Life-Giving Water

From Kenya's Deadly Wells
Life-Giving Water from Kenya’s Deadly Wells

Without food man can survive a long time: many days, or even weeks. Without water death will come quickly: in days or even hours, depending upon circumstances. Water—vital for life of all kinds—is in short supply in many parts of the world. What can be done about this situation? In some cases, nothing.

In Kenya, especially on the edge of the Sahara Desert, the situation is desperate. (See “Life-Giving Water from Kenya’s Deadly Wells,” beginning across the page.) It’s ironic that water, so plentiful to so many of us, so cheap to buy and use, costs the lives of so many women in Kenya.

In that country, wells are needed, deep wells, as deep as 500 feet, to reach the life-giving water that will sustain life for humans and animals.

Water: to sustain life, life that is so short-lived and so fragile.

It reminds one of the woman at the well, doesn’t it? There was Jesus—tired, thirsty, hungry. He spoke to the Samaritan woman and asked her for a drink from the well.

She was surprised that He would even speak to her, and said as much. Jesus replied, “If you only knew what a wonderful gift God has for you, and who I am, you would ask Me for some living water.”

She mocked Him. Jesus told her that people who drank water from that well would become thirsty again. “But the water I give them,” He said, “becomes a perpetual spring within them, watering them forever with eternal life.”

Her answer is classic and contemporary: “Please, Sir,” the woman said, “give me some of that water!”

All around the world, in drought-stricken areas, people are begging for water to drink. Sometimes it’s impossible to obtain at any price. Sometimes it can be had only at great cost. But living water from Jesus is still available—free for the asking, “...a perpetual spring within...”

World Vision is assisting developing nations in their search for water. But even better, in making the source of living water available to all. Thanks for sharing in such a vital task.

PHOTO CREDITS: Cover, pp. 3-7, 9, 11, Phil Smith; pp. 14-15, Tyndale House Publishers; p. 17, Fabian Bachrach; pp. 18-19, Kathryn A. Hinke; p. 21 (left), Herbert W. Scott; p. 21 (right), Phillip Benzke.

ILLUSTRATION: P. 8, Patricia A. Bigler.
Often 30 feet across and 40 feet deep, these wells are difficult to dig and deadly to draw from. They claim the lives of scores of Turkana women each year.

“What are you two doing way out here in the middle of nowhere?”

The question was directed at Ross and Ruth Alloway, missionaries with Africa Inland Mission at Lokichokio in northern Kenya. The questioner was a lone wanderer bicycling from Norway to South Africa.

He had just crossed the Sahara Desert and arrived at the Alloways' home: a cramped tin shed with no shade in sight. Water supply, precarious. Heat, infernal. Flies, plentiful.

More questions: “Are you satisfied? Are you fulfilled?”

The Alloways had heard these questions many times, and Ross chuckled before he spoke. He knew his answers would be difficult for a non-missionary to handle. There were good reasons for that.

Their tin box of a house actually was, as the questioner put it, “in the middle of nowhere.” It lay fully exposed to the harsh elements, 600 dusty, corrugated miles from Nairobi, with the Sahara Desert steadily moving their way.

From Kenya’s Deadly Wells

by Phil Smith
World Vision Correspondent
Fifteen miles to the east of the Lokichokio community lies the Ugandan border. Twenty miles north is the Sudan. And neither country is an ideal place to be near at this particular time.

Ross Alloway explained that they were trying to communicate the love of Jesus Christ to a continually moving mass of 200,000 or so Turkana tribespeople.

The bicyclist looked around him. "Where are all these people?"

Ross swung his arm in a wide arc. "Scattered over hundreds of miles in every direction."

The questioner shook his head, baffled. He thought the task was impossible, that it couldn't be done. But Africa Inland Mission (AIM) didn't agree. Neither did the Alloways or the Herrods, their fellow missionaries.

Nor did World Vision. When WV realized the potential of this work among the Turkana tribe of northern Kenya, they became involved in what is now called the Lokichokio Community Development Project.

This much-needed project is beginning to benefit about 25,000 adults through agriculture, medical care and primary education. The medical clinic (later to be expanded into a 3200-square-foot hospital) presently treats between 80 and 100 people every single day, including Sundays.

For Ruth Alloway and Essie Herrod, missionary wives, this is a back-breaking load to handle. The patients—feverish with malaria, weak with anemia, suffering from amoebic dysentery or chronic hepatitis, covered with ulcers and sores—walk up to 20 miles for treatment. Eye diseases and respiratory infections, including pneumonia, are also rather common.

"It's surprising to us," says Ruth Alloway, "but the daily patient count is the same most of the time. Unless it rains—then the number increases."

The rain does other things, too.

Annual rainfall, which is around 25 inches, usually comes in a few torrential downpours, quickly soaked up by the sandy alluvial soil. It may seem strange, but it's during these times of heavy rain that the village and mission are most likely to run short of water.

It's nearly a mile from the Alloway/Herrod camp to the hand pump that is their sole water source. And even for a Land Rover, the wet orange-colored soil becomes slithery to the point of impassability.

"We brought 10 drums (40 gallons each) of water from the well this week," Ross told me. "And I slid all over the place before I got back."

The hand pump produces only 400 gallons an hour, adequate for humans, but not nearly enough for the thousands of cattle, sheep, goats, donkeys and camels owned by the Turkanas. Water for them must come from deep, hand-dug holes in the nearby sandy river bed.

To supply all the needed water, the Kenya Government is drilling a deep water well. It is now 330 feet deep, but will go 500 feet by the time it is finished. World Vision has supplied all the necessary pumps, tanks and troughs to complete this water system.

Completion of this well will save many lives! The Turkana women dig the holes in the river bed, using only wooden bowls. The longer the drought, the deeper the holes go. Often the holes are 30 feet across and 40 feet deep.

These holes provide life for the animals, but death for many people. Women form human chains up the steep sides of the well, passing their wooden bowls of water from hand to hand till they reach the top, where they are poured into troughs for the cattle to drink.

Turkana Chief Martin Ngikoi told me, "When as many as 6000 thirsty cattle are waiting for water, one or more of them sometimes slides down into the well, crushing and killing the women below!"

Since 1968, nearly 400 people have died in the wells. Two years ago 17 women went to a sandy grave in a single accident.

But the cattle must have water, so when something like this happens, a gang of 20 women..."
Can you imagine living in this tin house—in Africa? In 100-degree heat? These missionaries do.

Schooling is a blessed privilege for these Turkana children.

immediately begins digging another well, a three-or four-day job. Imagine doing this in 100-degree heat!

One wonders why the nomadic Turkanas have so many stock animals, when such incredible efforts are required to keep them alive. Part of the answer lies in the fact that Chief Martin—whose lands cover most of the entire northeastern part of Kenya—has made peace with cattle-stealing tribes.

This means the herds enjoy normal increases. And since the Turkanas eat very little beef (they mainly eat goat meat), there is little to keep the herds from multiplying.

So their herds increase as the nomads wander. They wander endlessly across the desert’s vastness—often to where the horizon merges into the dust brown haze, and where metal gets too hot to touch. Why do they wander? They are literally looking for “greener pastures.”

Ross Alloway sees them all, these Sahara wanderers: on bicycles, camels and four-wheel drives. They seek a destination they never seem to find.

“We tell them that they will only find their real destination—and true satisfaction—when they find a relationship with Jesus Christ,” says Ross.

And many of the Turkanas are listening, and actually hearing what the missionaries are telling them. Especially the younger people, who are coming to Christ in the AIM schools in good numbers. This is to be expected, of course, since all of the teachers are Christians.

