way. Many little towns we stopped in for passengers, animals and fish.

Much could be said also about the



contrasts between the different smells — fish (dried and fresh), pigs, and dried coconut (copra). To save time and space, I am sure you would not be interested. We will move on.

I arrived in Tagum, a dusty little town, since it had not rained in quite a while, and they are paving some of the streets at this time. You go to the stations for the tricycles that will take you to our Bible school, The Mindanao Grace Bible Institute. You wait until seats are full. The ride to the school again is cramped, you kind of just hang on. This time we went through a banana plantation on the way to the school. The tricycle will turn off the main road onto a two-track dirt road that takes you to the campus of MGBI, Mindanao Grace Bible Institute.

When I entered the campus of the school, different contrasts began — contrasts in the works of Things to Come Mission. There were 39 pastors who had come to attend the Teachers' Leadership Clinic. This clinic was set up for the purpose to help our pastors with the training of their elders. The TLC is a one-week program. They are given lesson materials, are taught how to use this material and then they have practice sessions using this lesson material. My part was to challenge — topic was Preacher-Preaching. I had the evening session.

I left MGBI on Saturday for Davao City to be the special speaker at the 9th church anniversary celebration of the TCM church in this city. I arrived in the city around noon. This church has a 30-minute radio broadcast from 6 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. every Saturday. I prepared for this broadcast

Contrasts Con't

during the afternoon and then spoke during the broadcast.

The anniversary Sunday was filled with activities. The services were well attended. I spoke during the morning worship for one hour and a half on the need of the church in Philippi. There was fellowship time with games and food in the afternoon. I spoke again for one hour plus during the evening service. Topic — Paul's testimony before King Agrippa — "I Was Not Disobedient Unto the Heavenly Vision." Acts 26:19

I left Davao on Monday to return home for a few days. Then Dan Sidebottom and I left for Ozamis City that Thursday night. It is a 12-hour overnight boat ride to Ozamis. We were going to attend a meeting with the Hour of Grace radio staff. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss ways to improve the broadcast, what new stations we should buy time on, personnel needs, job description of the personnel, needs of Bible correspondence courses in other dialects, and equipment repair.

In between the traveling, we have been setting up a print shop. We were able to bring back more printing equipment for this important ministry. We have rented a place for the print shop, moved all of the equipment, repaired some, and cleaned the machinery to get it all in good working order. All equipment is now ready to print. At the present time, we are printing a book written by Pastor Heath — "Help in Hard Places". He takes some of the difficult Scripture passages and explains them. This book will be a great help for our pastors and national leaders.

The many contrasts in the work here makes this work very exciting and challenging. There are other areas of the work that I have not been able to participate in since returning — youth work and elders training. Even though we have these contrasts, they all have one purpose — to establish a national church that will stand for the Word of God rightly divided and reach out to the lost with the gospel of the grace of God.

Joe & Pauline Watkins
P.O. Box 617
Cebu City 6401
Philippines

Prayer & Praise

INDONESIA

Recent letters from Indonesia inform us that visas for new missionaries will only be issued for tribal work. All other mission and church work is to be nationalized. Even Pastor Mario Indino's visa is in jeopardy and he married an Indonesian wife. TCM has always supported and worked through the national workers. Now more than ever the national workers of Indonesia need our prayers, encouragement and support. Manado is still trying to erect a Grace Center after several set backs. They have sent out workers to other areas of Indonesia and Grace Bible Institute is producing evangelists for new areas. Please do not forsake Indonesia at this crisis time.

INDIA

TCM has a few workers in India doing an excellent job of establishing several preaching centers as well as doing women's and children's evangelism. Joe Watkins and Dan Sidebottom have volunteered to go to India from the Philippines in late '84. India also needs a workers training program. Two fine Indian workers are qualified for the task. We are praying that Joe and Dan will be able to help our Indian workers get this program started.

"Hold Me!" Con't

where they are, find the way to show them love, live with them, and show them how Christ loves them.

In conclusion, love must be studied, taught, and expressed in physical ways. Love cannot be legislated nor forced. It must come from allowing the LOVING CHRIST Who dwells within us to work out HIS LOVE through us. When the lost see us they must see the loving, compassionate Christ in our faces, lives and actions. When they see that LOVE, then and only then will they listen to our words of LOVE.

Vernon Andersons

NEWS RELEASE



Pictured above is Jennifer Townley; Jennifer is the newest missionary in the TCM family. She was accepted for service on the Philippine field. Jennifer is a member of Berean Church of Spokane, Washington, where our brother Ken Parker is Senior Pastor.

Jennifer attended Grace Bible College in 1976 and 1977; she has a B.S.N. (Nursing) from Seattle Pacific University, and a Masters Degree in Education from Whitworth College in Spokane, Washington.

Jennifer comes to TCM and the Philippine work with abilities in nursing, secretarial skills, teaching skills, along with an ability to share the Word of God and witness in whatever way God leads. She plays the piano, guitar, clarinet, and other instruments as well as having vocal music talents...

Jennifer plans to be in the Philippines this Fall, the Lord willing.

THINGS TO COME MISSION, INC.

Box 96

Cope, Colorado 80812

The TCM Board recommends her, and if you would like to share in her ministry, both she and the Board would greatly appreciate it. All gifts of support can be sent to the Mission Office in Cope, Colorado marked for Jennifer Townley.

Jennifer served in South America under New Tribes Mission for a couple of years. She served as a nurse in a Missionary Children's boarding school. She has been a part time teacher at Northwest Christian School, and she has been part of a Youth Guidance program for Youth for Christ in the Spokane area. She has also been part of a singing ministry from her home church, Berean Church in Spokane, Washington. The group was aptly named, The Master's Touch.

Jennifer is twenty-six years old physically, and she is about 17 years old spiritually, having accepted Christ when she was nine years old. She is committed to missionary service, and she knows and loves the message of grace.

She is presently raising support. If you would like to be a part of her support team, please contact her at N. 6520 Lynwood, Spokane, Washington 99208 or contact the Mission Office in Cope. Above all else, pray for Jennifer as she makes herself available to the Lord through TCM for the Philippine field.

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