

## FAMINE IN MOZAMBIQUE

See pages 12-14

### PLUS

Helping Beirut's homeless  
Dealing with a flood  
Lifestyle evangelism

*Friends assist a woman who collapsed while walking to a relief camp in Mozambique.*



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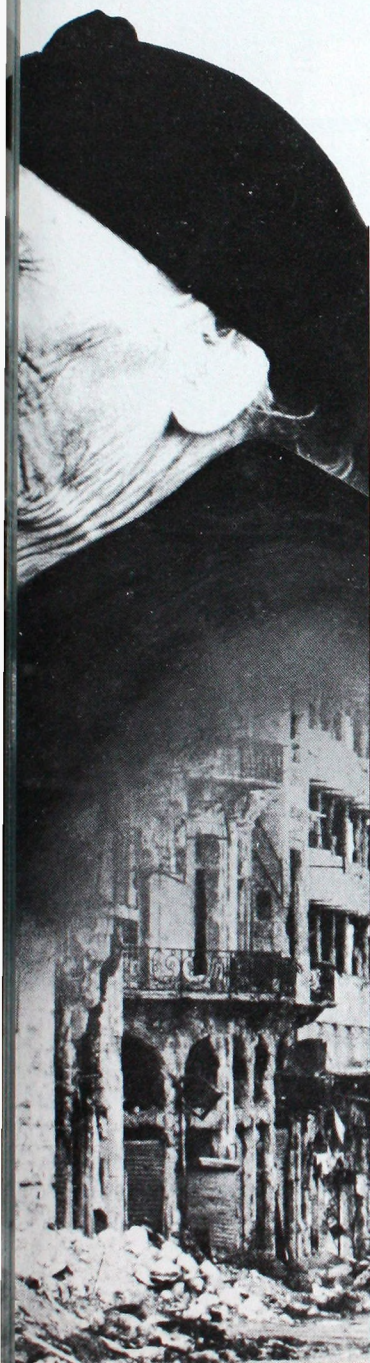
# Help and hope for Beirut's homeless

by Will Walker

**I knew I was not safe** anywhere in Beirut. But even greater than my fear for personal safety was the overwhelming despair and humiliation I felt for the thousands of homeless there. I had the privilege of meeting a few of them. And I got to know the saints who are ministering to them in Jesus' name.

All the displaced people I talked to had a story, each one

*In the composite photo at left, 85-year-old Tamame Mousallem shares her story with World Vision Relief Associate Bruce Menser and social worker Antoinette. Vicious fighting in her village left her with no close relatives. Like the children in the photo at right, she now makes her home in a Beirut stadium dressing room.*





*Young soldiers in Beirut with their weapons*



full of horror. Almost every account of last September's violence in the Chouf Mountain villages sounded the same: one minute a village was quiet and peaceful; the next, a band of armed men drove in and started killing people.

"They came suddenly, without warning," one woman told me. "They killed anyone they saw. They took my husband and the other men they had caught. Then they massacred them."

As many as 150,000 of those villagers who survived fled to Beirut. There they found refuge with friends and family, or in churches, mosques,

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***"The militia came without warning and killed anyone they saw."***

schools and even in a sports stadium. World Vision is helping to meet the basic needs of some of those survivors, many who fled with only the clothes on their backs.

The care and concern of World Vision supporters worldwide is being channeled through nine carefully chosen Lebanese Christian partners.

Father Paul, a Maronite priest and principal of a large Beirut school, is one of these partners. When displaced families began to arrive in Beirut, he opened his school to them. Needy families moved into 56 of the school's 75 rooms, several families to a room.

Father Paul was faced with the awesome task of caring for hundreds of people who had taken refuge at his school while finding a way to



*Brutal reminders of war are everywhere in Beirut.*

begin a new school year for his 2300 students. Working around the clock, he found alternative shelter for most of the families. As they were relocated,





*Father Paul, a Maronite priest and principal of Sagesse College in Beirut*

*This family eats lunch in one corner of a classroom. Many women in Lebanon, like these shown, wear black clothing of mourning.*



***Many fled to Beirut with only the clothes on their backs.***

the children were able to return to their classes.

