

# world vision

- My name is Maria. I live in a slum.
- Personal perspectives on Brazil's Nordeste.
- Slum servant on wheels.

3 For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, 4 that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, 5 and that he appeared to Peter, and then to the Twelve. 6 After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep.... 8 And last of all he appeared to me...

*He's Alive!*

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**He's alive!**

The Apostle Paul reminds us of Christ's great sacrifice for us. 2

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**world vision®**

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# Alive!

**"I want to remind you,"** wrote the fatherly Apostle Paul to Christians in a bustling Greek city, "of the gospel I preached to you."

And remind them he did. Directly. "Christ died for our sins . . . was buried . . . was raised."

Since that day, those words and their many-layered context have reminded not just a few hundred Greeks but hundreds of millions of people of all races, in all kinds of situations, down through 60 generations.

For good reason. "Of first importance" is this gospel, explained Paul. For "by this gospel you are saved."

Saved from guilt, from bondage to sin, from fear, from eternal death.

Saved *to* the joy of full forgiveness, real freedom, solid hope, eternal life.

Paul knew what it's like to be dead in sin, believing Christ was dead. In a transforming turn of mind and heart he'd come to know what it's like to become alive, really alive, knowing Christ risen. Called to discipleship, he delighted in delivering the good news to others dead in sin—and in repeating the good news to any who, having once come to life through it, tended to forget its "first importance."

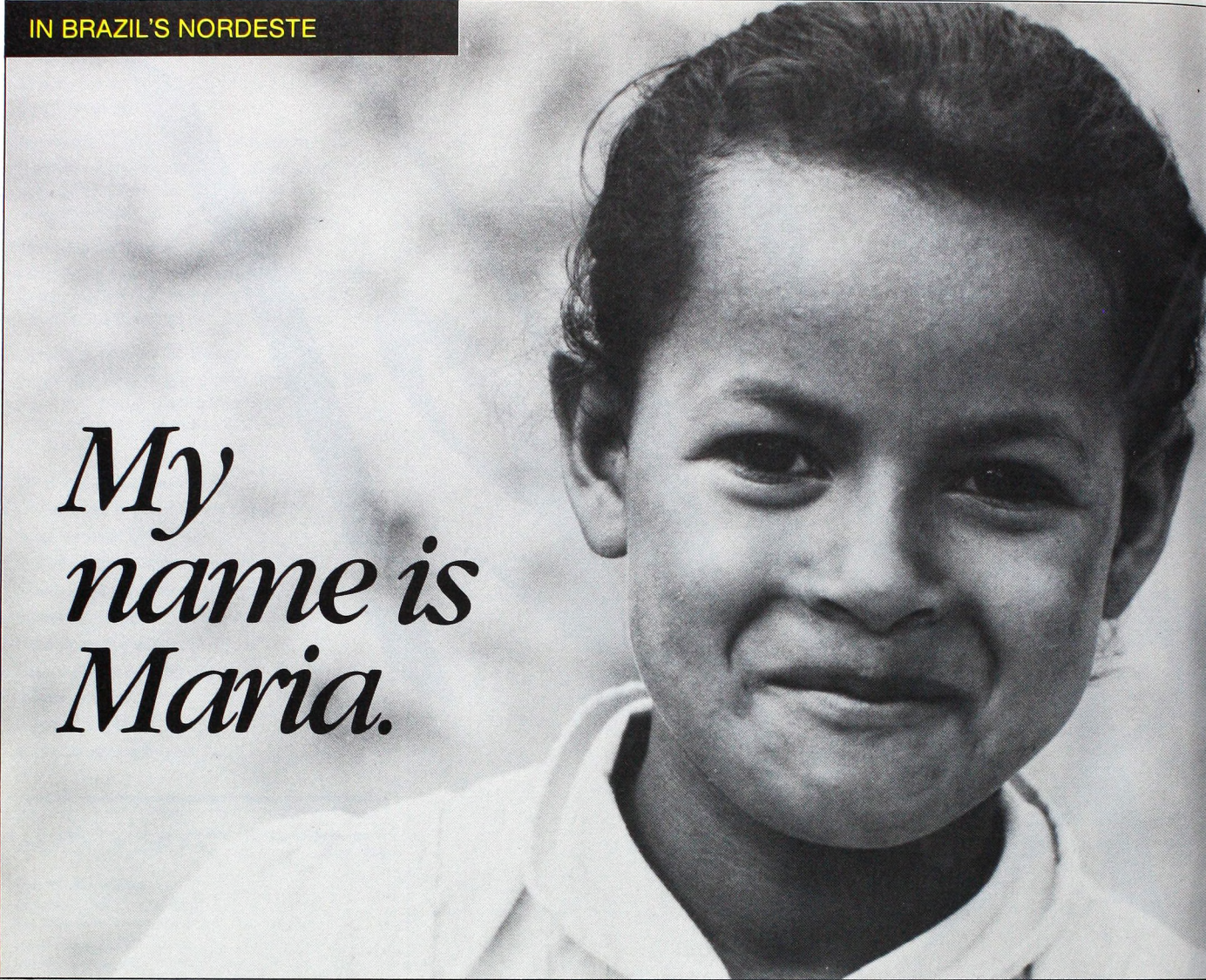
He'd be an enthusiastic celebrant in Easter services that today refocus worshippers' attention on Christ's death and resurrection. And he'd be among the leaders of everyday efforts to express the resurrection life through caring deeds, as well as

words, of Christlike love wherever people's needs are great.

Today as in Paul's day, the rich, the poor, the well, the sick, the full, the hungry, the Brazilian, the American, the Chinese—every person's *deepest* need is for a vital faith relationship with God through Christ who died, was buried and rose from the grave to redeem us from our sin.

To trust and obey this One is the way to personal salvation. It's more; it's the way to partnership with Him in saving others, others, others.

Through the greatest good news of all time: He's alive! *David Olson*



*My  
name is  
Maria.*

*I live in a slum.*

**My name is Maria Raquel.** I am seven years old. I live in the Brazilian city of Recife, in one of the favelas (slums). I go to school every day. My father is working today. Some days he finds work. Other days there is none. Usually his job is to carry things—like unloading trucks or lifting bricks for men making a new building. Sometimes my father tries for many days without finding work. Some days Uncle Paulo works too, carrying things at a market. My other uncle is sick all the time so he doesn't work.

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*Maria Raquel de F. Serafim—her surname means “angels”—attends Elizabeth Sales Coutinho de Barros School, an institution created with assistance from World Vision sponsors. These photos were taken by*

*David Ward, who also gathered the information appearing in the captions, on a recent visit to Recife and other impoverished areas of Brazil's drought-stricken Nordeste (northeast) region.*



**This is where I live.** Seventeen members of our [extended] family live in this slum. This house is for my mother and father, my sister and me. Aunt Susana, her husband and three of my cousins stay in this house, too. Next door is another house where my grandmother, my grandfather, my baby brother, two more uncles, my uncle's daughter, and my Aunt Elenita's two children stay. Aunt Elenita lives in São Paulo. She is an elevator operator. My grandmother takes care of Elenita's children because Elenita doesn't come here often or send any money.



**My neighborhood is very dirty.** This canal is near my house. It smells. It is dangerous here because bad children try to push people into the water. They throw stones and fight, too. My mother won't let me go far from home by myself. She tells me to

run away when I see people I don't know. Many children here are thieves. Many use drugs—they sniff glue and smoke marijuana. Even very young children do these things. Drug dealers try to get children to make deliveries for them. My mother worries that I might fall in with these bad people.