When these roving Turkanas receive Christ, the missionaries are presented with another problem: how to provide these new believers with the needed follow-up and fellowship.

“It’s frustrating,” Ross Alloway says. “A man
makes a decision for Christ... you ask him where he lives, so you can visit him. Often his answer is something like this: ‘We live about 15 miles that way. But we’re moving on tomorrow.’”
Ross shrugs. “So, what can you do? It’s really a problem.”
The nomadic Turkanas may set up their manyattas (family compounds) just about anywhere across an area of many hundreds of miles. So it’s a very difficult thing to get a church together.
“The only practical solution,” says Wayne Herrod, “is to establish a church right here at Lokichokio.”
This is what the Alloways and Herrods are doing. They have already poured the concrete foundations for an 1800-square-foot church building. The small structure will be near the main road.
“But that’s no problem,” Herrod said. “We only get dust and noise from the road when cars go by. And one car a day is considered ‘heavy’ traffic. Besides, unless there’s a car on the road, you don’t even know where the road is!”
The missionaries are building the church as fast as they can, but it might be some time before it is finished.
“We started the building to stake our claim on the land,” Wayne Herrod said. He explained that Chief Martin donated the land, along with about 50 acres in downtown Lokichokio. Some of the Somali traders want the land to build shops on.
“Chief Martin has given us the land. We have his word on it. But when he dies, just about anybody could get the land unless we have started to build. So, that’s what we’ve done.”
In addition to the church in progress, foundations have been laid for a workshop and store. A three-bedroom house for an agricultural worker and family is already completed.
The three-classroom school is nearing completion—though it has already been occupied for a year. The tiny building houses grades one to four and is so crowded that at least another four rooms are needed.
Ross Alloway paused and wiped the sweat from his eyes. “So you can see there’s plenty to do around here. And there will be for a long time to come.”
Remember the questions the bicyclist asked:
“What are you doing out here in the middle of nowhere? Are you satisfied? Are you fulfilled?”

The work is tough, conditions always difficult, often primitive, these hardy missionaries admit. “But we’d rather be here than anyplace else on earth.”

I looked at the 35-foot house trailer and the round, tin shed where these two families live. I squinted at the hot, dusty acres that make up the small airstrip, their major reliable form of transportation to Nairobi and the outside world. And I shook my head.

I watched a few Turkana women endlessly lifting water from the deep hole in the river, with the ever-thirsty cattle waiting to lap up each precious drop. I took a breath of the dry, parched air. And I asked some questions of my own . . .

“Do you receive actual satisfaction out here . . . serving these people?”

The Alloways and Herrods smiled. “Yes. When you know you’re in God’s will, even the Sahara Desert can look like the Garden of Eden.”

I agreed.

Ross added the finishing touch. “The real satisfaction comes when some new person hears God’s Word. Hears it and responds. When we see the smile come to his face when he turns his life over to Jesus . . . well, then, it’s worth it all.”

Would you like to share in the joys and rewards of this ministry with the Herrods and the Alloways?

You can become a part of the team that is providing drinking water for these wandering Turkana people . . .

Your gift of $5 or $10 . . . or $50 or $500, in fact, your gift of any size will make a measurable difference in the entire pattern of their lives.

It will provide education.

And medical facilities and services.

A place to worship.

Even more: They will learn to drink the living water Jesus promised.

Your gift will extend the arm of God to these Turkana tribesmen who are continually looking for “greener pastures.”

Thank you for sharing what God has given you.

☐ Enclosed is my gift of $_________. Please use it to provide for the many needs of the Turkana tribesmen.

Name ________________________________

Address _______________________________________

City ______ State _______ Zip __________

World Vision Account Number _______________

(See magazine mailing label)
His name is “Wanted,” which perfectly describes him. He’s 19 years old. He’s tough. And he is always “wanted” by the Nakuru, Kenya police for some crime.

He’s the leader of 20 or so younger boys between the ages of 7 and 18 years who look to him for direction and purpose.

Wanted is well known for many miles around. Known and feared. Even in Nairobi, 250 kilometers distant (approximately 155 miles), Wanted is recognized as the “biggest of the streetboys.”

Streetboys from other towns, including the tough Nairobi car park boys, must report to Wanted when they arrive in Nakuru. Failure to report—and provide the “chief” with a gift—will result in a severe beating.

Even members of his own gang must give Wanted the first fruits of their thieving exploits or suffer the same consequences.

Presently Wanted’s gang is confused and leaderless, because he is in jail again. He was charged with stealing gasoline, one of his minor crimes. And with their leader out of circulation, the boys lack direction and purpose. Not that their lives had much meaning anyway.

Wanted’s nickname is ironic, because he, like the dozens of dirty, ragged streetboys of Nakuru, is actually unwanted by anyone. Many boys have no parents. Some have only a mother who makes a living as a prostitute and can’t be bothered with having kids around. (See “Love Is a New Pair of Tennis Shoes,” WV, February 1976, page 4.)

These boys live the best they can: stealing, robbing, scavenging. They live where best they can: usually in trees, making “nests” for themselves from rope and wire and cardboard. Some of these nests are as high as 30 feet above the ground, some as low as 10 feet up. But all are well above the climbing abilities of most policemen.

Because he’s the captain, Wanted slept at the topmost nest in the tree. The others, according to rank, sleep in the lower branches.
Nakuru’s streetboys, like streetboys in many parts of the world, are not only unwanted, but are pests to be ignored like so many flies and rodents. But making an exception to this rule is Salvation Army Captain Francis Kigiri, 29-year-old director of the Nakuru Boys’ Center. Francis and his assistant director—20 year-old Charlie Sorghe—love the boys. They know them all, know where they live and visit them often.

These boys wander the streets by day, scavenging for food from garbage cans. When night falls, they set fire to a tire (which they have probably stolen), and warm their hands at the same time they cook their dinner over the smoky blaze.

Then they often set out on a gasoline-sniffing spree. When they find a car with an unlocked gas tank, they soak strips of cloth in the gasoline, then sniff the fumes for a cheap but dangerous “high.”

At this point the boys become so boisterous and noisy that barking dogs bring the police.

“Whenver any of the boys gets arrested,” Francis said, “one of the others comes for me. I go to the police station to represent them. They have no one else in the world to turn to.”

Usually the boys are sent to the Nakuru Remand Home. After a time the Remand Home sends them “home.” Francis shook his head, “But most of these boys have no homes. Only the streets. So we befriend them.”

The Nakuru Boys’ Center, started by the Rev. John Kaltungu in 1966, is the only place where these streetboys can find refuge.

“They know we’ll stand up for them in court,” Francis said, “and that we’re their friends. So they often come to us when they are hungry or harassed.”

Often Francis and Charlie take food out to the trees and sit down with the boys and eat together. “They tell us some rather amazing stories about their escapades . . . and their lives,” Francis said.

Then he grinned, “Sometimes the boys even pick our pockets when they are with us. Then with their boyish, impish smiles they return our things to us, saying, ‘We even steal from Mwalimu (Teacher) if we want to.’”

It takes a special kind of person to make friends with the streetboys, but Francis and Charlie have that special something. Even so, there are discouragements.

“We can’t rush into friendships with them,” Francis said. “They just won’t be pushed. Sometimes we bring a boy to the Center, give him clothes and feed him, only to have him disappear a couple of days later.”

So far this year, 15 new streetboys have come to the Center. Ten of these ran away, but most of them have now returned.