Antoinette, a professional social worker, is another of World Vision's partners in Lebanon. When displaced families began to arrive in her neigh-

borhood, she explained, "We accepted them as our guests. Almost everyone in Lebanon has at some point in their lives been displaced. We were only reciprocating what others have done for us in our time of need."

There was no outside aid forthcoming during those first few weeks, so Antoinette organized volunteers to help minister to the displaced families. By the time World Vision asked Antoinette if she needed help, she and her volunteers had already identified the needy families and

documented their stories and needs. As a result, relief items from World Vision were distributed quickly and efficiently.

Another of World Vision's partners is Waded, chairperson of the Armenian Relief Committee in Beirut. A trained social worker, she visited many of the displaced Christian and Muslim families as they arrived in her predominantly Armenian section of Beirut. Waded formed a committee of her social worker colleagues who then recruited and trained volunteers to help displaced families.

Through caring partners like Father Paul, Antoinette and Waded, World

*World Vision's partners in ministry in Beirut are mentioned only by their first names for security reasons.*



Along with 12 other families, this couple has taken shelter in an abandoned mosque, where 90 people share one bathroom. (below) This man is one of thousands who fled their homes last autumn. "They are a proud people," said Will Walker. "It was obvious how deeply they felt their loss of dignity."

Vision has been able to provide mattresses, sheets, blankets, crockery, cooking utensils, clothing, small stoves and kerosene heaters.

But needy people need more than material things. World Vision's partners in Lebanon are also offering spiritual and psychological counsel-



***"It's hard not to be discouraged when you're in your 183rd cease-fire."***

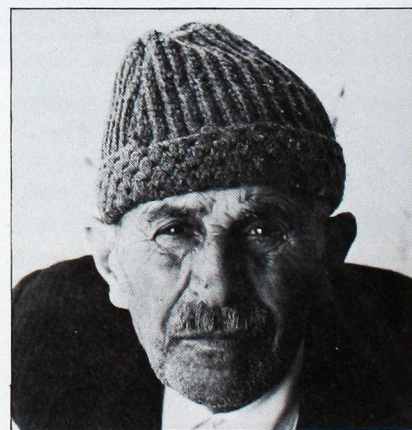
ing. Depression, fear and despair are common here; many have witnessed the brutal murder of close relatives and the total destruction of all they value.

Also, the loss of dignity that occurs with humiliating circumstances is evident. Father Paul said, "When you

have several families—maybe 20 or 25 people—living in one room, there is not privacy even to dress." Some even have to sleep in shower stalls of a stadium's dressing rooms.

"After nearly ten years of continued fighting, the people of Lebanon are weary," stated Bruce Menser, World Vision relief associate. "It's hard not to be discouraged when you're in your 183rd cease-fire."

Menser said he is particularly concerned for World Vision's partners in Lebanon. "The people helping people don't receive much help themselves. I believe that I'm called to be an encourager to them. The fact that







*Tamame Mousallem, also displaced by fighting last fall in the Chouf Mountains*

World Vision is here at this time lets them know that someone cares."

Working with nine different project partners—in a war zone—is no easy task. After only one month in Beirut, Menser admitted to being exhausted. But his own fatigue has helped him understand the fatigue of the Lebanese partners, and has given him an extra measure of respect for them.

Indeed, the hope of Lebanon's future lies in the kind of costly commitment and dedication exhibited by such quiet saints as Father Paul, Antoinette and Waded. They are the reconcilers, the peacemakers. Working with families of all religious and political backgrounds, they are succeeding where military and political solutions continue to fail.

"The ministry of reconciliation and peacemaking is probably the greatest need in Lebanon today," said Menser. "Our goal is not just to

meet physical needs, but to be able to look around a few months from now and see 50 or more Lebanese people who have learned to help others because of our World Vision presence. We are in the business of

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***Spiritual and psychological counseling are being offered to combat the depression, fear and despair.***

producing people-helpers."

A few days in Beirut was enough to give me a sense of the horror of war. Danger and peril to life always seemed imminent. But I found that paranoia and fear are impossible to sustain. Life must go on. To survive in Lebanon you must become an optimist. And that is what World Vision and its partners are helping the people there to do. □

*Will Walker is communications director for World Vision of Canada.*



*Laundry is done in the schoolyard.*

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*To help World Vision minister to the homeless in Lebanon, please use the return envelope from the center of this magazine. Your assistance is appreciated.*







# Dealing with a flood of misery

by Terry Madison

**Majeda Khatoon**, a widow in her early sixties, can't sleep well during the monsoon season. It's the floods that worry her most—especially the fast-rising murky water in the dark night hours that can quickly sweep through her frail bamboo hut near the riverbank.