**This is where I sleep.** My bed is next to my parents' bed. My sister's bed is next to mine, on the other side of these boards.

My mother told me that when I was small, I was very sick with a terrible cough. They gave me some strong medicine; it made me paralyzed. The doctors at the hospital

said I probably would die. Or maybe I would never talk. My mother told me that I didn't cry or move for a long time. But now I am okay.

**I like to play dolls** with my sister and cousins. We play house. We take turns being mother. Usually there is no father because there are no boys around. We also play jump rope

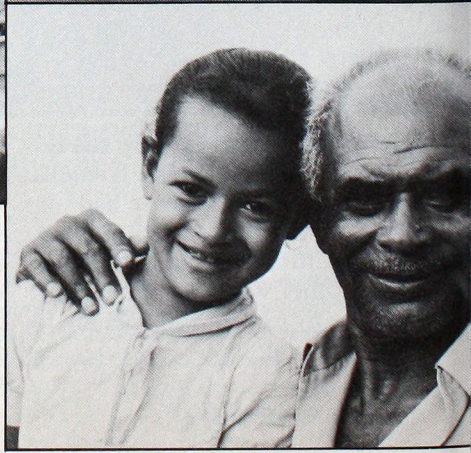


**This is my mother.** Her name is Raquel. She works as a cleaner in a big building. She goes to work every day at lunchtime and comes home at night. She says she dreams about me becoming a doctor. She does things for me. Sometimes she takes me to the park or to the market. I like that—especially when we ride on the bus together. I like to go watch the cow-fish at the park downtown.

*The "cow-fish" is actually a very large manatee on display in an outdoor tank.*



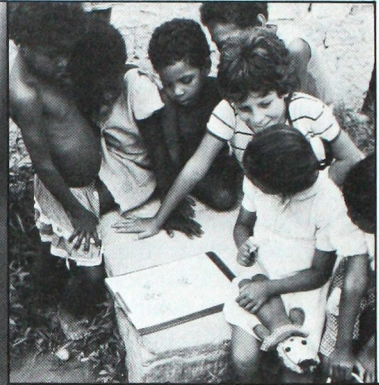
**This is my grandmother.** She is the cook for our family. Sometimes she lets me help her.





**This is my favorite doll.**  
My other ones are broken.  
The legs fell off.

**This is me, drawing** a happy picture. Some of my friends are watching. I like to draw. I don't know how to write my name yet.



**This is my picture.** I drew a sun and a nice house. That's me in the middle. There are some flowers. At the bottom is the cow-fish. I never tried to draw a cow-fish before. I hope we can go see him again soon.

**This is my baby brother.** He sleeps in the kitchen because there is no room for his crib in the bedrooms. The other baby is my cousin. I help take care of the babies when I am not at school.



*Maria Raquel is one of hundreds of Brazilian children in similar circumstances who, with their families and other members of their slum neighborhoods, are being helped by World Vision contributors. To aid others like Maria Raquel, please use the return envelope from the center of this magazine. Thank you!*

**This is my grandfather.** He is close to me. He does the shopping for food. He says he is sorry he can't buy everything we need.

*Glimpses of a life-changing community project as seen through some special eyes*

# The way we see it

**Had they been naming it today,** it might be called Afghanistan. Or El Salvador. But back when this favela-in-the-making needed a catchy name there was one obvious choice. Someone tried it, and the title stuck. A tough, violent favela (slum) in Recife, Brazil, became known as Vietnam.

Just a few minutes from Recife's bustling, modern city center, the slum is an end-of-the-line place for desperate people. Working-class families drifted here, squeezed into indigence by unemployment and runaway inflation. Flagelados from rural villages came to stay, pushed to the city by thirst and hunger. Thieves and murderers moved there in force, chased by their need for invisibility.

Brazilian cities are famous for such places. Recife is full of them. *This* favela was among the worst. Wedged between a cloverleaf highway interchange and the high tension fields of a hydroelectric power company, Vietnam is easily ignored by people who are better off. But not long ago, a group of Brazilian Christians noticed Vietnam's squalor as they drove past, on their way to their middle-class downtown church.

They knew that what they had seen demanded a response, in the name of Jesus.

So the downtown church started an outreach church in the slum. With the help of a few dozen seminary students, they began a thorough socioeconomic survey of the favela. Visão Mundial (World Vision of Brazil) was asked to help. Shortly thereafter, World Vision mobilized 280 committed sponsors in Europe, Australia, New Zealand and North America.

By joining hands across a city and across the globe, a vital partnership was formed.

Since then, the little church in Vietnam has grown from a nucleus of 6 adults to more than 100, plus

children. And the Child Development Center next door is providing educational, recreational and nutritional opportunities for more than 500 children. Community members are cooperating as never before to improve living conditions, increase family incomes, and build community spirit.

But the story of this slum project is most exciting when told by those who know it best. Meet several of them now.

**Messias de Silva** (*"When God touched Messias," says one of the church people, "He didn't just touch Him with one hand. God wrapped His arms around him and hugged him." Not surprisingly, the Vietnam community chose Messias to be project president.*)

“I was born here, so I feel special responsibility for helping make Vietnam a better place. This project came along just when I was looking for a way to do that. So far I've faced many problems as project president; sometimes I've felt like giving up, but people have encouraged me and helped me be more patient.

“We hold community meetings twice a month. In between, we have project committee meetings to be sure we understand and respond well to the things the community tells us. People bring difficulties to us. Our job is to discuss them and look for solutions.

“I've been working with some of our abandoned youths, those living in gangs, who are likely to become criminals before long. I'm taking names for a carpentry class that we'll be starting soon. I intend to use a positive system of teaching. Repressive discipline is the wrong approach with these young people. They have been repressed all their lives. I plan to help these fellows by being a teacher who is also a friend and encourager.”

**Manoel Francisco dos Santos** (*Manoel's brother was murdered not long ago by a youth gang. Chronically ill and unable to find a steady job, he has every reason to be bitter. Instead, he is one of the project's most enthusiastic participants.*)

“I have always been a 'favelado' (slum dweller), but my wife and I have lived in Vietnam only six years. I first met Messias two years ago when he invited me to a project meeting. I felt in my heart that he and the others needed encouragement, so I got involved.

“At first I was shy because I had no experience with such a thing. But Messias helped me, and now I think I could never stop working for the community. There is so much to do. We have helped people build latrines and improve their houses. We've built a better road.

“But there was a time last year when I almost stopped. Soon after my brother was killed, I thought of leaving this place. I also thought of vengeance. But Jesus helped me realize that vengeance would resolve nothing; it would be far better to return good for evil. If someone in the family is destroyed and the others react with violence, what would be the result?