For a number of months Francis has had a special concern for the many girls who are also living on the streets. He said, “It’s bad enough to see boys on the streets . . . to see them eating dirty food out of trash cans . . . but to see girls living that way—it’s too much!”

Up till now it hasn’t been possible to accommodate girls at the Center. There are 92 boys living there in two dormitories (60 supported by World Vision sponsors). And there is just no more room.

Realizing this, World Vision recently provided funds to build a separate hostel for the girls. “Many of these streetgirls have come to us and begged us for a place to live,” Francis said.

“Now, it won’t be long before we can take them off the streets and care for them.”

The soon-to-be-completed hostel will be built on the same four-acre plot as the Boys’ Center. It will house 50 girls. And though it will be controlled by a separate administration, it will be run along identical lines as the other one.

Like the boys, the streetgirls will have their own beds and lockers. They will eat good, balanced meals every day. Best yet, they will have an opportunity that few of them have ever had: to learn about and meet Jesus Christ in a meaningful, personal encounter.

“When this happens,” Francis says, “it makes all the work, all the hassle, worthwhile.”
Gottfried Osei-Mensah comes from a family of leaders. Politically, he is related through both parents to the traditional ruler of his Ashanti tribal district. Spiritually, his father was among the first converts of the Presbyterian Basel Mission in Ghana.

The fourth child in a family of 10, Osei-Mensah says, “We were brought up in a Christian atmosphere that included both the cultural activities of a chief’s household, as well as the religious and educational activities of the church and mission school. This exposure to my culture and my parents’ Christianity impressed me with a sense of authority and moral virtue.”

Osei-Mensah earned a Bachelor of Science degree in chemical engineering at Birmingham University in England. He then returned to Ghana and worked as a traveling sales engineer for Mobil Oil Corporation for five years, visiting mines and other large companies, instructing them in the use of machinery oils.

It was during this time that he married an English girl he met at Birmingham University. The couple now has two children, a boy and a girl.

“I trace my call to Christian service to the events that led me to the conscious, decisive commitment of my life to the Lordship of Jesus Christ in my second year at university,” he reports. It therefore came as no surprise to him that an opportunity for Christian service soon presented itself. In 1966 he became a full-time traveling secretary for the Pan-African Fellowship of Evangelical Students in the English-speaking universities of West Africa.

In reviewing those five years, Osei-Mensah says, “My industrial experience proved advantageous in preparing Christian students for the realities of life outside college. It also enabled me to testify confidently before non-Christian students that Jesus Christ is the answer to the life-size questions of modern man.”

While serving as the traveling secretary, he was introduced to East African Christian leaders and was often asked to preach to students in Kenya. In 1971 he accepted a call to the Nairobi Baptist Church as an associate pastor.

“I never had any formal theological training,” Osei-Mensah says. “In fact, I had no formal Bible training at all. I came to Kenya expecting to be trained by the pastor. The surprise came when I was informed that he had accepted a post in England—and I was going to be on my own.”

The Nairobi church grew under his four years of leadership, despite his lack of formal Bible training. “There were occasions when I struggled for days with particular passages to expound in church, and many times I went into the pulpit with a sense of utter inadequacy,” he says, “but suddenly, in the middle of the sermon, the Holy Spirit would take control and the sermon would flow with effortless logic and convicting power. Those were my thrilling moments as a pastor.”

As a recognized pastor and African Christian leader, Osei-Mensah was invited to attend the 1974 Lausanne Congress. During the Congress he was appointed to be a member of the Continuation Committee, and later, its first executive secretary. With this new post, Gottfried Osei-Mensah became a Christian leader for the whole world.

The 1974 Lausanne International Congress on World Evangelization rarely makes the news headlines today. But for Gottfried Osei-Mensah and the other members of the Lausanne Continuation Committee, the Congress is very much alive.

Osei-Mensah says, “Our response to the vision the Lord gave us at Lausanne was a solemn covenant with God and with each other to pray, to plan and to work together for evangelization of the whole world.” In brief, that’s exactly what the Continuation Committee is all about.

Since his appointment, the 43-year-old Ghanaian has led the Committee in its role of stimulating world evangelism in every possible way. An example of this in Africa is the historic Pan-African Christian Leadership Assembly (PACLA). Held last December in Nairobi, Kenya, the meeting brought together over 700 African delegates from all but one of that continent’s nations. (See “Christ in ‘Once Dark’ Africa,” WV, February 1977.)

World Vision President Dr. Stanley Mooneyham and Gottfried Osei-Mensah are long-time partners in Christian ministry, and Dr. Mooneyham serves on the Continuation Committee with Osei-Mensah.

We are grateful to God for having raised up such a leader in Africa as Gottfried Osei-Mensah “for such a time as this.”
With the help of concerned Christians, World Vision is meeting the emergency needs of suffering people throughout the world and making it possible for them to build for future self-reliance.

A NEW SOUND IN THE GAMBIA

Clucking hens are bringing sweet music to the ears of many Gambian farmers today. The sound reminds them that they are now able to adequately feed their families. In a country where the average man doesn't live beyond 35, and where one baby in five never sees his first birthday, these farmers are now bringing to their families the protein they need for good health. There is more than just rice and sorghum on the table. And it is your gifts, through World Vision, that make the change possible.

The story began some years ago when a man named Tom Cosier entered this tiny West African country as a missionary. As Tom began to see what serious malnutrition was doing to the people, he decided to do something about it. In October 1975, Tom began raising chickens at Somita, a town 50 miles east of the capital, Banjul. He offered 25 chicks to any farmer who would build a suitable chicken coop and have ready a supply of feed and grit. For a while, his offer was met with dubious stares. But, finally, one farmer built a coop and received his chicks. "Then everyone, all around, was making chicken pens," Tom said.

To this day, 52 Gambian farmers have been given a start in chicken production. The eggs produced in the first two or three months of business are given in payment for the 25 chicks. Then Tom's assistant, 23-year-old Simon Sanneh, sells these eggs (up to 500 a day) in order to buy locally produced feed. Large stocks of feed are contained in a new storeroom paid for by World Vision.

After one year the farmers return their hens to the Somita farm and receive new stock. (Two kerosene-powered incubators there supply the farmers with female chicks.) Farmers are also encouraged to invest a part of their earnings in additional hens and buildings.

One happy result of this project is that the farmers are gaining the satisfaction of becoming self-reliant. In addition, countless Gambians are now eating the much-needed eggs and poultry. Initially the people did not think of eggs as being food. But through a World Vision health training program operating in the same area, they are coming to understand the value of having eggs in their diet.

Tom is now training 10 Gambians to take over the work. These trainees are learning the art of poultry farming over a one- to three-year period. Eventually they will go out to other parts of the Gambia to begin raising and distributing chickens themselves.

Of course, much remains to be done. Tom cannot keep up with the growing demand for chickens; farmers have come from as far as 90 miles away to put their names on a long waiting list. A third incubator is needed to keep up with the demand (this will be an electric one at Banjul). Three more buildings are needed to house the expanding business. And more managers must be trained.

Thank you for standing with World Vision in the second year of this three-year, $22,000 project. Your gifts are enabling many Gambian families to escape the severe malnutrition that has dogged them until now.
It was a soul-stirring sight: over a hundred new missionaries kneeling at the altar for the commissioning prayer. The aging seminary president asked, “Those of you who were given the vision of missions as a child, please stand.” Three-fourths of the group stood.

The piercing black eyes swept slowly across the comfortably seated audience until the silence could be heard. The president then shattered their ease with these words, “Every home proclaims a vision. What vision is your home proclaiming?”