Last September, this fragile grandmother had much to worry about. The mighty Ganges and Brahmaputra rivers of Bangladesh were on their annual monsoon rampage. Water from these rivers' watersheds in the towering mountains of India and the Himalayas of Nepal joined forces with the torrential monsoon rains to flood thousands of square miles of Bangladesh.

That's not unusual. One-third of

all cultivated land in Bangladesh is underwater during the monsoon season. But last year the flooding was worse than usual. Karim Uddin, a now-landless farmer in his late 50s living 100 miles northeast of the capital of Dhaka (Dacca), says, "In all my years, this is the worst flood I've ever known."

For Majeda, too, 130 miles downstream from Karim, it was one of the worst floods she could remember. Four years ago her only son, 15, drowned in the Ganges river during a storm. He used to sell eggs to passengers on the river launches, and was his mother's main source of income. Now the river's risings are doubly fearful. "I'm more worried about my situation now," Majeda says, "because of my son's death. I have no hope for the future. I'm always sick with fear."

The floods left thousands like Karim and Majeda not only homeless but

**"In all my years, this is the worst flood I've ever known."**

landless. The familiar saying, "Here today, gone tomorrow," is tragically true every year in Bangladesh. On the one hand, the rivers bring with them life-giving alluvial soil that makes Bangladesh one of the most fertile deltas in the world. On the other hand, they also bring death and destruction on a wide scale.

Every year thousands of farmers lose their hard-earned farmlands to the capricious rivers which change direction while they flood. Fertile fields that once bore crops of rice or peanuts remain underwater while on

*(left) Majeda Khatoon (seated) with her daughter Habia and granddaughter Anowara. (below) A transport boat awaits unloading on the banks of the now placid Ganges River.*





the other side of the receding river a new riverbank emerges, and is soon claimed by dislocated farmers who have lost their lands on the other side of the river.

Last September, severe floods on the Ganges and Brahmaputra rivers killed more than 100 people, ruined rice crops that were nearly ready for harvest, destroyed unknown numbers of cattle, and in one way or another affected the lives of more than five million people.

Last fall the government of Bangladesh established camps for those hardest hit by the floods. Displaced villagers also were provided with food and clothing for a month. Then they were forced to move back to their flood-destroyed homes. The task was so large that the government turned to World Vision and other aid agencies for help.

In a letter addressed to World Vision of Bangladesh, the government stated it "would appreciate indeed if your organization, rising as it always

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*Terry Madison is Asia communications manager for World Vision International*

## **While Africa needs a good soaking, Bangladesh needs a good drying.**

does to the occasion, goes forward to mitigate the sufferings of the flood-affected areas with relief materials and help them stand on their feet."

World Vision was happy to respond to that request. "However," said Bangladesh Director Milton Coke, "we responded with two conditions: that we be able to work in the worst places where no one else was willing to work; and that the government allow us to follow up the rehabilitation with a long-term development project."

In response, the government suggested four difficult places where no other agencies were working. In surveying these areas in four different districts, World Vision personnel discovered a fifth, unknown to the government.

The difficulty encountered by the WV research team in reaching some of these flood areas is hinted at in their reports made upon returning to

Dhaka. David Haider, who led a three-man team to Rahumari Upazilla, 150 miles north of the capital, tells of taking two days to get to the general area of need. Then, packing their own food, water and bedding, they walked ten miles along the sandy bank of the receding river and waded across shallow streams to finally reach the hard-hit area. It was a 36-hour journey from the nearest government district office.

Haider's report summarizes what area residents told the team. "A violent flood occurred this year, causing untold misery to the people. The water came like a tidal wave. Within ten minutes, everything was underwater. Five villages were completely washed away."

Villager Abdul Bari reported seeing people swimming the flooded river to take refuge on the high land. Sixty-year-old Samsher Ali said, "I never saw anything like this before."

