

INTER-NATIONAL HARVEST



SPRING 1993 VOL. 35, NO. 1



Introducing TCM's
newest missionary
since January 1993--

MICHELLE LEFEBER

--who left for Brazil
February 20th.

Read about her
ministry on page 6
entitled

"Project ABBA"

THINGS
TO COME
MISSION



"Unto the ends of the earth"
Romans 1:5 John 4:35

FROM THE EDITOR

WHO IS CALLED TO SACRIFICE?

History records an individual who left his country destined for the mission field amidst much emotional conflict. He was engaged to be married but finances and time would not permit him to delay his departure.

It would be two years before he would return from Africa and see his fiancée. He left his country the very day his fiancée turned 25. He missed the birthday celebration as well as the future wedding of his only sister.

History records many similar stories of emotional suffering for the cause of Christ.

There is also the aspect of physical suffering. Some missionaries have literally walked until their feet were blistered taking the gospel into some isolated area. Some have been robbed, taken hostage, kidnapped, and even killed.

It seems we "expect" the missionary to be willing to suffer. However, doesn't Christ expect this from all of us?

What is it you have sacri-

ficed for the cause of reaching the world (including your own neighbor) with the gospel of the Grace of God? Have you sacrificed emotional well-being? Have you sacrificed financial well-being? Have you sacrificed physical well-being?

Take time to read the articles in this issue of the IH. Consider ways people are sacrificing and put yourself in their place. Ask the Lord to bring to your mind ways He is asking you to sacrifice. Then ask Him for grace to be willing to make the sacrifice. Pray for grace for those making the sacrifice as well.

TCM still desires to be a tool God can use to reach more of our world. One great need is for more people willing to sacrifice all and go!

Will you pray so others can go? Will you give so others can go? Will you faithfully encourage those who go? Will you go? 😊

**Lord, I am willing
to sacrifice....
for the cause of
reaching the world
with the gospel!**

IN THIS HARVEST



- ☛ **The Director Shares 4**
Joseph W. Watkins
- ☛ **Project ABBA - A Ministry for Needy
Children in Brazil (Michelle LeFeber) 6**
- ☛ **Are You Worried About Losing
Your Job? 7**
- ☛ **The South African Mission
Endeavor Continues 8**
Ed Wishart, Board Member
- ☛ **Your Home for Missions? 10**
- ☛ **Your Car for Missions? 11**
- ☛ **Irreplaceable Memories. 12**
Frank Ulrich, summer missionary
- ☛ **Reaching Out to Sumatra. 14**
Frans P. Tamarol
- ☛ **Comments From Readers. 15**
- ☛ **News You Can Use 16**
- ☛ **Reflections 19**
Jennifer Sidebottom

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THE DIRECTOR SHARES

by Joseph W. Watkins



The changing world is reshaping the western-dominated, western-based, western-directed missions. The major change in missions is the rise of nationalistic movements within many countries. These nationalistic movements are not only assuming more responsibility in reaching their countrymen with the gospel, they are also showing they can do a good job of reaching their people with the gospel of Grace.

According to a well-known mission researcher, at the close of 1990 approximately 49,000 non-western missionaries (nationals) were on the field, compared to 15,000 earlier. It seems if these figures are true, the nationalistic missionary movement is growing faster than the western missionary force. According to this researcher, the missionary force of non-westerners is coming from Korea, India, Brazil, Kenya, Zaire, Nigeria and the Philippines.

Most of these national missionaries never leave their own

country. Instead, they end up ministering mostly in rural areas. The majority of these people work in isolated areas where there is no TV or radio and in rural villages that are hard to reach. I read that 80% of Asia's people still live in isolated, rural villages.

In 1957 TCM saw the importance of training nationals, not just from the practical standpoint, but from what the Bible teaches, especially the truth revealed to the greatest missionary outside of Christ, the apostle Paul.

I praise God for the truth that I was taught at Milwaukee Bible College (now Grace Bible College) about missions. The one truth that was emphasized over and over was that "a missionary should work himself out of a job." This can only be done through training national missionaries.

In 1958 we saw two basic needs of the national missionaries--**funding** and **training**.