Webster defines “vision” as an object of imagination, and so our homes can become the center for moving and challenging the imagination. You can create a missionary vision by using a variety of means to activate concepts of missions in your family’s imaginations:

**VISION IN VISUALS**

One visual must is maps and/or a globe. Maps of your country, your world, hung at eye level in an area where the family frequently gathers, will help stimulate a new awareness and greater understanding of world needs.

A missionary’s picture can be placed as near to his country or state as possible, with a ribbon pinpointing the exact location. Put up only pictures of missionaries your children know. If they have never met any, begin a correspondence (see “And How Shall They Hear . . . Without a Letter?,” WV, April 1977), so that your child feels a personal interest. Encouraging your child to correspond with an “MK” (missionary kid) will give new insights to what being a missionary is really like and cause more interest in the missionary’s work. Your child will then be able to develop a level of prayer that is realistic and meaningful to him. It is of greater value for a child to have a personal interest in a few missionaries than a general interest in many.

Our family had room to hang a missionary calendar beside the maps, and it served as our prayer reminder. Whenever we received any communication from one of our missionary prayer partners, we would note the requests on that day, and have a time of special prayer for each request. This calendar became a very extraordinary record of God’s faithfulness as we wrote dates of answers to those prayers in red beside the requests. When a child keeps a record over a period of years of how God does hear and answer prayer, it builds a confidence and trust in Him that stormy periods of life can never completely erase.

Prayer will not only take on new importance in your child’s mind but will also generate new excitement. I remember a morning when the request on our calendar was for Yuki Ono, a young Japanese girl who helped take care of a missionary’s children. We had been asked to pray that Yuki would come to know Jesus. So we spent a few moments locating Japan on our map, looking at some pictures our missionaries had sent and examining a chubby little jade Buddha.

Later in the morning when my eldest daughter was outside, I heard her engaged in a heated conversation with the boy next door.

Trish said, “Hi, Jeff. I went to Japan this morning.”

“You did not.”

“I did so.”

“Are you talking about Japan on the other side of the world?”

“Of course.”

“Well how’d ya get there?”

“My spirit went by prayer.”

“Oh, that doesn’t mean nothing.”

“It does, Jeff, it really does. I asked God to tell Yuki that Buddha can’t hear and answer her prayers, but Jesus can. And God will, you’ll see—’cause the Bible says God is greater than idols.”

When a child is both mentally and emotionally prepared to talk to God, his enthusiastic spirit radiates a faith that all the world can see.

**VISION IN READING**

When my children were very young, an aunt said to me, “If you wish to direct the imagination of your children, then use books as bees use flowers.” Since bees work individually and as a unit, reading should be done both individually and as a family.

Look at your life style; then examine your reading diet. What is your child’s dream? Who are his heroes; what are his ideals? What are his reading habits?

Christian bookstores have a wide variety of books with a missionary emphasis, but don’t neglect the scripture narrative of missionary journeys. Maps of Paul’s missionary journeys will make these biblical accounts come alive. A read-aloud missionary story or book can be kept in progress either at family devotion time or during the dinner hour. Biographies of well-known missionaries have the special quality of actuality that adds zest to the missionary challenge.

Sitting on our bookshelf was a set of 20 such biographies. My eldest son was paid 25 cents for each book he read and reported on at the dinner table. However a child is motivated, what is vital is the establishing of good reading habits that challenge the imagination with the missionary vision.

**VISION IN SHARING**

To really get acquainted with missionaries, there is no substitute for having them in your home. For fellowship, for sharing, for meals, for overnight. So what if people have to sleep on the floor? Missionaries don’t want to be continually treated as “Company.” A steady mask of company manners tends to fray
nerve edges, particularly when children are involved. Just open your home and hearts and let the knowledge of other cultures, the sharing of prayer burdens and their answers and the joy of fellowship permeate the atmosphere.

All of us are familiar with missionary boxes or barrels which often disintegrate into a collection of discards.

In Philippians 4:16-19 (AB), Paul thanks the Philippians for their gifts to take care of his needs. He goes on to say that their gifts are a fragrant odor of a sacrifice offered to God that He welcomes and delights in. And because the Philippians have given to the missionaries, God promises to supply all of their needs.

We must teach our children the truth of that Scripture by our example. Do our children see us giving for the preaching of the Gospel before we have satisfied our personal needs? Are our gifts the best we have to give—or just the leftovers we don't want?

One fall I witnessed a scene where this principle was practiced. I was a house guest in a southern city where I was speaking for a seminar. The lady of the house had spent the afternoon with her son shopping for school clothes. When they returned, Todd showed me all of his purchases and then asked, "Which shirt do you like best?"

I pointed to a uniquely stitched soft blue knit.

"Me too," he said, then in a matter-of-fact tone added, "So that's for God. Mom, please send it to Randy." And he picked up the rest of the clothes and left the room.

I looked at Marge, "I don't understand."

Marge spoke hesitantly. "A few years ago, I visited several foreign mission fields. One day while I was alone in my friend Julie's home on the compound, I heard a knock on the back door. A young African man, whom I had seen painting the printing shop, stood there.

"He said, 'I am finished, but before I go, I want to ask you if it is possible for you to give me one of your towels?'

"My immediate reaction was to look for something that Julie wouldn't want anyway. So I found a well-worn, faded red towel which I gave to him, and promptly forgot about the incident.

"The following week as I was preparing to come back to the States, the same young man knocked on the door. He was on his way up the river to begin studying in the seminary. As he left, he said to Julie, 'Thanks to you and God for the gracious gift of so good a towel. While I was painting, I was talking with God about things I needed to take to school and God told me to ask you for the towel. Your friend gave to me the fine towel. I am praying that God will reward you both.'"

Marge's eyes filled with tears. "I had given God only what wasn't wanted or needed. So I promised God I'd never again give Him less than my best.

"Todd knows that Randy, who is in the mission school in Brazil, needs some shirts. Together we're learning the joy and satisfaction of giving that which is a sweet-smelling sacrifice to our God."

Taking on the monthly support of a needy child can also be a beautiful family experience of giving. Recently I became aware of one such meaningful sharing. A family of five uses family faith pledges to support a Colombian girl. Each child in the family, depending on age, pledges to give from $25 cents to $1.50 toward the total sum of $14 a month. This money is obtained through allowances and various jobs.

I was impressed by the active faith of 12-year-old Lisa, who said, "Last week God did it again. My babysitting job was canceled, so I didn't know where I was going to get my 50 cents for Maria. But while I was walking along praying about it, right in front of me a lady's grocery sack broke. So I helped her carry her groceries home—and guess what she gave me?"

I smiled knowingly, "Fifty cents."

"Nope. Sixty-five cents. God likes to give me more so I can give Him more."

So one by one the imprints are stamped into the memory. And the final vision your child will carry through life is a composite of all those imprints.

What will that composite be? What is your home's vision? 

the vision begins at home

by Patricia Hershey
God's Word is alive and full of power—making it active, operative, energizing and effective" (Heb. 4:12, Amp.).

In a special way this statement is being verified in the Living Bible. The idea to paraphrase Scripture came to Kenneth Taylor as he watched his children struggling with the language of the King James Version. He decided to simplify the approach for them. They were interested—and excited—with the results.

Since then, Dr. Taylor's paraphrased Living Bible has become one of the world's best-selling books. He has recently returned from an extended trip which confirmed to him again the way the peoples of the world are reaching out for the Word of God. The following is a brief summary of his trip journal.

We were pleased with the way our translation work is getting underway in Accra, Ghana. Though the sale of English Living Bibles is going well, here, and will soon pass the 20,000 a year mark, there is a definite need for Bibles in the language of the people. This will be accomplished in the very near future.