*Six-year-old Aseda Phul holds the pan of wild vegetables he has picked for his family's supper.*

*Walking along an embankment road to the Ganges River shore are (left to right) WV/Bangladesh Southern Area Program Officer John Pandit, Communications Representative Jerome D'Costa and Field Director Milton Coke.*





An estimated 90 percent of the area's population was in some way affected by the flooding, and 40 percent of the crops damaged. This "tidal wave" flood left 34 people dead of cholera, an estimated 300 injured, and more than 500 homes in the area damaged or destroyed.

The report lists some of the damage: "Various waterborne diseases were active in the area. The floodwater stayed for five days, causing great destruction to the main embankment, four villages and several roads. Many people are living in others' houses, where they all face problems caused by the flood. People lost their crops, their lands and their homes."

Zarina Bibi, 65, lost everything in

**"Within ten minutes everything was underwater. Five villages were completely washed away."**

*Gonjar Mollab, 60, and his six-year-old son Halim till their land in Cbar Bhadrasan, an area hard-hit by last September's flooding. He farms less than three acres, on which he grows rice and peanuts. He came here last year from the other side of the river, where he had lost his land due to the river's shift in course. Seven years ago he was also flooded out on the far side of the river, losing his land.*

the flood. She was still looking for permanent shelter when the WV team arrived. An 82-year-old Hindu woman, Soruju Bala, told of her frightening experience. "I was under the water for what seemed to be minutes, and I couldn't understand what was happening." The "tidal wave" hit so suddenly that she escaped with only her life and a sleeping mat. Speaking to Haider, she said, "Son, I need a house and food immediately. There is no one to provide me with food because they all have the same problem."

**To help meet** the long-term needs of thousands like Zarina and Soruju, WV/Bangladesh came up with an innovative plan to provide relief and rehabilitation. A report on their plan—and how they are carrying it out—will appear in the next issue of this magazine. □

## Another way you can help the needy

**To help more** of the world's neediest people obtain food, shelter and hope in Christ, World Vision needs contact with more people such as you. People with caring hearts. Do you know such a person who does not now receive this magazine but would appreciate the opportunity to learn more about World Vision's ministries? If so, you can help the needy by sending us that person's name and address to add to our mailing list for a few months.

There is no charge or obligation. You may furnish up to three names if you wish, using the coupon below. Thank you.

### WORLD VISION MAGAZINE

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Please send WORLD VISION magazine for a few months to these interested people. I understand they and I will be under no obligation.

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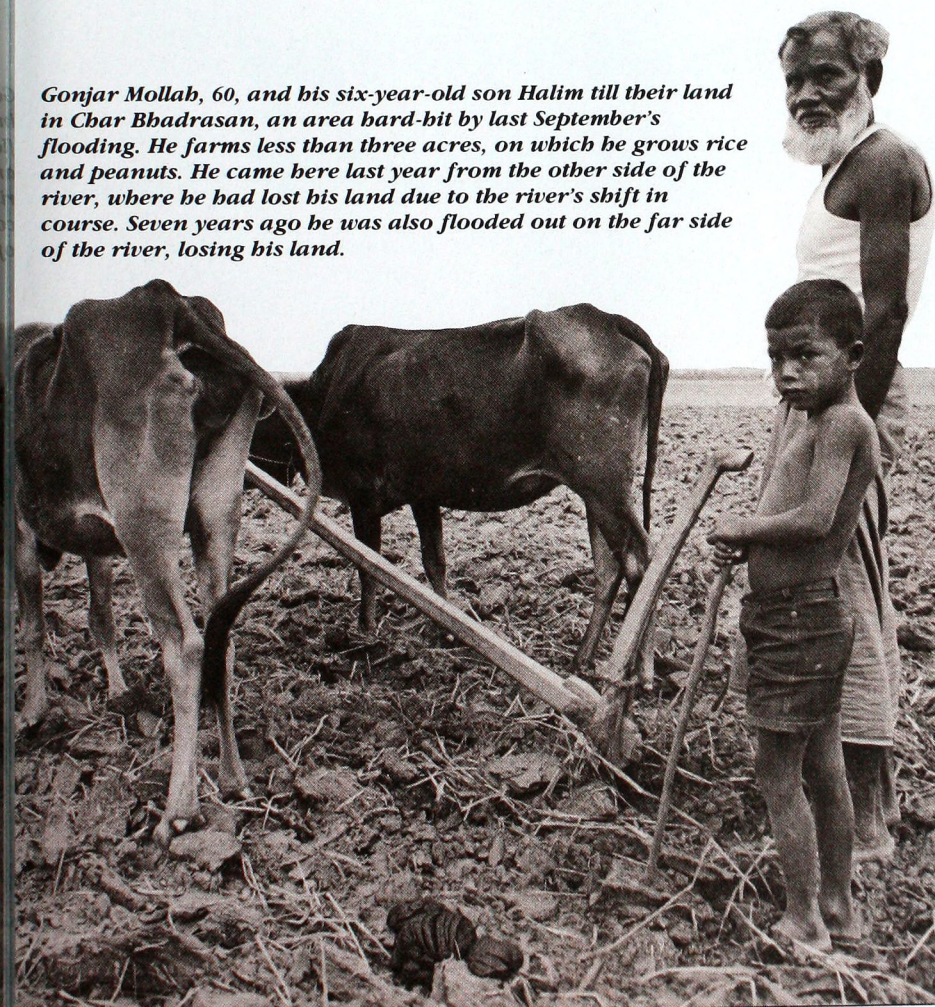
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*A bowl of boiled greens with little caloric value is often all that is available to sustain those at the Changanine camp.*