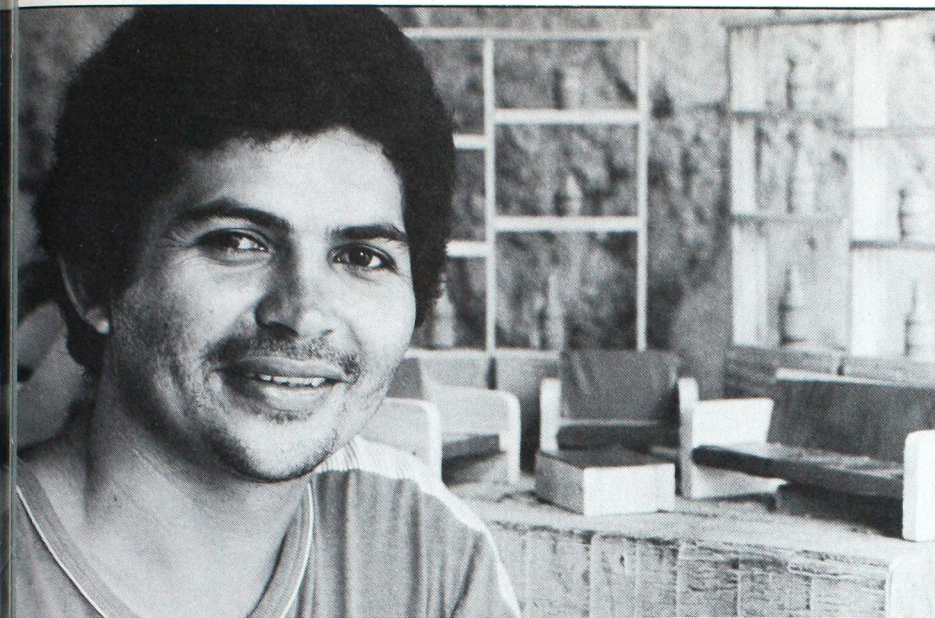
“At the end of each day I talk with Messias about the project plans. We spend hours exchanging ideas about the community. It is important to work for others, and not just for yourself.”

*Messias: "I'm taking names for a carpentry class."*

*Manoel: "It is important to work for others, not just for yourself."*

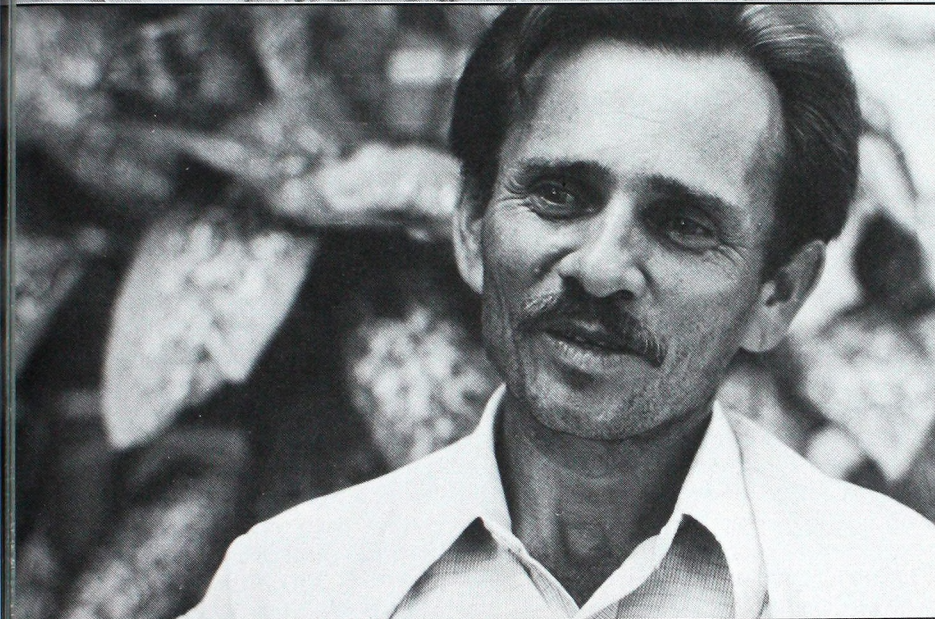
*Joserita: "Be resolute and strong! Be not afraid, and be not dismayed; for the Lord your God is with you everywhere you go."*





**Joserita Rossiter**

(A member of the downtown church, Joserita Rossiter was appointed as project manager. With her seminary training and social work specialization, she is well qualified. And, says Ingrid Neumann of Visão Mundial, "When I saw how her eyes exploded with all the bright things inside of her, I knew she would bring an explosion of energy to the work here.")



“At our first vacation Bible school, the children were uncontrollable—running, fighting with one another, being destructive. But they grew to like VBS so much that they continued coming to church even after the program was over.

“Parents asked us to start a school here because the children were having to leave the community, crossing dangerous streets to reach the nearest public school. Now we offer preschool and grades 1 through 4. We have even been able to obtain government accreditation for the school.

“Whenever I tell our teachers how much I love the children, they joke: ‘That’s because *you* don’t have to *teach* them!’ But really the children are very well behaved, much to the amazement of people who are familiar with other schools. I think it’s because the youngsters here know that the school truly does belong to them. Our little school has been so successful that the government asked me to direct one of their nearby schools as well. Think of it! I’ll be responsible for more than 1000 children before long.

“One of the most important things I tell others is to not give up. Although discouragements may come, never give up. God is a powerful God, able to do all things. My favorite verse is Joshua 1:9: ‘Be resolute and strong! Be not afraid, and be not dismayed; for the Lord your God is with you everywhere you go.’”

*continued on next page*



*Alcione: "I love my job."*

*Marinêz: "The Lord will lead me."*

*Josefa: "One of the happy things in our lives is when we receive a letter from Ana Paula's sponsor."*

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**Alcione de Lourdes Araújo** *(Two years ago, seminarians surveying the area knocked at the door of the Araújo family. One of their tasks was to discover hidden resources within the community. There they met this remarkable young woman.)*

“I never went to school as a child; my parents couldn't afford it. But I had a tremendous will to learn, so at 13 I lied about my age and enrolled in a government adult literacy program. Within a year, I was reading and writing.

“Eventually, I completed eighth grade and enrolled in a teacher training class. I'd been working in a bar—the only job I could find—but I dreamed of becoming a teacher and felt that with such a profession I could help my parents support the family.

“Joserita was excited when the survey team told her they had found someone studying to be a teacher. She offered me a job in the new primary school. I was afraid to take it because I'd never been a teacher in a real school before. But Joserita encouraged me and finally I did.

“I love my job. If I couldn't teach, I would be so unhappy. I remember what it was like before, working in the bar—the unpleasant things that would happen. Now when I go to work, I find children waiting for me, children who need my help and encouragement.

“The project has helped me receive further teacher training. Next month, I will be taking university entrance exams. If I pass, I hope to begin undergraduate courses in education.

“It's because of this project that I am where I am today. There was a time when my friends and neighbors didn't believe that someone from a

place like Vietnam could be a teacher. Now I teach their sons and daughters. Parents want their children to be in my class because I have faced all the same problems that these little ones will have to face. I didn't learn about Vietnam from other people. This is all my own world.

“I've heard it said, 'Bloom where you are planted.' Some people leave Vietnam and Recife to look for a better life in São Paulo or Rio. But I'm glad I am growing right here where I was born.”

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**Marinêz da Silva** *(Fourteen-year-old Marinêz da Silva is among the many who have found Christ since the Vietnam project began.)*

“We have many problems in my family. My stepfather drinks and beats my mother. The money he earns barely provides food. To earn money, my mother does laundry for other people. She says she is grateful that I am small for my age and am not growing much, because it saves money on clothes.

“I remember how Joserita would always ask me to come to church. Finally I did, but I had many problems. In the beginning I didn't understand anything, and I didn't know how to use the Bible or find verses. But I studied, and at last I decided to accept Christ. For the first months it was hard for me to have a new life, but now my old friends don't pressure me anymore. They know I have something different.

“Last July I went to a Bible camp. I've started teaching in Sunday school even though I've only had two years experience with church. I teach a class of 18 10-to-12-year-olds. Since they are so close to my age and some are bigger than I am, it can be hard for them to respect me. But I want to continue teaching about Jesus. Knowing Him has been the biggest blessing for me, and I hope that someday I can become a missionary. The Lord will lead me.”