In Nigeria, next door to Ghana, oil wells and sudden wealth have brought about an interesting problem: traffic. I was told that all teachers of a certain rank receive automobiles. As a result, the streets of Lagos are jammed. This is serious because there are neither traffic controls nor patrolmen.

Religious education is required in the schools, which makes the need for several Nigerian language translations urgent. Two or three of them will be ready for publication very soon. Typesetting will probably be done in nearby Accra, Ghana, and the printing done in India, where it can be done on reasonably good paper for an excellent price.

We are eager to get these languages in print, because there is a great vacuum for Bibles in this country.

In Nairobi it was great to see work being finalized on several East African languages. While here, we were informed that we should proceed working on three or four of the language translations for Zaire. There are also possibilities in Burundi, Uganda and Madagascar. (With its seven million speakers, it is one of the largest of the African languages.)

In Greece, the work goes on well and continues to look good, thanks in part to the remarkable ability of our 70-year-old translator and his quite youthful perspective in vocabulary.

Here, as in some other parts of the world, the question has arisen as to how we could best translate the name "Living Bible" and the idea "paraphrased." In the Arabic we are thinking of calling it something like "An Interpretation of the Glorious Bible." In one of the Indian translations the term "Bible" is understood by the Hindu population, but the term "New Testament" is not, so it is called "The Bible—Second Part."

In Iran we met with the translators and found them moving along steadily. The Persian language is Farsi, which is spoken by around 30 million people, mostly Muslim. However, with the complete religious freedom enjoyed by this country, it appears the Living Bible will be fully accepted.

In India we were pleased that the Telegu New Testament, first of the Indian translations, has now been printed: 40,000 copies. This one has some very interesting features that we may want to use in other parts of the world. These will be printed in Madras for the very exciting price of 27 cents. For export copies, the Government subsidy will bring even this excellent price down to around 22 cents. We will probably have six more New Testaments in print early in 1977.
In Nepal we had a very interesting, several-hours-long taxi ride up the mountain, complete with sheer drops of several thousand feet most of the way. Fortunately the road has good retainer walls built by the British.

Along with the breathtaking view (and ride), we experienced some excitement when a busload of Indians coming down the mountain ahead of us slid out of control in the rain. It careened against that solid retaining wall, then skidded across the road, which was hardly more than a one-way road at that point.

After about a 30-minute delay we were able to inch our way past, rejoicing in the Lord's safe protection, both for ourselves and the bus passengers. The following day a similar bus accident resulted in six deaths.

After our hair-raising trip we were received by our translation team with a warm, though somewhat formal welcome.

After dinner we met to discuss the progress of the translation and to answer questions concerning problems they were facing.

The situation in Bangladesh seems to have recovered remarkably during the past two years, during which three good rice crops a year were harvested. The people we saw on the streets were apparently in much better condition than a couple of years ago. Also, there seemed to be fewer beggars than before. We thank God for all of this.

We met with the translators in Dacca. Among other items of discussion, it was decided that it would not be necessary to retranslate their east Bengali, thus making it a separate project from the west Bengali that is spoken in Calcutta. We instead agreed to go through the west Bengali manuscript (now well along) and simply change the unfamiliar words or occasional unfamiliar patterns of expression.

Rangoon, Burma seemed reasonably prosperous, although its downtown buildings are in poor repair. While there, we saw many students, very few beggars (as in Bangladesh) and the markets were bustling with activity. We learned, however, that many foods are almost unobtainable.

The English Living Bible is very much in demand, although there are probably only a few hundred copies in the country at the present. Nevertheless, the English Living Bible is paving the way for the Burmese translation that is under way. Progress on this translation has been slow because the major translator has undergone eye surgery. He has recovered by now, fitted with new glasses, and the work is moving along more rapidly, for which we thank the Lord.

In Manila we received a wonderful welcome and met Father Bob, a young Catholic priest who has been regularly touting the English Living Bible on his weekly telecasts. How this came about is interesting. Our salesman was reading the newspaper one night and saw the announcement of Father Bob's television program. He felt prompted of the Lord to go visit the priest and give him a copy of the English Living Bible.

A day or two later Father Bob invited our man to speak on television. Father Bob has been talking about the Living Bible on TV ever since. As a result all the bookstores have had difficulty keeping them in stock!

Back home, it is encouraging to read reports of the ever-growing worldwide distribution of the Living Bible. Also, requests for translations continue to come in, and the number of those completed or anticipated has grown to 100—for which we thankfully give God the glory.

Please pray with us for Bible translation programs everywhere. Pray especially for us, if you will, for the impossible project God has committed into our hands and which we must firmly place back into His.
Christmas Sharing
Sir: The members of our church were, again this year, invited to reduce the names on their Christmas card list and donate the money saved to World Vision. A beautiful large Christmas card was then designed and painted by one of our members, and signed by the members greeting one to the other.

Mrs. J. Donald Adams
Lowell, Massachusetts

Sponsored Child Writes
Dear Sponsors, Mr. and Mrs. Kennedy and Billy: I received your letter and I enjoyed it very much. I have received clothing which you made possible, and I also have food.

In answer to your question, what I really need right now is to buy some straw or even some tiles for the roof of our shack. When it rains, we all get wet, because the roof is covered with only straw and it is old now and filled with holes. But if you cannot help me there, please do not mind. I will understand.

Merry Christmas to all of you there.
Maria das Graças Tomas
Brazil

Caring: The Young...
Sir: I told my son, "No, you can't have seconds on dessert."
"But I'm starving," came the plea of 5-year-old Michael.
With an explanation of "starving," the children immediately wanted to send their dessert and some other food to starving people. More explanations followed. Michael and his 4-year-old sister, Michelle, then decided to earn some money.

With the enthusiasm of children that age, they washed dishes, dusted furniture, scrubbed sinks and tubs and even mopped floors. Their younger sister Sondra, almost 2, set and cleared the table for most meals.

Their money went into a jar. If they found any money, it too went into the jar.

Today Michael counted the money, Michelle deposited it in our checking account, and Sondra will mail the check to you.

Love Loaf
Sir: Please accept "the widow's mite" and let me thank you for permitting me to be a drop in the sea of philanthropy. May I add that when I called in, I was greeted by a voice that made the most pleasant impression: so pleasant, so sincere, so cooperative in explaining. If all of your organization is as she, I'm not skeptical of its efficiency.

Herman A. Bregger
Sunrise Beach, Missouri

...and the Young at Heart
Sir: I wanted to tell you (for what it is worth) that I am giving up my weekly "hair setting money" for a good cause. I look worse on the outside, but I feel better inside. That's what counts.

Mrs. Martin L. Kaker
Wabeno, Wisconsin

Readers' Right
Sir: I can never give all I wish to World Vision. I don't have very much money. So I had a little garage sale the other day. The neighbors were wonderful. I send you what I made with my blessing.

Ms. Evelyn Fullwood
Los Angeles, California

Sir: Please accept "the widow's mite" and let me thank you for permitting me to be a drop in the sea of philanthropy. May I add that when I called in, I was greeted by a voice that made the most pleasant impression: so pleasant, so sincere, so cooperative in explaining. If all of your organization is as she, I'm not skeptical of its efficiency.

Sir: Please send me a Love Loaf. I may be able to interest the children who come to visit us. The neighbor's children are so good to us.

My sister is a stroke patient and is bedfast and speechless. But she is mentally alert and is happy to share our modest income with our less fortunate brethren.

We have no children, and we live alone. Our work is praying for others, and I read your literature to my sister.