## ***Famine grips Mozambique***

*by John McMillin*

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John McMillin, director of relief and rehabilitation for World Vision, shares these insights following his recent trip to Mozambique.

**Drought and famine** are tightening their grip on Mozambique, particularly in rural areas. Hundreds of people are dying every month directly as a result of famine. We have certain knowledge that up to 400,000 people are suffering extreme hunger, close to—but not actually in—a state of starvation. Another one to two million suffer constant, never-ending hunger, and are weakening rapidly.

In a camp called Changanine, I had only 27 minutes to survey the entire area, which was said to contain 12,000 people. While there,





*(above) "These children at the Changanine camp are suffering severely from malnutrition and disease," McMillin says. "Parasites were crawling in and out of the eyes of the boy on the right. I picked out a few, but there really wasn't much I could do to help him. The boy in the middle is a victim of kwashiorkor."*

I endeavored to obtain upper-arm measurements of the children, check for parasites and scabies, and note living conditions. The best shelter was a cardboard, twig and mat construction, and was not nearly enough protection for those who lived in it.

At another camp, children who had become separated from their families huddled in a group of approximately 200. They were in such poor condition that they could not help in processing their portion of the relief food that had just arrived. The adults in the camp had little if any physical strength reserves to draw upon to provide these "orphans" with their



*McMillin takes upper arm measurements to determine the level of malnutrition among children at the Changanine camp.*

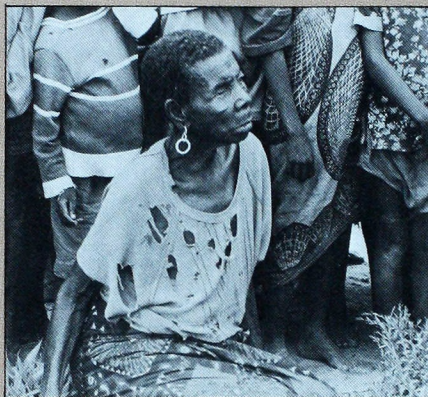


own supply of food. Thus, in the midst of food sufficiency, hunger was intensifying for lack of the slight extra margin of strength needed to lend a helping hand. The haunted look in the eyes of my brethren in this condition told me they knew their own limitations had been exceeded.

The loss of that margin—that elusive capacity to exert the extra energy needed to make a difference—that is the great tragedy of Africa today. We speak eloquently of hunger, disease and starvation, but the factor that haunts me is the loss of that extra reserve.

Africa's margin of survival is waning—sputtering out. Our job includes the delivery of food, relief aid and hope. But now, especially in Mozambique, I am looking for ways to simply increase “the margin.”