Therefore, in the Philippines, International Grace Bible Institute was established in 1959 to meet the lack of Biblical training. To meet the financial need we began partially supporting some of those who were called of God to reach their own people with the message of Grace. At that time it was not a popular position to support national missionaries. There was a saying, "you will make rice Christians if you help them financially." In other words, they will only preach or teach because they are paid. We rejected this position because the Word of God teaches that the Body of Christ is one unit made up of many members. Each member is to help other members. We also see Paul helping those that ministered with him (Acts 20.34).

This same principle was followed in Indonesia, Brazil and Kenya. Today, in the Philippines, there are around 450 national churches and one Bible Institute with two campuses training 135 students preparing for various Christian ministries. There are five Filipinos and one Indonesian ministering in Brazil, Kenya and Indonesia with TCM.

TCM's ministry in the Philippines and Indonesia is 95% under the leadership of non-western missionaries.

TCM is still praying that Brazil will grant visas for another Filipino couple from the Philippines (Gomer and Urbana Indino) to join the work in Brazil. We are also praying for funds to get Gomer and Urbana from the Philippines to Brazil and for their monthly support. Maybe you could help provide this need.

Brethren, I would like very much to expand the training and the sending out of nationals in the Philippines, Indonesia, Brazil, Kenya and Malaysia. To do this, we need prayer and funds. Would you first please pray for these needs? Then if the Lord leads you to give to help support a national you can send your gift to the TCM office for that purpose. This gift will be given 100% to the support of a national Pastor, Bible Institute teacher, Christian Education worker, Youth Director or national missionary.

If you have a question, please call or write. I will be happy to answer your question. Thank you in advance for whatever you can do. ☺

PROJECT ABBA - A Ministry for Needy Children in Brazil

To Michelle LeFeber, daughter of missionaries Doug and Vicki LeFeber, growing up on the mission field was a privilege. She was able to watch and learn from her parents as they have lived and served in Brazil. And through her experience, she has come to realize that God is calling her to be in full-time ministry with TCM also.



The burden that God has put on her heart is for the children. Due to widespread poverty, there are more than seven million abandoned kids wandering through the streets of Brazil. Not only are there many abandoned children, but also millions who lack education, proper nutrition, health care, leisure, and other basic needs.

Michelle is personally committed to investing her life and abilities to provide as much as possible for these children--not only for their spiritual needs, but for their physical, emotional, and intellectual needs, also. Because she already knows the culture and language, it will allow her to have a greater effectiveness in establishing relationships and working with the people. Through a ministry like this, many families and communities will have the opportunity to hear about the message of the Grace of God.

The work of TCM in Recife, Brazil, is expanding. The plan is that Michelle will work along with her parents and other missionaries in the church on a full-time basis, focusing on the personal needs of the community surrounding their new church which is in an economically disadvantaged neighborhood. Her goal is to establish *Project ABBA* (*abba* means "father" in Aramaic--Romans 8.15), a Christian day care center which will be an extension ministry of the local Grace church, to provide for as many needy kids as possible.

She would like to ask you to consider the possibility of joining her in this ministry through your prayers and financial support. If you are interested in being a partner in prayer for Michelle and/or supporting her in this ministry and would like to receive more information, please write to the office of Things To Come Mission in Indianapolis. ☺

ARE YOU WORRIED ABOUT LOSING YOUR JOB?

Are you looking for **Job Security**? Does the future look a little uncertain? Consider the possibility of.....
....MISSIONS!! There are so many "job" openings around the world and so few applicants. You can be **guaranteed** a life-time of work!

Ministry Need: Bible Institute teachers

Countries:

- Brazil
- Indonesia
- Kenya

Personal Profile:

- Minimum 3 year term
- Language learning required in Brazil and Indonesia
- Proficient in Biblical and religious knowledge
- Some experience in teaching
- Good people skills in communication and relationships

Ministry Need: Church Planters

Countries:

- Philippines
- Brazil

Personal Profile:

- Leadership and counseling skills

- Full 3 year term
- Theological background for training seminars on church growth
- Able to travel and work well with people

Ministry Need: Christian Counselors

Country:

- U.S.A. (Set Free Ministry)

Personal Profile:

- Single women or a married couple
- 3-6 month "Servants Training" and internship will be provided
- Includes emotional and spiritual "reparenting" of women, teaching, counseling, and encouragement

Ministry Need: Secretary

Country:

- U.S.A. (main office)

Personal Profile:

- Single or married couple
- Self-supported (retired?)
- At least 3 years minimum
- Proficient in typing and word processing
- Help in preparing prayer letters and other mission mailings
- Organizational and other basic office skills ☺

THE SOUTH AFRICAN MISSION ENDEAVOR CONTINUES...