Mrs. Edith McCray
Dallas, Texas
and they attend services quite regularly.
My birthday and my neighbor's are both this month. I am 85 and my neighbor is 84. I asked the lady who has charge of the birthdays if she would send the money that the cake would cost to the Love Loaf program, and I would give an equal amount. My neighbor asked that they do the same with her cake. We would like the money to go to hungry children.

Mrs. Floyd Evory
Bloomington, New York

Sir: Here's our Love Loaf money! It was earned by several people in our church who have a problem with overeating. They became convinced of this by the Holy Spirit and decided to eat less and use the money they saved from purchasing less food to help feed a hungry world.

You might be interested to know that some of these folks have lost 14 to 25 pounds during the period we've committed to filling our Love Loaves. Isn't Jesus fantastic!

Mr. Dan VanDuzor, Layman
Christian and Missionary
Alliance Church
Ellensburg, Washington

Mrs. Floyd Evory
Bloomington, New York

Magazine Response
Sir: Greetings to you from the

Ms. Angelina Banag
Children's Hope Project
Lumban, Laguna, Philippines

The strength of any organization lies with the people who comprise it. I am so very grateful to God for the quality of the spiritual leadership He has brought to World Vision.

The responsible governing body for the organization is the board of directors. The dozen men who give policy direction to World Vision are experienced, committed people—each having a mature background in business, a profession or the ministry. We thank God for these good men who give themselves to this ministry so generously and unselfishly.

Dr. Stan Mooneyham provides direction and spiritual leadership in World Vision. He came as our president eight years ago from a rich background of denominational leadership and management, followed by an association with the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association as Vice President/International Relations; he knows the world scene as do few others.

Reporting to me, and through me to the president, are seven of the finest men I know: Graeme Irvine was formerly director of World Vision of Australia and was previously active in YMCA leadership in his home country. He now directs our International Relations Division and is responsible for our numerous offices and ministries throughout the third world.

Hal Barber, a retired U. S. Army colonel, served as Dean of the United States Army War College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania. He now directs the effective and growing ministry of our Relief and Development Division. Dr. Ed Janss, a Ph.D. and an ordained minister, heads our international childcare ministry. He has had many years of experience in this field and is presently responsible for the care of more than 115,000 children in some 40 nations.

Ed Dayton left a successful career in industry to put modern computer technology and research techniques to work for world evangelization. He heads our MARC Division, which has gained much credibility under his founding direction. Alan Bergstedt, a CPA with corporate and missionary experience, gives great leadership to our Financial Services Division.

Paul Van Oss, an experienced Christian layman and businessman, heads the Resource and Extension Division. He's responsible for the operation of our area offices as well as for fund raising, church relations and a variety of other programs. Dick Watson is an experienced Christian journalist who directs our important communications ministry.

I dare not close this column without mentioning three of my colleagues: Dr. Sam Kamaleson, who directs World Vision's worldwide Christian leadership ministry; Ken Von Rohr, personnel director and my special assistant, and Cliff Benzel, who heads our Management Systems program.

I thank God for these men and for scores—yes, hundreds—of other men and women here at our headquarters and throughout the world who have a loving concern and dedication to this ministry. I know that many of you, our dear supporters and friends, often remember us all in your prayers. We will always need that kind of support; thank you and God bless you.

Ted W. Engstrom
Executive Vice President
Her name is Souvenie. She lives in Haiti.

And she is my child.

I had loved her by letter for over a year, but now I was going to meet her!

I was excited—and a little scared. Would she like me? Would I be able to communicate with her? Did she really feel any special relationship with me as "her sponsor"—or was I simply a name on a piece of paper and a gift twice a year?

I wanted to take her a few small gifts, little things to remember me by. But what do you give a child who has nothing? Where do you start?

The questions whirled in my mind as I packed for the trip. I was going on a work assignment for World Vision, but I think we all secretly knew that the trip's biggest highlight would be Meeting My Child.

When I arrived in Fond-des-Negres, about 75 washboard miles from Port-au-Prince, it was after dark. Although I couldn't visit Souvenie until morning, I was able to learn more about her family from Captain Carol Ratcliff, the Salvation Army officer who directs World Vision's program in Fond-des-Negres.

Souvenie lives with her mother and three sisters in a small, whitewashed mud house. Her father died from TB several years ago. During his illness, Eligrace, Souvenie's mother, went without food to pay for his medicine and later contracted the disease herself. She is now an "arrested" case, but has almost no resistance to infection.

The family survives by farming perhaps an acre of land, raising corn, sweet potatoes and piti mi (a millet) to eat, then selling what little may be left over. But Haiti is gripped by a severe drought right now, and their acre is turning dry and brown. If the weeks continue without rain, Souvenie and her family will simply eat less and less; eventually they will exist on mangoes and bananas... until those run out.

Only Souvenie and her younger sister, Vilienne, are on World Vision's sponsorship program and receive a hot meal at school each day.

Impatiently I waited for morning, and as I walked down the drive with Capt. Ratcliff I saw Souvenie coming out of the church, where she attended a weekly Bible class. She seemed so small for her 12 years. And if I live to be a hundred I'll never forget the picture of her standing there: a torn strip of cloth tied into her hair for a ribbon, spindly little arms and legs poking out from under her bright blue dress, my last Christmas gift to her.

Then she smiled.

And at that instant, she ceased to be a picture, a case history, a letter, a crayoned drawing. At that moment, time seemed to hold its breath, and this child became an indelible, inerasable, inseparable part of my life.

I had loved her on paper, but now it was a warm and almost tangible thing. Now it was alive.

And when she put her arms around my waist, and I felt that soft, dark skin under my fingers, I thought, I can never go back. Never again can I be complacently uninvolved in my middle-class security. Never again can I turn and walk away from a needy world.

As we walked along a barely discernible path to her home, Souvenie shyly slipped her hand into mine. She showed me their tiny, thatched-roof house, the almost-ripe mangoes and the family's one lone pig.

The house was perhaps 20 by 15 feet, and was bare except for woven reed sleeping mats. Souvenie's mother did all the cooking outside, under a palm-frond "brush arbor." The tired garden area was cracking under the continued drought, and sugarcane stalks hung brokenly by their stems.

But Souvenie had swept their little yard just for my coming. Poverty... tidied up for a company visit.

As I gave Souvenie the gifts I had brought—a
box of crayons, a pink hairbrush, a package of brightly colored hair clips—I felt troubled. And so inadequate.

I wanted to give her the world. I wanted to scoop her up and bring her home, to give her a bed with soft, clean sheets instead of a mat on a hard dirt floor. I wanted to see her arms and legs become soft and round, to shower her with pretty little girl things. I wanted to hold her on my lap and tell her that poverty was just a bad dream, that when she woke up there would be no more TB, no more typhoid germs in her muddy drinking water, no more non-meals when the crops didn’t grow. And I wanted to be able to tell her that she would never be hungry again.

I felt terribly frustrated: that I am just one person and I cannot change the world. And what I can do seems so pitifully little.

But at the same time, I felt a little bit of hope. Because in Souvenie’s life, something is happening. I don’t think anyone would claim that it is an overnight, quick-like-magic thing to bring a needy child out of nothingness. But to know that, for 14 small dollars a month, I am starting a child on the road to a better life; that is the miracle.

What a bargain! What an investment! What a small cost to change someone’s life.

Souvenie’s family will never be rich, and they will probably never even get above the subsistence level. But if I can help her have a good hot meal every day, an education in a country of vast illiteracy and a chance to know that Jesus loves her, then her life will never be quite the same again.