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**Dona Josefa** *(Dona Josefa and her six children are one of the favela's poorest families. Through the project they have a new friend, Tamera, the Canadian woman who sponsors Dona Josefa's daughter Ana Paula.)*

“My children and I moved into this abandoned house three years ago, after the one we were living in collapsed. Now I know why it was abandoned. When it rains, water soaks through the dirt floor and I have to spend hours shoveling mud out of the doorway. Often our neighborhood is so muddy that children can't even walk to school. My oldest son is the only one in the family with a job. He earns 6000 cruzeiros a week [about \$6]. He keeps half, and gives the other half to me. That's all we have to live on—3000 cruzeiros a week.

“Our sponsor, Tamera Dawning, loves us and is very concerned about our situation. Sometimes she writes letters to us. Each time a letter comes, we show it to our relatives and neighbors and everyone else who comes to the house.”



*Tamera: "How wealthy I've become since they've welcomed me into their hearts."*

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*This article was prepared by Terri Owens and David Ward of World Vision International's communications division.*



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**Tamera Dawning** *(Although she lives thousands of miles from Brazil, Canadian sponsor Tamera Dawning is as much a participant in the project as any of the others.)*

“Here in Canada I work with abused and neglected children, ages 3 months to 12 years. I believe God has called me to this work, and that He does not expect me to reach large numbers of children in superficial ways. No, He wants me to touch a few with my heart and soul. If that means I will affect the lives of 100, 20 or only 3 children in my lifetime, He will be satisfied.

“So many children are born into pain and suffering and loneliness. I know that I can bring a little gentleness and caring into some young life from this moment onward. That is exactly what I plan to do wherever I find an opportunity.”

“The rewards are great. How ‘wealthy’ I’ve become since people in Vietnam, Brazil, welcomed me into their hearts! ☺ ☐

*For information on how you or your friends can be partners with those who serve in a child partnership or other community ministry project, please write Child Partnership, Box O, Pasadena, CA 91109.*



IN BRAZIL'S NORDESTE

## I found a reason for living

by Terri Owens

**"Here in Recife,** many evangelical church people have thought that evangelism and social action are incompatible," explains Ingrid Neumann, relief coordinator for Visão Mundial (World Vision of Brazil). "Yet, a few years ago, I sensed an openness at my church in Recife. I knew of a nearby favela (slum) where I thought we could help, so I shared my ideas with the pastor.

"'Oh, no,' he said. 'Our people would be attacked by thieves in that place.'

"I don't give up easily," laughs Ingrid. "I persuaded him to get in my car and we drove straight into the middle of the favela. 'Now look around,' I said. 'Just look at all the suffering. Pastor, what are *you* going to do about it?'"

The pastor was so moved that he began to weep. But a few days later, when he told his congregation about the experience, they responded much as he originally had: too dangerous.

He shared his disappointment with Ingrid. "What can I do?" he asked.

"Do what I did with you," she challenged. He did. The pastor rented a bus and took the entire congregation to see what he had seen. A new outreach of evangelism



and social action was born, one that continues to this day.

Helping a church find effective ways of ministering to the poor was once the farthest thing from Ingrid's mind. As a carefree graduate student and university lecturer, she had few aspirations other than building upon her already impressive academic successes.

Until February 15, 1975.

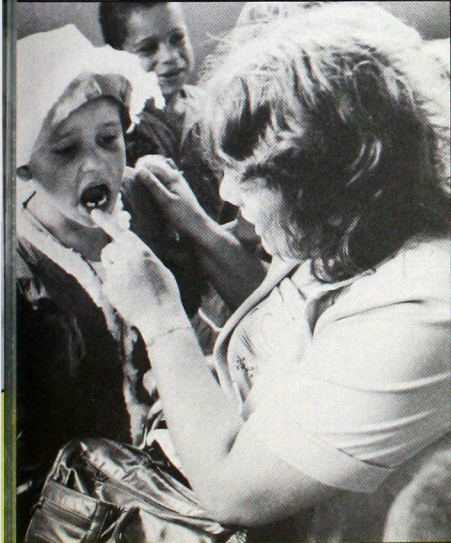
"My college friend and I were speeding along a highway that day

on our way to a conference," Ingrid remembers. "I didn't believe God existed. *She* did, and was trying her best to convince me.

"'Elizabeth,' I finally said, 'God didn't create people. People created God. People invented a Comforter when they got into difficult situations.'" Ingrid told Elizabeth that she regretted traveling with her because she was always talking about

## The inspiring story of Ingrid Lopes Neumann

Children are drawn to Ingrid by the love she radiates.



*Ingrid tends to a boy who lost a tooth after bobbing for apples.*

the same thing. "I just didn't want to hear it."

Twenty minutes later a tire blew. When the wildly careening car finally tumbled to a halt, Ingrid tried to

escape, but her legs would not respond. Passersby pulled the two out of the wrecked vehicle. Elizabeth was dead.

Ingrid says her mind was churning on the way to the hospital: "'Elizabeth is gone . . . death is reaching for me, too . . . I can't feel the lower half of my body . . . Elizabeth believed in God . . . I *don't* believe . . . I'm lost!'

"Suddenly I thought, 'Why am I so worried about God if He doesn't exist? It isn't like me to worry about imaginary things. He *must* exist.' " All those things Elizabeth had been saying started to make sense. Ingrid gave her life to Jesus Christ.

"I was terribly afraid of dying. I thought of what it would be like to stand before God, having done nothing for Him, having just my own selfish life to show Him. I thought of how I'd spent almost 20 years preparing for a career and not even *one* year preparing for eternity. I made a promise there in the hospital: 'Lord,

I said, 'if You choose to let me live, I will dedicate the rest of my life to Your work.' "

Ingrid lived, but her back had been broken in two places; she would never regain the use of her legs. "When the doctors gave me the news," she says, "I realized that I had a choice to make. Either I could go into deep depression and drag my family and friends along with me, or I could find a way to have victory. I chose the second option, and decided right then that I would never complain about my disability."

Her new dedication to Christ led Ingrid to do things she had never done before—teach sociology at a seminary, become director of an orphanage with 30 girls, help organize a rehabilitation center for disabled persons. In 1980, she accepted an invitation from Dr. Manfred Grellert to help expand the Visão Mundial program in the needy Brazilian Nordeste (Northeast Region).

"I had specialized in law and economics at the university," Ingrid explains. "I wanted to apply those principles to helping the poor through community development." But Ingrid is convinced that far more than mere social and economic theory is needed. "If the poor do not participate in creating their own solutions, if the projects are not begun in prayer, and if those who lead them are not motivated by a 1 Corinthians 13-style love, then positive, lasting change will never occur."

Ingrid's ministry has been remarkably successful, much to her joy. "When I see individual lives and poor communities—and complacent churches—being transformed," she says, "I know my reason for living." □

# What's been happening

## On the altiplano

**Prayers for rain** on the altiplano (high plain) spanning Bolivia and Peru are being answered. Abundant rainfall in both countries is giving hope to residents there that an end to the two-year drought may be near.