You, my donor colleague, make the “margins” possible. Together, we can create the capacity to put together the surge of energy to make things happen—to ensure that all things “work together for good” (Romans 8:28). □



(above) Weak from hunger, these children at a camp near Vilanculos are barely surviving on one corn patty each per day. (left) Unable to stand and gasping for breath, this woman at the Changanine camp was suffering from malnutrition and upper respiratory failure. Like most people there, she had eaten only desert greens for the past four to five months.

To assist famine victims in Mozambique and other drought-plagued African countries, please use the return envelope from the center of this magazine. Your assistance is appreciated.

## MINI-MESSAGE

### *Do you possess the new life?*

**“I have come,”** said Jesus, “that they may have life, and have it to the full” (John 10:10, NIV).

The full life which our Lord made possible for us by His death and resurrection is not just a deluxe version of our earthly existence. It is a whole new dimension of life, whose highest fulfillment will occur after our earthly existence has been completed. Yet it can begin here and now.

If you do not yet personally possess that new, eternal life, we at World Vision urge you to read, openheartedly, the entire Gospel of John, and to give yourself to the

Savior-Lord of whom it tells. It is in surrendering to Him that you will receive the life He offers.

We recommend also that you seek to serve and worship Him in union with a Christ-centered church in your community. Be His in partnership with others!

*If you are trying to find the reality of life in tune with Christ, we'll be glad to send you, without charge, a helpful booklet called Becoming a Christian. Just write Editor David Olson, WORLD VISION magazine, 919 W. Huntington Drive, Monrovia, CA 91016. □*

## Memorial tributes

**A meaningful way** you can honor the memory of a friend or loved one is through a memorial tribute gift to World Vision.

Why? Because your gift is an investment in the lives of needy people around the world—people who will find hope through your thoughtfulness. It's a gift of life.

When World Vision receives such a gift, we send a message of comfort to the family of the departed, informing them of the gift and who sent it.

For information on how to send a memorial tribute gift, write Memorial Tribute, World Vision, Box O, Pasadena, CA 91109.



# What's been happening

## In Ethiopia

**Famine** continues to plague many parts of Ethiopia, particularly in the northern regions. And, as needs throughout the country become evident and means become available, World Vision responds to meet those needs—especially in the most critical areas.

In cooperation with UNDRO (United Nations Disaster Relief Organization), World Vision has begun a transportation assistance program. The relocation of grain from port to a central warehouse is being handled through this low-cost ground-transport system. Already more than 4600 metric tons of grain have been delivered to the Tigray administrative region, with further shipments planned.

Project activities are continuing in

other areas of the country. Food distribution and medical care are a high priority in the Gondar administrative region. And in the South, the Twin Otter aircraft is transporting food to those in need in the Gamu Goffa and Bale administrative regions.

Long-term recovery and stabilization is becoming a reality in several areas where citizens have been able to move past the crisis stage. Three relief projects were recently converted to development projects in areas where the drought has begun to dissipate. □



*Dr. Ted Engstrom paused to share a smile with these three youngsters on his recent trip to Ethiopia.*

## On the altiplano



*Rain has come to parts of the altiplano, but the effects of the drought still linger for many like these Bolivian children.*

**Above-average rains** on the altiplano (high plain) shared by Bolivia and Peru have not solved all of the problems caused by drought there. In some areas, the rains have even caused more harm than good.

While rain has brought relief and renewed growth to portions of the altiplano in Peru, it has caused difficulties in others. Heavy rains early this year resulted in significant damage to crops and food stored in Jeberos. World Vision, in cooperation with the Sacred Heart of Jesus Mission, is assisting 3500 flood victims in that isolated community by providing food, medicine (anti-tetanus, anti-venom, anti-typhoid, flu vaccine and vitamins), clothing, transportation services and admin-

istrative services. The possibility of further work there in the form of rehabilitation or development is being investigated.

Bolivia's forthcoming harvest will likely be at below-normal levels, predicts UNDRO (United Nations Disaster Relief Organization). Rains were indeed welcome there. However, they returned later than normal, and many farmers had been forced to eat their seed stocks before planting.