In the Fall issue of the Inter-national Harvest, you read of the plan and desire of the Wishart family to go to South Africa this year from May through August as official representatives of Things To Come Mission.

The main purpose of this current article is to update you on our progress.

We have filed for the needed passports and visas.

It has been confirmed that I will:

- ✓ be working with the Zulu and Xhosa pastors.
- ✓ be working with Xhosa students at the Berean Bible Academy in Port Elizabeth.
- ✓ be the guest speaker at the July 1993 Bible Conference of the Berean Churches of South Africa.
- ✓ visit the new churches that have been established and will do leadership training with the Berean pastors.

We have begun to raise financial support in South

Africa, in the U.S., and in the local church that I pastor (the Berean Grace Fellowship of Grafton, Ohio).

The teachers of our children, both current and next year's, have asked our children to keep personal journals of their stay in South Africa so that next Fall they can give a report to their classes. This could turn out to be a wonderful opportunity for our children to share the gospel with about thirty classmates in each of their grades (3rd, 4th and 6th) plus their teachers and the principal.

Who would have thought that the **South African Mission Endeavor** would touch our elementary school? It looks like it will!

I have also been able to visit three churches thus far to share the slides from my trip to South Africa in November of 1991. I am hoping to visit other churches to show these slides and hopefully raise needed funds.

Well, friends of Missions, this updates you to this point in time.

We continue to ask your prayer support in regard to these matters--

- 1) The continuing preparation for our journey to South Africa;
- 2) The work of God in our children so that they can report to their elementary school the work of God in South Africa and their lives;
- 3) That our financial needs would be met--we have \$1,500 but still need to raise around \$7,500 more to cover airfare (our tickets need to be purchased by April 15) and the expenses for our three month stay;
- 4) That the Lord will prepare all the people in South Africa for our endeavors so that we might have a rich harvest for the Lord Jesus Christ through the Gospel of the Grace of God.

We sincerely thank you for your gracious support. We pledge to you our faithfulness so that there will be fruitfulness in South Africa and there will be no disappointment in your sacrifices to this TCM endeavor for the Glory of God.

Once again, if you have any personal questions you would like me to address, you can write me at:

Pastor Ed Wishart
% Berean Grace Fellowship
12365 Grafton Road
Grafton, OH 44044-1044

or call me at the church office (216)-458-6612 or at my home (216)-366-6612.

We are, in Christ, your servants--

Ed, Dort, Tim, Jon, and
Jessica Wishart ☺



(Ed is the Secretary of the TCM Board of Directors)

YOUR HOME FOR

M I S S I O N S ?



Many of TCM's missionaries have no *home* to live in when they return to America on furlough from service overseas. Most missionaries, if they had a home, sold it before going to the field. If they were renting, they gave it up when they left. This means that when they come back on furlough, they have to stay with family or friends, or rent a place just for the time they are home.

Living with another family, even if they are relatives, means that they will not have the privacy they need to unwind after having spent three years in a foreign culture dealing with the stress of adjustment and having little or no privacy. A missionary's life is quite open on the field. They need time alone here in the States.

How can you help the missionary who is home on furlough?

If you have a rental unit--house, apartment or condo--and are economically able to accept a tax receipt for a donation in place of the rent you would receive, then you definitely **CAN** help.

Most of our missionaries are home on furlough for one year after having spent three years on the field so they would only need a place to live for that year here in the U.S. If this is something you feel you could do for the Lord, please contact us at the TCM office. We need to plan well in advance for a missionary family to be home on furlough so we need plenty of notice from you as to when the Missionary Home will be available.