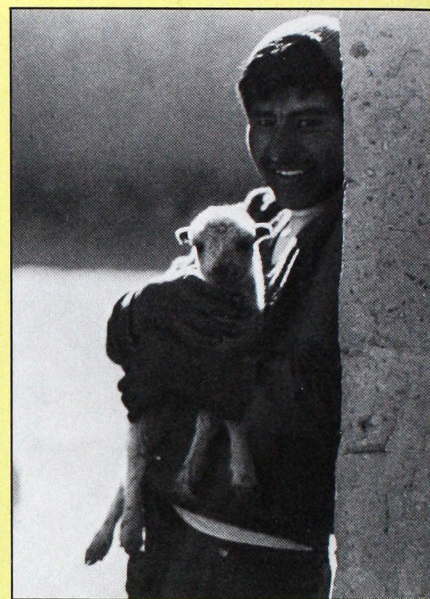
Reports from Peru indicate that crops growing throughout much of the altiplano may receive enough moisture to reach maturity in time for a spring harvest. Still, immediate hunger needs remain. World Vision is continuing to assist efforts of the Friends church in providing emergency funds to 1000 families living in 20 communities near Puno. Funding from World Vision is helping the church to continue its food distribution and food-for-work activities.

While rain on Bolivia's altiplano is welcome and long overdue, it does not signal an end to the hardships brought on by the drought. World

Vision of Bolivia Administrator Julieta de Quiroz reports that it will take some time—possibly as long as three years—for residents to recover from the drought's effects.

An ironic twist to the sudden precipitation has been the flooding of certain areas, due to the fact that the land—arid for so long—has been unable to absorb all the rain that has fallen. Six of the seven communities World Vision is assisting were temporarily isolated, due to the flooding.

Serious food shortages are expected to continue on Bolivia's altiplano for several months. Together with Food for the Hungry, World Vision is helping local relief committees distribute some 20 tons of U.S.-government-supplied food aid. World Vision of Bolivia plans to continue assisting the seven communities it has been serving as long as drought needs remain.



*This Bolivian altiplano teenager proudly holds a lamb that has survived the drought—perhaps an indication that better times lie ahead.*

## Among Tamils

**Some 50,000 Tamil refugees** who fled the rioting that ravaged Sri Lanka last summer have sought refuge in South India. About 7000

others who also fled have now returned to their homeland.

The Indian government estimates that 47,000 Tamils are living with relatives in South India. The remaining 3000 are living in two government camps, where their

physical needs are being met. However, they will need vocational and educational tools to begin small businesses, as many Tamil-owned industries were destroyed during the fighting.

Ethnic violence in Sri Lanka last July left nearly 400 people dead—mostly Tamils. Thousands of others were left homeless and/or unemployed. An estimated 200,000 Tamils were affected.

In partnership with local churches and Christian agencies, World Vision assisted 250 Tamil families through a \$25,000 rehabilitation project.



*Displaced Tamils wait to receive relief items.*

# *Where there is love there is hope*

*by Terri Owens*



**One day last June**, at a government orphanage outside Phnom Penh, a ten-year-old girl lay helpless on a table where her mother had placed her. Paralyzed, tubercular and malnourished, little Sok Pheavy had been abandoned because she needed more care than her mother, Sok Vanny, could give. Fortunately, not more than an hour after Sok Pheavy had been left, a World Vision staff member discovered her.

Sok Pheavy had been a healthy, active child until the year before, when a bad fall caused spinal injuries that left her unable to move her arms or legs. At that same time, Sok Vanny lost her husband, and she was within weeks of giving birth. She knew there would be no money for food unless she could keep working after the baby was born. The mother had been counting on Sok Pheavy's



*(above) RINE Center supervisor Susan Taylor holds Sok Pheavy shortly after she was brought to the National Pediatric Hospital in Phnom Penh. Paralyzed as a result of a bad fall the year before, she also was suffering from malnutrition and pulmonary tuberculosis. (left) Susan lovingly holds in her lap a much-improved Sok Pheavy.*

***"This little girl is making great physical and emotional progress."***

help with the newborn. Instead she found herself with *two* helpless children.

So Sok Vanny did the only thing she thought she could do. And happily, a World Vision worker was there to take the next step.

"Sok Pheavy was a miserable little girl when she was brought to us," remembers Rachel Brough, intensive care nurse at the World Vision-supported National Pediatric Hospital in Phnom Penh. "Her prognosis was *very* poor."

But the child received intensive care at the hospital and within a few weeks had improved enough to be transferred to the RINE (Rehydration, Immunization, Nutrition, Education) Center next to the hospital. There she had two more months of concentrated nutritional aid, physical therapy and tuberculosis treatment.

Sok Pheavy was fortunate enough not to have to go through her recovery alone. A kindhearted Khmer woman whose baby had been in the hospital at the same time as Sok Pheavy offered to become her foster parent. When Sok Pheavy was able to leave the RINE Center she went home to a loving new family.

Now Sok Pheavy visits the RINE Center once a week for a checkup and tuberculosis treatment. The center also provides the foster mother with food for the girl, who is no longer malnourished. RINE Center staff members have even been able to persuade Sok Pheavy's natural mother to share the responsibility of looking after her.

"This little girl is making great physical *and* emotional progress," reports Susan Taylor, NPH director of nursing and supervisor of the RINE program. "She knows that she was

abandoned by her mother but is making every effort to help herself."

"It is fantastic the way Sok Pheavy has changed during the time I've known her," agrees Rachel Brough. "When she arrived last June, she could hardly speak. Now she's bright and cheery and loves to talk about whatever is happening at the moment—the animals she sees around the hospital compound, relearning to walk, things like that. I've never heard her talk about the past or the future though."

But thanks to caring World Vision supporters who have helped make the National Pediatric Hospital and the RINE Center possible, there *will* be a future for little Sok Pheavy. □



*(above) Sok Pheavy poses proudly with her foster family. Although she still can't stand without help, she can now walk if someone holds her up.*

## MINI-MESSAGE

### ***Trust the risen Christ***

**"If you confess** with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God has raised him from the dead, you will be saved." So wrote the Apostle Paul in Romans 10:9.

To honestly acknowledge Jesus' lordship is no small thing. It implies letting Him be *your* Lord. To believe in your heart that God raised Him—that's no small thing either. It implies trusting Him with your eternal destiny. But it's the path to peace with God, to a new life—eternal life.

If you have not yet made that acknowledgment and that heart response, we at World Vision urge you to open your mind and heart to the Bible's four crucifixion/resurrection accounts. In Matthew, read chapters 26 through 28. In

Mark, chapters 14-16. In Luke, 22-24. In John, 18-20. Read also Paul's great resurrection chapter, 1 Corinthians 15.

Then simply yield to the truth that God reveals through those passages. Let Jesus Christ be your Lord and Savior. You'll experience the new life that only He can give.

Seek spiritual counsel, too, from the pastor or other member of a Christ-centered church near you.

And please feel free to write us if you'd like a copy of a booklet called *Becoming a Christian*, which we offer to persons seeking the redeemed life. Our address is WORLD VISION magazine, 919 W. Huntington Drive, Monrovia, CA 91016. □

*Terri Owens is a staff writer for World Vision International.*





by Daniel Rice

## Pierce award nominees sought

**Nominations** for the 1984 Robert W. Pierce Award are now being solicited from Christian leaders around the world. The 1983 recipient was Ms. Miriam Krantz, a nutritionist serving in Nepal.

The award, which includes a \$10,000 grant, was established by World Vision as a living memorial to Dr. Bob Pierce, who founded the organization in 1950. Pierce, serving until 1967 as World Vision's first president, died in September 1978 at the age of 63.

Nominees for the award should be persons who—

1. have focused on a specific need, generally in one locality, and who have dedicated a significant portion of their lives to accomplish their mission;
2. have been combining humanitarian service with evangelism in a rounded ministry;
3. have been working with minimal means and assistance;
4. are involved in an unusual service or mission;
5. have been directly involved with people, not just with conceptualizing;
6. previously have not been honored internationally;
7. are primarily ministering overseas, in lesser developed countries, or among minority cultures.