And neither will mine.

I, too, want to sponsor a child (for at least a year if possible). Please select a _____ boy _____ girl for me. Enclosed is $14 for the first month.

I can’t sponsor a child at this time, but enclosed is my gift of $_________ to make life better for needy children around the world.

Name _____________________________________
Address ___________________________________
City ___________________________ State_______________________Zip ___________
Identification Number ___________
(See mailing label.)

unreached peoples

Loneliness. Culture shock. Exhaustion. Low wages. Secularism. All these and more are the daily bread of over one million Turkish workers in West Germany.

Like a giant magnet, the throbbing forges and furnaces of the Ruhr draw tens of thousands of “guest” workers. Leaving kith and kin, hearth and home, Turkish men flock to a strange land. Muslims make the thousand-mile pilgrimage away from Mecca for money.

Evangelizing Turkish peoples in Turkey is very difficult because of restrictions, Muslim nationalism and the miniscule size of the Church (Protestants number less than 2000 in a population of 40 million). But reaching them at long distance in Germany is a beckoning opportunity. Receptivity is heightened. Social and economic bonds against conversion are loosened. Yet fewer than a dozen Turkish-speaking Christians and missionaries are attempting to share Christ with Turkish workers in Germany. Is it any wonder that they are unreached?

The laborers are few, but like thousands of other unreached peoples, these Turks in Germany can be reached. They must be reached. You can become a part of reaching these people by learning more about them—and hundreds of unreached peoples around the world.

LONG-DISTANCE EVANGELISM

In order that you may pray, love and understand the needs of unreached peoples like the Turkish workers in West Germany, World Vision’s MARC Division has prepared a brief prayer folder. This folder includes the data from the World Vision/MARC Unreached Peoples Program and is available to you for the asking. At the same time, you will receive a list of 200 other unreached peoples about whom you may receive additional information.
MANAGING YOUR TIME

May 12, 13 in Pasadena, CA
June 2, 3 in Dallas, TX

This seminar has helped literally thousands of pastors and Christian leaders in the very practical details of daily life and ministry.

For the past 13 years Dr. Engstrom, co-author of the bestseller *Managing Your Time*, has been executive vice-president of World Vision International. He has also recently authored *The Making of a Christian Leader*.

Mr. Dayton, author of *Tools for Time Management*, is director of World Vision's Research and MARC Division. Along with Dr. Engstrom, Mr. Dayton is co-author of *Strategy for Living* and *The Art of Management for Christian Leaders*.

Plan now to be with us. Mail the coupon to Managing Your Time, World Vision International, 919 W. Huntington Drive, Monrovia, California 91016.

Managing Your Time Seminar

☐ Pasadena
☐ Dallas

(Check one. $95 covers all costs. Make Checks payable to Managing Your Time.)

☐ Send complete details
☐ I enclose $25 now, the balance of $70 to be paid at the seminar.
☐ I enclose the entire $95.

Name ____________________________
Church or Org ____________________
Org Address _______________________
City _____________________________
State, Zip ________________________
Telephone ________________________

Seminary Guest Lectureship

World Vision of Australia has recently underwritten a guest lectureship at the Matija Vlacic IIrik Theological Faculty in Zagreb, Yugoslavia, the only Protestant seminary in that country (see "Yugoslavia: The Reformation Lives On," WV, January 1977).

Dr. William Athol Gill, Dean of Australia's Whitley College (a theological seminary of the University of Melbourne) and a professor of New Testament, arrived in Yugoslavia in February. He has just completed teaching the books of Amos, Hosea, the Gospel of Mark and Paul's Epistle to the Romans.

Mission Hospital Receives Drugs

In response to a request by Dr. Jerry Powell, the Unvangelized Fields Mission Hospital in Irian Jaya, Indonesia has received a complete drug supply through a World Vision grant. The drugs will be purchased from UNICEF and will be delivered to Jakarta, where Gene Daniels, World Vision's Field Director for Indonesia, will assume responsibility for getting the supplies to Irian Jaya.

Ghana Evangelism Congress Planned

A far-reaching evangelistic campaign is planned for Ghana this year, supported by a broad base of Ghanaian churches and denominations. The conference will be held at the University of Kumasi on July 12 - 20 of this year, and World Vision is assisting with a grant to attempt to reach the whole country for Christ.

Gottfried Osei-Mensah, executive secretary of the Lausanne Continuation Committee (see "Man of God for Africa's Future," page 10), is wholeheartedly behind the thrust, one of the first of its kind on the African continent.

Evangelism Grant for Thailand

Since July 1978 is the 150th anniversary of Christian missions in Thailand, World Vision has provided a grant to assist the churches in a country-wide evangelistic thrust, culminating on that date. All the evangelical churches in the country are cooperating in this effort.

In addition, the grant will help defray the cost of the year-long church growth seminars scheduled throughout Thailand. It will also help provide for financial involvement connected with the evangelistic crusades to be held in February 1978, as well as conservation and follow-up.

Leprosy Project Update

When given a chance for a new life, plus five acres and a handful of dilapidated buildings, a few leprosy victim families in Gujarat State, India have proven they can do anything they set out to do.

With the help of World Vision funds for a start, 30 former leprosy victims (all cured or arrested) are now practically self-supporting. They grow most of their own vegetables for personal use, along with grain and straw for their dairy animals.

Their flock of 125 chickens provides enough eggs for their own use, plus some to sell for a cash crop.

Nutrition Village in Rhodesia

Mothers of children suffering from nutritional deficiencies in Rhodesia will soon be able to care for their families better. A model village is being provided with World Vision funds—using local-style huts with some internal improvements—which will teach these mothers how to properly care for their families.

Working with their own chil-
Children over a four- to six-week period, they will be taught the basics of nutrition, sanitation and family planning. These women will then become standard-setters when they return to their own villages.

Military Bases Endorse Love Loaves

"There are presently more than 100 U.S. military bases lending enthusiastic support to the Love Loaf program," said the Rev. Herbert W. Scott, Minister-at-Large/Military Relations Director for World Vision International.

"This figure is even more remarkable," he said, "when one realizes that it represents nearly one-third of all U.S. military bases in the world."

Mr. Scott indicated that these bases have presently distributed more than 18,000 Love Loaves among the families of military personnel.

The above photo was taken of the following U.S. Army chaplains following a luncheon in Munich, Germany hosted by the Rev. Mr. Scott (l. to r.): Col. Don Dawson, Sgt. Mike Kutcher, Lt. Col. Dick Denson and Lt. Col. Bruce Williams.

WV Honored by Chamber of Commerce

Members of the Monrovia Chamber of Commerce recently presented a plaque to World Vision with the following inscription: "Monrovia Chamber of Commerce, in recognition of World Vision's gigantic endeavor or to relieve suffering, hunger and distressed families throughout the world and in appreciation of selecting Monrovia as World Headquarters. 1977."