We would also need specific information about size, location and any other limitations that might apply.

TCM thanks you for your concern for our missionaries. We know full well that it is because of people like you across America that TCM is what it is today. You are as much a part of the TCM family as the missionaries on the field for without you they could not be there. ☺

**YOUR
CAR
FOR
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Nearly every missionary home on furlough or who is required to be in the U.S. for a period of time needs to budget a substantial amount of time and money for travel. Quite often missionaries have to ride on buses, planes or trains, or else depend on individuals and friends to drive them around from place to place. It can really limit the number of people seen or places visited in the short amount of time they may have.

Perhaps you could help out in this area. Maybe you can make it easier for the missionaries to minister in churches, colleges, and other places as well as visit with family, friends, and supporters. Do you happen to have a car you aren't using that much anymore or at least temporarily? Would

you consider loaning it or donating it to TCM for use by missionaries?

How good does this car have to be? If it is good enough for your daughter to use while away at college and you would trust her to be safe in it, then it would be perfect for missionary use. Most of our TCM missionaries travel 15-20,000 miles while home on furlough for one year. If your car can handle traveling that distance, it would be great for one of our missionary families to use.

How do you go about getting your car into missionary service? It's easy. Just call or write and let us know the necessary information and when it would be available. You can donate your car to the mission or designate it for a specific missionary or family to use if you would like. Either way, a tax-deductible receipt will be given.

Again, our thanks to you! We know that missionaries depend on friends like YOU who are committed to sharing the love and grace of God with the world! ☺

IRREPLACEABLE MEMORIES

by Frank Ulrich

Hello...or *Sambo* as they say in Kenya, Africa. That's where I spent four weeks of July serving the Lord. I accompanied Brian Schmitt as a summer missionary to Embu, Kenya. We went as observers of the work of Ben Anderson and his family. At first, landing in such a foreign land, I was overcome by paranoia and fear. But it left at the same time as my jetlag. I spent the first two days getting to know the Kinkeads, Jessie Easterly, and the Andersons, including their daughters, Tegwen, Frances and Jaclyn. All of them are special people. Please keep them continually in your prayers.

The first week was spent in Mianya, a village in the center of rice patties. We held a conference of several churches there to become members of Grace Bible Church. Ben came across problems with traditions and doctrine such as polygamy, healing, etc. But many of the pastors came to a higher understanding of God's Word and Christianity, and overall it was time well spent.

The second week was

made up of many aspects of missionary life. Monday was a day to witness a malaria victim's funeral, one of many that occur in Africa. Tuesday was spent at a Swedish-built swimming pool complex. It was a pleasant reward. Wednesday and Thursday brought some manual labor as we cemented a whole church floor. Although the process was a little primitive compared to American ways, I enjoyed the experience. The weekend was time for evangelism as Brian and I met Samuel Mwangi and Jenaru and visited residents of Meru and gave our testimonies.

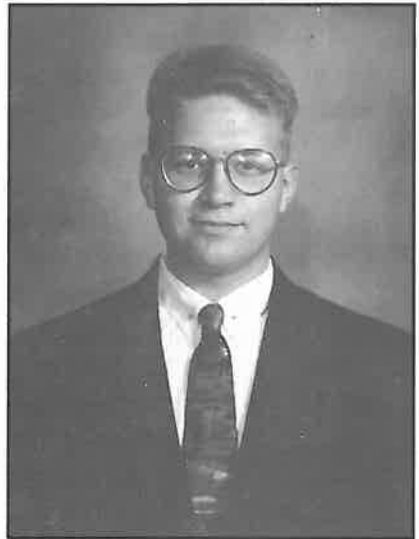
The third week brought on more work as we bricked up a wall and installed doors and windows in the first Grace Bible Church the Andersons established. We then spent the remainder of the week holding the Muchakos Youth Conference. A large amount of kids from the area came together to compete in Bible quizzing and memorization. Even though we offered prizes, the youth seemed to enjoy just the self-satisfaction of

knowing God's Word. It was very encouraging and uplifting to see someone putting time into helping the younger generation come close(r) to Christ.