Persons wishing to nominate someone for the award must obtain information and forms from the Pierce Award Committee, 800 W. Chestnut, Monrovia, CA 91016. Deadline for completed submissions is June 15, 1984.

## Estate planning is for everyone!

**Your estate** includes every piece of property—real or personal—that you own. The total value of these assets is probably much greater than you realize. Estate planning enables you to get the most out of them now and makes sure they eventually pass to your loved ones and favorite charities according to your wishes and with the lowest possible costs and taxes.

### What does an estate plan cover?

An estate plan may well enable you to improve your current spendable income, avoid capital gains tax on the sale of appreciated assets, enjoy significant income tax deductions, earn tax-favored income for life, pass assets to children and grandchildren with no estate or gift tax, give generously to the Lord's work, and drastically reduce estate taxes, probate costs and administrative fees.

### Do I need a will?

Yes. An estate plan cannot be made without a will. If you die intestate (without a will), state law controls how your estate is divided. Your spouse can lose important financial benefits, relatives may get substantial unintended bequests, probate costs and administrative fees can be excessive, and the charities you wanted to be remembered will receive nothing.

### How does a will work?

A will legally conveys your instructions on how the ownership of your property is to change

after your life. Upon your death, your will goes through probate, a court procedure that changes the legal ownership as instructed in your will. A substantial percent of the value of the assets probated is charged for this court-authorized procedure.

### Can I avoid probate?

Yes. Assets you transfer into a trust for your beneficiaries are removed from your estate, thus avoiding probate. Trusts can be revocable or irrevocable, effective immediately or later on. The type of trust you should use is determined by the objectives of your plan.

### Where can I get simple, understandable information about estate planning and trusts?

World Vision has a free booklet entitled *Estate Planning* that covers the things we have talked about here in much greater detail. One of our planned giving consultants will also be glad to discuss your plans with you. To obtain a copy of this booklet or to arrange a personal consultation, just call or write Daniel Rice, Associate Director of Planned Giving, World Vision, 919 W. Huntington Drive, Monrovia, CA 91016, (818) 357-7979.

# Provocative periodicals

**Gradually**, more American evangelicals are discovering the vital relationship between evangelism and social responsibility. I see this partly in new periodicals launched each year, and in some long-published periodicals' new emphases. It's encouraging.

You've probably seen several of the magazines and journals now dealing with evangelism and social responsibility from various perspectives. *Radix. Salt. Seeds. Sojourners.*

Although each approaches its subject from a different perspective and with some bias (don't we all?), each attempts to be thoroughly biblical, and each is earning a responsive audience.

Take a moment now to look with me at five others among the many which you and your Christian friends may find stimulating.

## A thought/feeling/action provoker

Making its theme "Justice Rooted in Discipleship," *The Other Side* magazine focuses on evangelical responsibility (and irresponsibility) toward victims of many forms of oppression. With considerable nerve, but also with some wit and humor and a lot of half-concealed love for those it criticizes, the magazine's editors and writers seek both to comfort the afflicted and to afflict the comfortable. Its March 1984 issue (which you can get by sending a dollar to Jubilee, Inc., 300 W. Apsley St., Philadelphia, PA 19144), features a dozen articles selected from *The Other Side's* 150-issue history—a convenient way to sample the emphasis and style of this action-demanding monthly magazine.

## An awareness aid for churches

Published by Bread for the World (BFW), the 12-page quarterly newsletter *Leaven* is in its fifth year as a

stimulator of practical action by churches against the causes of hunger worldwide. The spring issue carried ideas for Lenten season activities, a Bible study for anytime, and thoughts on viewing hunger as an election issue. *Leaven* goes to churches participating in BFW's Covenant Church Program. For information write BFW Church Relations, 802 Rhode Island Avenue NE, Washington, DC 20018.

## For city people

Still in its first year is a timely journal called *Urban Mission*, published five times yearly by Westminster Theological Seminary and edited by Roger S. Greenway of the seminary's faculty. Articles such as "The Shift to Ethnic Mission," "Mission to the Urban Poor" and "Stress in Urban Ministry" provide aid for pastors and lay leaders who face the daily challenge of planning and conducting Christian ministry in large cities. First-year introductory subscriptions are \$7.50 from Westminster, P.O. Box 27009, Philadelphia, PA 19118.

## Designed for nurses

Making its debut this spring is a quarterly journal in which Christian nurses will find highly readable articles uniquely tailored to their special concerns and opportunities. *Journal of Christian Nursing* (mentioned also in this month's Samaritan Sampler) will meet a wide range of needs. In her opening editorial, Ramona Cass (an insightful journalist with degrees in both nursing and theology) introduces the ways in which the journal will deal with nurses' many dilemmas. First-issue articles include personal experience stories, how-to's, reviews and opinion pieces, and a listing of interesting conferences and workshops. Not bypassed are such tough,

nagging questions as how to deal with the trauma that terminally ill children and their parents experience, what to do when you're expected to assist in an abortion, whether to participate in a strike, and how to bring spiritual wholeness to health care.

## Particularly for students

Edited primarily by and for mission-minded students, the first issue of *International Journal of Frontier Missions* appeared on the scene in January. Articles in that issue include "Zeal and Knowledge," "Unreached Peoples," "Agenda for Students in the 80's" and "A Call for a Mission Renewal Movement." The second issue (off the press about now) deals with perspectives on world evangelization, on cross-cultural work, and on God's purpose in history. Some entries are by students, others by experienced missiologists. The well-designed 96-page quarterly, engineered largely by *World Christian* editor/publisher Gordon Aeschilman (a UCLA graduate student) is published by the International Student Leadership Coalition for Frontier Missions, with an office at the U.S. Center for World Mission. Annual subscription is \$15 (single issue \$5) through P.O. Box 40010, Pasadena, CA 91104.

## Aiding Polish people

The December 1983 issue of *WORLD VISION* magazine carried the incorrect statement that only three international relief agencies were serving in Poland: CARE, Catholic Relief Services and World Vision. A fourth agency: AMERICARES, has been serving that country for several years, sponsoring the first private airlift of medicines to Poland in March 1981. We apologize for the oversight and are happy to become aware of another agency aiding Polish citizens.

# Samaritan sampler



**Let's Be Friends**, a new film produced by Joni and Friends, helps elementary-school-age children understand what it means to be disabled. To better understand the frustrations of the disabled, children in the film "try on" disabilities: some are blindfolded, others are placed in wheelchairs, some use crutches. A brief lecture by Joni Eareckson Tada and her husband, Ken, concludes the film. For ordering information write Joni and Friends, Box 3225, Woodland Hills, CA 91365.

**The Journal of Christian Nursing**, a new quarterly publication from Nurses Christian Fellowship, helps nurses integrate their faith with their vocation. Articles deal with topics such as the spiritual needs of patients, ethical dilemmas and rapidly changing professional responsibilities. A one-year charter subscription is available for \$12.95 from the Circulation Dept., *Journal of Christian Nursing*, P.O. Box 1650, Downers Grove, IL 60515.

**Students** planning to attend Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship's 14th Urbana Missions Convention December 27-31, 1984, will benefit from a 130-page pre-convention reader. It provides biblical, theoret-

ical and practical material to help students prepare for the convention, as well as a glossary of missions terms and a section of study questions. For more information write IVCF, 233 Langdon St., Madison, WI 53703.

**Looking for a job?** Inter-cristo, a Christian placement service, matches career opportunities worldwide with Christians whose skills meet specific job qualifications. While some positions are salaried, some require employees to raise their own support. If interested write Inter-cristo, P.O. Box 33487, Seattle, WA 98133.