During the tour of WV facilities that followed, Chamber of Commerce officials posed with WV executives for the above photo. (l. to r.) Bill Deans, CC president; Dr. Ted W. Engstrom, WV executive vice president; Dr. W. Stanley Mooneyham, WV president; Joe Ragsdale, CC public relations chairman, and Mrs. Jan Marugg, CC executive secretary.

world vision prayer requests

Please pray:
• that God will bless Dr. Mooneyham with safety and success as he travels to Kenya and Poland in the interests of World Vision's TV ministry, "Come Walk the World." Pray also for the Rev. Ralph Hamburger, director of World Vision's European Liaison Office, who will accompany Dr. Mooneyham to Poland.
• for the safety of Graeme Smith and other World Vision personnel and their families as they live with political tensions in Ethiopia.
• that World Vision's Printing and Mailing Department will enjoy a smooth transition as it moves into new facilities this month.
• for Stu Willcuts, An Tran and Dr. Graciela Esparza, World Vision's Latin America Survey Team, as they travel extensively in South America this month. They will be determining the most effective ways and locations for World Vision's development involvement in this part of the world.
• for Don Scott in Thailand, because of difficult problems in the refugee camps.
AFRICAN PERSECUTION OF CHRISTIANS CONTINUES

Violence toward Christians is continuing across Africa, with the kidnapping and subsequent murder of Cardinal Emile Biayenda in Congo Republic on March 22. The cardinal was the Archbishop of Brazzaville and president of the Congo Catholic Bishops' Conference, and he was believed to have been the last official to visit Congo President Marien Ngouabi before the president was assassinated on March 18. Cardinal Biayenda was the second African archbishop to die a violent death in recent weeks. Anglican Archbishop Janani Luwum of Uganda was killed in that country in February after being arrested on charges of plotting against President Idi Amin (see "Globe at a Glance," WV, April 1977).

Meanwhile, in Shaba Province, Zaire (formerly Katanga Province), a number of Roman Catholic and Protestant mission stations have fallen into the hands of Angolan "mercenaries," reportedly led by Cubans. One Catholic bishop has said that he is no longer in contact with several mission stations in his diocese, and seven United Methodist missionaries have been evacuated from the area.

LA GOS, Nigeria—Christian mission agencies are urging Christian teachers to respond to the Nigerian Government's call for nearly 40,000 new teachers. The enrollment of primary schools is nearly double that of last year, as a result of the nation's move to provide a free primary education for every Nigerian child. Interested parties are advised to contact the Embassy of Nigeria in their country.

DEVLALI, India—A document issued by the All India Congress on Mission and Evangelization (AICOME) in mid-February calls on national Christians to rise to the challenge of evangelizing India's 620 million people. Vital to this task is the renewal of contact with several mission stations in his diocese, and several United Methodist missionaries have been evacuated from the area.
SAVING TOMORROW: A Look at a Book

Item—On the Christian Cause in Today's World:
The Christian has no ground for the easy and complacent optimism which has sometimes ruled the thinking of his predecessors in the faith. But equally, there is no need for gloomy prognostications of unending defeat.

Item—On Churches of the West:
The most important fact about the churches of the Western world today is that they are, almost without exception, penitent churches. They have learned to look at themselves with a critical and appraising eye.

Item—On the Non-Christian Religions:
The 19th-century expectation of the rapid disappearance of the non-Christian religions was based on a number of misconceptions, and cannot be seriously entertained by anyone today.

Item—On the Near-Goal of World Evangelism:
Since Christ died for all, every man has the right to have the Gospel so presented to him that he may be able to understand it and in the light of that understanding accept or reject it.

Item—On a Mature, Healthy Church:
A church is a church in the full sense of the term only when it can provide for all its own needs and reach out beyond itself in a concern for the needs of others.

Item—On the Basics of Church Responsibilities and Activities:
If we turn to the New Testament, we shall find that activities of the Christian church fall under the three headings of worship, edification and extension. Extension is the Church going forth from itself, becoming in truth the Church for others as it moves out of the safety of its own organization into the world outside... desiring only that others should come to the knowledge of that truth by which the Church lives.

Item—On Latin American "Liberation Theology":
Danger comes as soon as we give in to the myth of the sinless proletariat, and suppose that wickedness is everywhere on the side of those whom we identify as the oppressors, and innocence on the side of those whom we commiserate as the oppressed.

Item—On Evangelization and Politico-Economic Liberation:
It follows that evangelization must accompany and not follow every step in the process of political and economic liberation.

Item—On the Current Demand for "Third World" Approaches to Biblical Theology:
Almost everywhere in the world the approach to theology is purely Western.

Item—On Theological Education in the "Third World":
A seminary, as an instrument of the life of the Church, must be (if it is to deserve the name) a place of adoration, of fellowship and of proclamation.

Item—On Planning for World Evangelization:
Long-term planning is always exposed to the risk that every assumption on which it is based may be falsified by the vicissitudes of history.

Item—On Looking to the Future of Church and Mission:
We must not yield to the danger of trying to shut Christ up within the limits of our existing church structures; he cannot be so confined.

These are bits of valuable ore from a book-mine worked by Bishop Stephen Neill and sent out recently under the title Salvation Tomorrow. The Neill style of writing is something of a model. The sentences, well crafted, are clear, crisp, competent.

The contents, as in most of the author's books, are related to the world mission of the Church. The topics treated are among the most lively and urgent of our time. Should Christians enter into dialogue with persons of other faiths? (A qualified "Yes."). What is to be said for and against a "moratorium on missionaries"? (It all depends.) What position should we take on Christian participation in revolutionary activity, including violence? (Activity, Yes; violence, No.) What training programs are needed in overseas churches if the teeming and towering needs of tomorrow are to be responsibly met? (Too many points to list.)

The first chapter and the last are obviously complementary: "Where Are We Now?" and "Greater Things Than These." The latter has a finale entitled "Towards the Twenty-first Century."

Bishop Neill has a way of illuminating almost any topic on which he touches. His competence arises from his excellent knowledge of history, his flair for careful research, his extraordinary range of personal acquaintances and his vast sum of knowledge accumulated through his long years of experience as a world citizen and Christian leader.

If at times he writes in a mood more soft or tolerant than some of us find congenial, most of the time he speaks with refreshing candor and occasionally with an eloquent throb of high feeling. When he says, "I do not pretend to agree with everything that has been said and done in ecumenical circles in recent times," he means it, and shows us why. Or, to conclude, take the following as a burst of beautifully impassioned prose:

No man can preach unless he has learned to wrestle on his knees with the word of the living God, and until the great words of Scripture have so fashioned themselves as parts of his being that they become to him the natural vehicle for his prayer and praise.

Amen! 

[Signature]

Paul Barber

WORLD VISION / MAY 77
Tangible . . . on the meal table . . . touchable . . . visible . . . quickly and clearly understood . . . practical.
Unique . . . its difference . . . its shape . . . its purpose . . . its symbolism . . . its impact.
Educational . . . family devotions stimulator . . . teacher of compassion by the example of parents . . . scripturally based . . . positive.
Exciting . . . to receive one . . . to fill one . . . to break one . . . to see the money bring food to starving people.
Effective . . . men . . . women . . . boys . . . girls . . . college students . . . single adults . . . young families . . . retired people. Everyone likes it and . . . it’s something everyone can do to fight hunger.
Successful . . . 3500 plus churches . . . over 500,000 households in the U.S.A. . . . Canada . . . South Africa . . . Australia . . . New Zealand are helping. It really works!

A hunger fighter . . . over one million dollars has gone already to fight hunger through W.V.I. denominational programs and local projects . . . Starving people are being nourished in the name of Jesus Christ.

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It’s as simple as A B C:

A  World Vision sends you—at no cost to you—one Love Loaf per household, information brochures and a “How-to” manual. You distribute the loaves to each church household.

B  The loaves are then filled with coins until Love Loaf Breaking Sunday. Here is where your people get the real satisfaction of helping together as a congregation.

C  Count your money. You may send up to 60 percent to the program of your choice (it’s a proven way to actually increase your church’s support of denominational hunger programs) and send at least 40 percent to World Vision. Or you may send the entire amount to World Vision. We will send you reports to share with your congregation telling what the Love Loaf funds have done.

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