My final week I went shopping with Joyce Anderson and animal sight-seeing with just the guys.

What I experienced and learned during my time in Kenya is more than what I've learned my whole life so far. **I encourage, advise and plead for everyone to go on a mission trip.** I love and miss the Kenyans I met and the memories will never be replaced. Ben Anderson and his family, through their hospitality, showed what it truly means to be a Christian. I learned a life-long lesson of patience and flexibility that can and must be applied to everyday life. Because of my journey, missionary trips aren't just a summer thing to me any more. As a Christian,

our mission is not geographical, but measured by time--our life time. The only questions I ask God now is **how** and **where** to invest mine. I praise and thank my Lord Jesus Christ for taking me in, and out, of Africa. ☺



Frank is a senior in high school and will be graduating this year. After his experience as a summer missionary, he is definitely going to consider serving the Lord on the mission field. Please continue to pray that God will lead him in this endeavor.

- - - NEWS FLASH - - -

The TCM ministry in the Philippines is starting a tape ministry which will include a library of teaching/preaching tapes for the pastors and churches in both English and Cebuano. If anyone has a tape ministry, please add the Philippine Tape Library to your mailing list. All tapes should be sent directly to:

P.O. Box 56, 7200 Ozamis City, Philippines

REACHING OUT TO SUMATRA

by Frans P. Tamarol

Since years ago, the TCM work in Indonesia has been trying to reach Sumatra, one of the five biggest islands in Indonesia. In the late 70's, there were two young girls, Leika Kalangi and Angela Hamp (now known as Mrs. "Ella" Indino, a missionary to Brazil with her husband, Mario), who left Manado for Palembang, South Sumatra Province. But at that time the work in Jakarta needed help so they ended up stopping and ministered for the Lord in that city instead of going to Sumatra. Again, about six years later, Deny Weku went to Medan, the capital city of North Sumatra Province, but he only spent two days in that area and then returned to Manado.

We continuously pray for this area while working with the literature ministry. Many people have been reached with gospel tracts, Bible Correspondence Courses, and the "Grace Bulletin" (*PESAN*). Some of them have written to us asking for workers to help them grow in faith and the knowledge of the word of God. Mr. Edirosa Tampubolon, our former worker in Nganjuk, East Java, and Mr.

A.M. Manik, a Salvation Army officer who came to know dispensational Bible truth through the ministry of Mr. Vernon Anderson in Manado several years ago, are also in the North Sumatra area now. They are willing to help and cooperate with us if we could send one or two workers to Medan.

At the end of the *GAA* (Indonesian Grace Bible Church) National Conference in Ujung Pandang last year, it was decided to assign one worker to Medan this year. A young man has left everything behind in his home town of Kotamobagu, North Sulawesi. He is Mr. James Damping, a graduate in Music Education who has been serving the Lord during the past 10 years both in Kotamobagu and Manado. He helped Pastor Jerry Maloring in Ujung Pandang for two months after last year's conference.

We really need your prayer and support for James as he goes to Medan and starts the work on February 20 along with those friends in the area. Also, please pray for his fiancée, Miss Sherly Duran who will be finish-

(continued on page 15)

COMMENTS FROM READERS



"Dear TCM family,

Just a word to say what a tremendous issue of the HARVEST. Great! Could you spare me five extra copies, please? I would love to send you a check for \$10,000 but for the moment my account will not allow such. But we are praying for you and for extra support for your great outreach. All Glory to God who makes all things possible."

-California

"Would you please send me the magazine you offer about your mission. Also, we would like any other vital information about your mission board and addresses of your missionaries which we might be able to support. My husband and I have future plans for the mission field..."

-Maine

"[I'm] praying for you...you are doing a good work (in the Lord). In order to pray more effectively for you, may [codes for] all the prayer letters be put on my label...thank you."

-Michigan

"We have other people here that I believe would be interested in receiving the *INTERNATIONAL HARVEST*. Would you prefer that we give you individual names and addresses or would you prefer to send them in bulk to be passed out in church? There would be 10-12 names to be added to the list."