**Information about world hunger** and how to help fight it is available from a special toll-free World Concern hotline. Forty taped messages answer frequently asked questions about World Concern and world hunger, and operators stand by to personally answer additional questions. Call the Information Hotline at 1-800-426-7010.

**HEART** (Hunger Elimination Action and Resource Training) is a cooperative training program sponsored by Warner Southern College and Food for the Hungry International. This living/learning experience prepares students for ministry to the world's hungry through courses in gardening, animal husbandry, food processing and storage, health care, facility construction and community living. For more information write HEART, Warner Southern College, Lake Wales, FL 33853.

**Minority college students** can earn and learn this summer through Mennonite Central Committee's (MCC) Urban Community Development Summer Service Program. The ten-week program places urban students in churches and service organizations in their home communities where they can develop leadership skills in positions of holistic ministry. Application deadline is April 6, 1984. Write for more details to Pleas Broaddus, Director of Urban Ministries, MCC, 21 South 12th St., Akron, PA 17501.

**Centrum**, a ministry of Youth With A Mission, works in cooperation with local churches and ministries to meet the crisis needs of young transients living on the streets of Hollywood, California. Centrum provides a 24-hour hotline and offers food, housing, clothing, referrals, counseling and spiritual guidance to young people in need. Write for more information to Centrum, P.O. Box 29069, Hollywood, CA 90029.

**Election kits** are now available from Bread for the World (BFW), a citizens group working to mobilize Christians to influence legislation in the fight against hunger. Each kit includes suggestions for making hunger an election issue in 1984, for increasing voter participation, for working with the media, and for campaign monitoring and election follow-through. For more information contact BFW, 802 Rhode Island Ave. NE, Washington, DC 20018.

**Christian inmates** from the Hiland Mountains Correctional Center in Anchorage, Alaska, are living out the gospel by visiting elderly residents of the Nyoqua Nursing Home. Escorted by Prison Fellowship volunteers, inmates visit regularly to read the Bible, share Christ, play games and lend a compassionate ear. For information on Prison Fellowship ministries write to P.O. Box 17500, Washington, DC 20041.

**I Can Make Peace**, a new record album for children ages five to ten, features stories and songs about peacemaking. A great alternative to the violence that is presented as a method of resolving conflict by many of today's superheroes, it explores themes such as backyard and family peacemaking, learning to forgive, loving enemies and peacemaking in times of war. Send \$7.95 to Mennonite Publishing House, 616 Walnut Ave., Scottsdale, PA 15683.

**The K'ekchi'** people of central Guatemala can now read God's Word in their own language. Translated by Wycliffe Bible Translators and published by the International Bible Society, the entire New Testament and 22 books of the Old Testament have been available in the K'ekchi' language since January. Information on this and other translation projects can be obtained from the International Bible Society, 144 Tices Lane, East Brunswick, NJ 08816.

# People you're helping

## One trained in nutrition

Early in 1983, seven children were dying of malnutrition every week in Fond Parisien, Haiti. While a complete health clinic and other vital community projects were being started with the help of World Vision supporters, funds were used to establish a nutrition center and train a local woman in nutrition. The center provided daily meals to malnourished children. It also taught mothers about nutrition. Mothers learned to prepare a protein drink made of ground beans, corn and powdered milk. They also learned about the benzolive tree, native to the area, whose edible leaves and pods contain many vitamins. This program has almost eliminated malnutrition-caused childhood deaths.

## From tribal warfare to peaceful community

Many people in Papua New Guinea who have grown tired of years of tribal warfare want their children to have a better future. One nomadic tribe, helped by gifts from World Vision donors, settled

into an area near important resources and was helped to break away from fear and animism. The Niksek community is near an airstrip (a necessary link with the outside world), a health clinic, a school and a church. World Vision's role is to help the community plan and cope with the difficult transition from traditional to modern ways of life. Today, the church at Niksek has 200 members and five national pastors.

## A church feeds 8000 children for a month

In a special Christmas card project, Christ Church of Oak Brook, Illinois, sent the drought-plagued children of southern Ethiopia more than \$10,000 worth of assistance through World Vision. The church's mission committee chose Ethiopia as a place where their money could do the most good. In a letter to each church member explaining the need, they asked everyone to send one Christmas card and a check to the church project instead of many Christmas cards to each other. The cards were

posted in the church for all friends to read. The church reports that the amount received far exceeded any of their past Christmas projects.

## Medical help restores a boy's health

Two-and-a-half-year-old Kim Leang is one of the many success stories from the World Vision-sponsored R.I.N.E. Center (Rehydration, Immunization, Nutrition, Education) in Kampuchea. Kim's mother brought him to the center for treatment last year with a long list of ailments. He weighed 15 pounds, was lethargic and couldn't walk. An eye specialist was too late; Kim had lost the sight in his right eye because of measles and a vitamin A deficiency. Also, it was discovered that he had TB and bronchial pneumonia. Thanks to World Vision donors, Kim now weighs 20 pounds, can walk, plays actively, says a few words and has a big appetite. To insure his continued health, his mother has learned proper nutrition and health care methods.



People wait their turn at the nutrition center in Fond Parisien, Haiti.

*Bishop Okullu (front) guides the Alpha toward the dock at the end of its maiden voyage.*



### **Fishing leads to self-reliance**

Leaders of the Kisumu Family Development Project in western Kenya have embarked on an ambitious program to make their project financially self-supporting. They started a new fishing enterprise on Lake Victoria as one component of the project. During last year's launching of the new 22-foot wooden boat Alpha, Bishop Okullu of the Diocese of Maseno South urged the large crowd to be persistent. Eventually, the fishing enterprise will provide steady income. This will enable the project to continue serving needy children and their families when World Vision funding ends. In the process, several new jobs have been created, an important benefit for families that might otherwise be without a dependable source of money.

### **Hope and comfort in orphanage #4**

Orphanage #4 is a converted public market in Phnom Penh, Kampuchea. This large warehouse-type building is the government-sponsored home of 173 people, 70 of them handicapped. Most are teenagers, but some are widows with children. World Vision donors have brought hope and comfort to them,

along with clothing, sewing machines, a water system, a cookhouse and maintenance tools.

One resident being helped is Samny, a mother of three boys—all of whom died during the Pol Pot atrocities in Kampuchea. She was brought to the orphanage in 1980 by Vietnamese soldiers. She had been blinded while working in the field. Her husband and two of her sons were taken by Pol Pot's soldiers, and her youngest son starved to death. Now she receives meals as a result of loving gifts. She works in the garden and sweeps the area in front of her sleeping quarters.

### **Tide of love in Bangkok**

Visitors to a kindergarten of 40 children (ages three to six) in Bangkok, Thailand, might find them with their faces smeared with wet, white powder. This is a Thai tradition to relieve the heat of the afternoon sun. These are some of the 350 children there who are helped by World Vision supporters. A Presbyterian church in a Bangkok slum suburb administers the program called Tide of Love Project. Funds provide clothing, books and health care for these school-aged children, as well as other community projects that the church operates.