-Missouri

**(Editor's note: Our address list is set up to mail the IH magazine individually--but churches and other groups can still be on the list to receive a single copy for their use.) ☺*

("...Sumatra" con't. from page 14)

ing her study at the College of Agriculture by March 1993. She is preparing to join James in the Lord's ministry in Sumatra after they get married in August or September this year.

Let us pray for Sumatra as well as other parts of Indonesia such as Molucas, Irian, Timor, etc. We thank God that our literature ministries have been instrumental in reaching people in these areas with the gospel of the grace of God. Hopefully, in God's will, we will soon be able to send workers to these areas too. ☺

NEWS YOU CAN USE . . . *for prayer time*

THINGS TO COME MISSION has started a new literature ministry. *News You Can Use For Prayer* is available as a bulletin insert to churches and Bible study groups. This insert is sent out bi-monthly. If your church or group is not currently receiving these inserts please let us know the name and address of your group as well as how many copies you would require.

JOEL & DARCY MOLINA continue their ministry in Indonesia. Joel is able to teach in the Bible Institute using Bahasa Indonesia, the national language. Praise God for this. There is, of course, still much room for improvement so continue to pray for their language and cultural acquisition.

FRANS & ETTA TAMAROL. Dr. Tamarol is the director of our Indonesian ministry. He also directs the Bible Institute as well as oversees literature production for the country. You can imagine the amount of time needed for this. Dr. Tamarol represents many nationals reaching out to their own people with the Gospel of the Grace of God. Recently we have received word that Etta slipped and broke her hip. Please pray for her quick recovery and successful healing as well as the extra finances to cover these additional expenses.

A NOTE OF SORROWFUL REJOICING! November and December were difficult months for two of our former missionary families. **MIKE & DONNA MALESKI** spent two years in Kenya as short term missionaries helping to start the Bible Institute. They were expecting a second child who died at birth in November 1992. **MIKE & LORETTA SMYCZYNSKI** also spent two years in Kenya helping in the Bible Institute. Their first child died at birth in December 1992. Please be in prayer for these two families.

HOME ON FURLOUGH. **DON & SUE SOMMER, DAN & JEAN GROSS** and **JESSIE EASTERLY** will be taking their furlough during

1993. Don and Sue plan to return in March and Dan and Jean in April. Both will be living in Wisconsin. Mrs. Easterly will return just for the summer months and probably be staying in Colorado. After spending some time with family and friends they will be available to travel and participate in church meetings and conferences. Please inform your church of their availability for meetings. Pray for them that they will be a great encouragement and challenge to people they meet. Pray that their furlough will result in God calling people to future missionary service.

EQUIPMENT NEEDED! You can imagine the great need for equipment. This *IH* could not be produced without good equipment and funds for printing and postage. Our Philippine work has been blessed with equipment as well. One computer and printer was purchased with available funds and another computer and printer were donated. We have just received word from Don Sommer that both wide-carriage printers are beyond repair and in need of being replaced. Please pray for this need (about \$600 to replace both).

PRAISE THE LORD! *SANNY & JEANNETTE SUMILHIG*'s visas were finally approved. After almost two years both are finally able to relax and not worry about being forced to leave the country. They are able to do some long-term planning and really concentrate on the language and culture study. Thank you for your prayers for this need. Please continue to pray for the visa for *GOMER & URBANA INDINO*. They continue in a church planting ministry in the Philippines.

DON & ARLENE FROMER have just completed their interim pastor ministry in Westhope, Ohio. Thank you for praying for them. The church has called a pastor and now Don and Arlene are taking a short break as they wait for the Lord to lead them to their next church. Pray with them for the Lord's leading.

PRAY FOR MORE MISSIONARIES! Pray that our proper concern for neighbors and communities will not diminish our proper concern for the world. *One Month For Asia*, a devotional booklet produced by Gospel for Asia, once again reminds us of how much "christian"

material and service is available to us in Western countries and how little is available to the vast majority of the world's population--2.7 billion people--who have not heard of Jesus Christ. There are 16,000 cultural groups without one church and 5,000 languages without any Scripture. The author states, "I know that 40,000 people die every day without Christ in my native India." Can we really consider this and think we pray too much or give too much or send too many Christian leaders for overseas ministry? NOT!!! ☺

WILL YOU RECEIVE THEIR PRAYER LETTER?

This list of codes, with a few minor changes, is copied from our last issue. We are reproducing it once again since many people expressed appreciation for knowing what these codes meant. Do you want to add codes to your address? Let us know. You will receive a prayer letter only from the missionaries whose codes are on your **address label**. There are also a few additional codes below that were not mentioned last time. The first four (or five) numbers on the label refer to your computer address number.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| A Vernon & Darlene Anderson | L Doug & Vicki LeFeber |
| a Don & Arlene Fromer | M Valerie Anderson |
| B Joe & Pauline Watkins | N Michelle LeFeber |
| C Bob & Beth Xavier | P Sanny & Jeannette Sumilhig |
| D Barbara Bowman | Q Joel & Darcy Molina |
| F Daniel & Jennifer Sidebottom | R Jessie Easterly |
| G Dan & Jean Gross | U Mario & Ella Indino |
| J Don & Sue Sommer | W Cliff & Lou Ellen Kinhead |
| K Ben & Joyce Anderson | Z All missionaries |

* * * * *

- c** Church
- g** Pastor
- h** Homes open for visiting missionaries
- n** Churches receiving the bulletin insert **News You Can Use For Prayer**
- (no code)** *INTER-NATIONAL HARVEST* magazine only, no prayer letters

Reflections Reflections Reflections Reflections Reflections Reflections

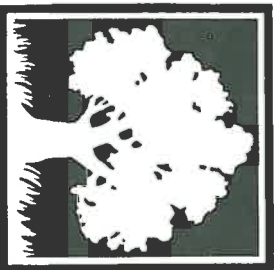
It is exciting to know that if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation! God "reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation" (2 Cor. 5.17-18). Being a missionary is a specialization of that ministry--reaching out to people who are "not of our own" (culture, language, background, whatever). But we can't forget that God expects us all to be ministers of reconciliation and involved in ministry, whether overseas or between seas.

What, then, are some basic qualities needed in order to minister effectively? I think Christ's example gives us a clue--he came not to be served but to serve. First of all, we need to have a **servant's heart**. Philippians 2.3-4 tells us to consider other people instead of just ourselves. It doesn't mean to deny the fact we have needs but, as Christians, we can entrust our needs to God so we are freed up to be available for others in need.

Secondly, we need that rare quality of **commitment**. In the realm of ministry, our goal should be spiritual growth--to see people come to know the Lord as their Savior and to grow up spiritually. However, sometimes we may focus more on outward talk and behavior and think nothing is happening on the inside. We can get discouraged and want to give up. But Philippians 1.6 is a great promise--we are confident that He who began the work will complete it! Our responsibility is to remain faithful--**don't quit!**

Finally, we must realize that there is no way we can really do the first two parts without being **totally dependent on God**. Many times we find ourselves wrestling with selfishness and the desire to quit and the only way we can still minister is to let God do it through us. Paul says, "when I am weak, then I am strong" (2 Cor. 12.7-10). It doesn't mean when I am weak I will somehow **feel strong**. I will still feel weak but, putting my faith in God who is in me, **He is strong!** Therefore, when we experience "thorns" in our flesh that weaken or limit us in some way, they become opportunities to give our faith a chance to grow and be purified which will result in praise, glory and honor to the Lord Jesus Christ (1 Pet. 1.6-7).

The real key to being completely dependent on God is **prayer**--talking and spending time with Him--both alone and together with other believers. This we are commanded to do in Ephesians 6.18--pray on ALL occasions with ALL kinds of prayers, ALWAYS, for ALL the saints! I've come to realize that there is a two-fold benefit in praying with fellow Christians--**results and relationships**. Not only are we looking for answers within God's will, it also brings us closer to God and to each other. It is more difficult to be mad and upset with people when you have to pray with them and for them. God knew what we needed most. Let's encourage each other on in the "ministry" He has given to all of us! *Jennifer Sidebottom*



A CONTINUING GIFT

Things To Come Mission would like to acknowledge the following gifts which have been given in memory of some family member, friend, or respected individual who has passed away. Cards have been sent to the families of those whose memories you have honored.

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