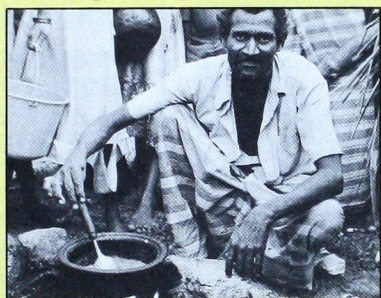
### **Please pray for . . .**

- a fresh awareness** of the presence and power of the risen Christ in your own life and in the lives of the entire World Vision family during this resurrection celebration season.
- Brazilian children** like Maria (page 4) and their families who are finding ways to help themselves with assistance from World Vision donors.
- Project workers** like Ingrid Neumann (page 12) who are giving themselves in ministry to the needy in Christ's name.
- World Vision's Africa Crisis Task Force** as it prepares for a major effort to save lives in the African countries hardest hit by famine.
- Black American church leaders** designing "Love Returns," an unprecedented America-wide black response to the African crisis.
- Displaced Lebanese** needing temporary help and rehabilitation because war has destroyed their homes.
- Central America's** many war-ravaged families.
- The war-weary people of Iran and Iraq**, few of whom understand the gospel of Christ.
- Papua New Guinea's unreached tribal people**, speaking 700 different languages.
- Spain's Catholic and Protestant church members**, many of whom are finding or seeking spiritual renewal.
- The mountain people of Lesotho**, a small, hard-pressed nation in Africa.
- Your own church's outreach** to refugees or the homeless in your community.
- Your personal opportunities** to minister to suffering people in your neighborhood.

# Globe at a glance

**Bangladesh** has become the world's poorest and most overpopulated nation. Three-quarters of the people are chronically malnourished; one-fourth of all children die before age five. Most landowners have just a fraction of an acre—enough to feed one family for only a few months. Overpopulation—with 600 people per square mile—is the biggest long-term problem. Officials fear that the present population of 93 million will double by the turn of the century.

**More than 13,000 minority Tamils** continue to live in welfare camps in Sri Lanka following ethnic violence that erupted there last July. The displaced persons lost their homes when fighting broke out between the Tamils and the majority Sinhalese. Nearly 400 people, mainly Tamils, were killed during the fighting. Some of the homeless Tamils are receiving cash and other aid from the government.



*Makeshift cooking arrangements have become a necessity for many like this Tamil man.*

**2100 evangelical leaders** from 80 denominations gathered recently in Belo Horizonte, Brazil, for the country's first nationwide congress on evangelism. In addition to studying ways to evangelize Brazil and the world, the leaders examined the country's problems of poverty, prejudice and violence. They called for a "clear proclamation by word and life of the gospel in its totality for all in Brazil, and a deeper commitment to our missionary responsibility."

**Global military expenditure** is now running at well over \$1 million per minute, according to *New Internationalist* magazine. One in every five scientists worldwide, says the magazine, is now engaged in military work, and the average military product is 20 times as research-intensive as a civilian product.

**Cocaine in the United States**—there may be much more of it than officials had estimated. Law-enforcement officials had listed the retail domestic cocaine trade at 45 to 54 metric tons a year. Government analysts revising the national estimates predict that new figures will be at least twice that amount.

**10,000 Honduran Catholics** have petitioned Pope John Paul II for his help in preventing a war between Honduras and Nicaragua. The petitioners have also asked Honduran President Roberto Suazo Cordova to respect their mission to make the gospel known in Honduras. The Catholics report that many

lay people and priests have been accused of being subversives, and have been imprisoned and further harassed for teaching the message of the gospel.

**Nigeria's lack of rainfall** is causing hardship in several key areas of that country. Four agricultural states in the north are particularly affected. In those states last year, the average rainfall was only 54 percent of the normal level. Some states fared even worse. In northern Borno, on the edge of the Sahel (southern border of the Sahara), rainfall was at its lowest level in 40 years. The drought has affected the food supply of an estimated 20 million rural inhabitants. Crop losses are estimated at more than five million tons.

**Islam** is now the third largest religious force on the North American continent—an area Muslims consider fertile for mission work. The recent influx of immigrants from the Middle East, North Africa and Asia, plus a number of American converts, has brought the number of Muslims living in the United States to 2.2 million—only slightly less than the Mormons.

**Flooding in India** recently caused serious damage to 800 villages in the state of Tamil Nadu. Some 200,000 houses were destroyed, as were many of the area's crops. Thousands of people in the region have fled their homes to live in one of the 1658 relief camps provided by the government, where they are receiving food, fuel and inoculations, as well as money for rebuilding their homes.

**Multinational corporations** wield more control over our lives than is often assumed. Of the largest economic powers in the world, 53 are countries and 47 are corporations. The revenues of the world's top 200 companies have increased tenfold in the last 20 years. In the world trade arena, 85 percent of all coffee and tea exports are controlled by corporations.

**American women** today consider a career to be as satisfying as caring for husbands, homes and children, according to a *New York Times* poll. Thirteen years ago, 53 percent of women surveyed cited motherhood as one of the best parts of being a woman; in the *Times* poll, 26 percent did. The poll also revealed that 59 percent of the women and 44 percent of the men surveyed think employed women are as good or better at motherhood as those who do not work outside the home.

**Poor families in the United States** receive proportionally less government help than those in Australia, Britain, Canada, France, Israel, Sweden and West Germany, according to a Columbia University study. All seven other countries provide allowances to families with children, and all but the U.S. and Australia have statutory maternity benefits.

# In partnership with you

"BECAUSE OF YOUR PARTNERSHIP IN THE GOSPEL"

(Philippians 1:5)

## Technology with a personal touch

**Most of the time**, like consumers everywhere, I take technology for granted. I dial a dozen or so digits and talk with a colleague on another continent. I glance into the cockpit of a jetliner as I board, but pay little heed to the array of dials and screens and buttons. For breakfast I order a roll which a waitress pops from the freezer to a microwave to my plate before I finish reading last night's

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**We need technology to save lives, grow food, create jobs. AND we need the personal touch of a life that shows forth the love of the Savior.**

ballgame scores. Technology is like wallpaper—we know it's all around us, but we pay little attention to the details.

Once in a while, however, I stop and marvel at the miracle of flight or the satellite transmission of a news broadcast, or simply the automatic toaster in my kitchen. These incredibly complex inventions come about as we discover more and more of the secrets of God's creation. They tell us something about the amazing capability of the human mind, but they reveal more about the all-knowing

and almighty nature of God.

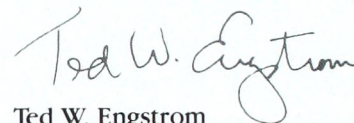
At the same time, I'm aware that technology has radically affected our lives, our relationships and our values. For example, while technology has drawn the world together, it also has isolated us from one another. The monster in the family room (TV) inhibits conversation and limits the time we have to build relationships. Electronic study carrels compartmentalize students. Home offices abound. Social Security numbers replace familiar names.

World Vision grew up with the tools of technology in its hands, so to speak. Bob Pierce, our founder, took a movie camera on his first trip to China. Recently, we've brought the most modern technology we can find to the Two-Thirds World to save lives, grow food, create jobs. We've linked the telephone, television and computer to tell the story of needy people around the world and gain support to meet those needs.

In the popular book, *Megatrends*, John Naisbitt contends that the pervasiveness of technology has been offset by a trend to more personal contact. He calls this "High Tech/High Touch." Medical technology, for example, has led to a new interest in family doctors and neighborhood clinics. Word processors have resulted in a revival of handwritten notes. "The more technology around us," he says, "the more need for the human touch."

I believe there is considerable truth in this. And I believe that at World Vision we are seeking to

strike a much-needed balance when we use technology to bring the message of eternal life and improve the quality of life. That's why I urge God's people to redeem technology. We need to search for ways in which the silicon chip can help to save lives, and the communications satellites can carry the good news of the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. At the same time, we can add to technology that personal touch that comes only from a life that shows forth the love of the Savior.



Ted W. Engstrom  
President



world vision

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*Jennifer Hankins, Waco, Texas*



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