The Bolivian government has extended the country's emergency status to May 1985. World Vision is continuing to assist seven communities struggling to recover from the drought's effects. Working alongside World Vision are Food for the Hungry, the Inter-institutional Committee of Oruro Department and several local agencies. □



REBECCA PIPPERT:

## *She's out of the saltshaker*

by LaVonne Neff

*and she helps other Christians get out of theirs*

**"Evangelism** is not a suggestion, it's a command," says Rebecca Manley Pippert, author of *Out of the Saltshaker* and evangelism consultant to Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship. "We are not to say, 'I care about justice, but I don't care about witnessing.' I don't see Jesus waking up and saying to himself, 'Now let's see, is this my social action day or do I give them the gospel?' He cared for the poor at every single level. So must we."

Rebecca lives in Jerusalem with her husband, Wesley, who is chief correspondent for United Press International in Israel. She recently traveled to the States to prepare a filmed version of her popular seminar on lifestyle evangelism. During a brief stopover at Chicago's O'Hare airport, she shared these thoughts about ministry to the whole person.

**We live in a secular age. Do you think many people are spiritually hungry today?**

I find all kinds of people who are desperately looking for all the right things—a sense of identity, love, security—but they are trying to find them in all the wrong places. My friends aren't asking theological questions, by and large. On the surface, they don't look like hot prospects for the kingdom. But as I get involved in their lives, I find they have tremendous needs, a hunger to grow and to learn more.

People often don't understand that

their needs are spiritual. Just before I came here, I had a long conversation with a woman who didn't know what to do about someone she had hurt. I said, "Listen, the only mistakes we ever make in life are the ones we fail to learn from." We talked for an hour-and-a-half on the phone about learning from this mistake, and afterwards she laughed and said, "Listen, I want to thank you for being my therapist." I thought, "No, really, it's not just being a therapist, it's being a spiritual guide." I didn't say that to

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### *Her friends don't all look like hot prospects for the kingdom. But . . .*

her, but that's really what I was. God never came up in the conversation, but I believe it was profound pre-evangelism.

**How does a person begin sharing Christ with someone else?**

First, by praying that God will bring someone into your life who is spiritually open, and that He will give you the eyes to recognize that person. You need your antennae out. Ask yourself, "Is this the one?" You need to be sensitive to the Holy Spirit, and ask the Lord to make it clear. Then, when you know who the person is, pray that God will give you sensitivity to understand where they're hurting, where they're excited—so you can really participate in their lives. Pray for that person a lot—not just for their salvation, but for the problems

they are facing. Pray for the whole person.

Then enjoy them and get to know them. Don't invite them only to church or to Bible study or to read a booklet. Go to a good film together. Babysit with their children. Go bike riding together. The more natural points of contact that people have with each other, the easier it is to share Christ.

**Now that you live in Jerusalem, do you have much opportunity to reach out to others for Christ?**

When I moved to Jerusalem, I had the inevitable adjustments of getting used to the country, the water, the people. One day I realized that I was lonesome. I was feeling insecure and wondering if people were going to like me. I went to church one Sunday feeling a little down. I was thinking, "How long is it going to take for me to feel a part of things?" We opened the Scriptures to Isaiah 58, which talks about the kind of fast the Lord wants. "The kind of fast I want," He was saying, "is where you reach out and care—and minister to the poor."

I literally got down on my knees because I knew God was speaking to me, and I said, "Which poor? The Palestinians have such a difficult plight. Should I start there? Where do you want me to go?" God's answer was as clear as a bell. "The people you know best. That's where I want you to reach out first. Feed them."

So I started putting together a list of the journalist community. I already





*Becky and husband Wes share experiences in being salt.*

new eight or nine, but found more than twenty, and I called and invited them all to a Valentine luncheon. One woman said, "I've been here ten years, and you're the first person who's ever invited me to anything. I've felt that nobody loves me." In fact, three middle-aged women told me almost that same thing.

As it turned out, 20 women came to the luncheon. Some knew each other very well, some had never met. There was a tremendous rapport and warmth. You know, when Jesus is here, even unseen, there's so much love. And the women said, "We've got to do this again." The next day at Wes's office, all kinds of colleagues

came to him and said, "Hey, nice thing your wife did."

There was so much spiritual and emotional poverty right in my midst that I hadn't seen. And how did I become sensitive to it? I myself was feeling poor and very needy. And I learned something from that—spiritual growth always lies in the direction of your weakness.

**I tried witnessing once, and I really made a fool of myself . . .**

We think we have witnessed if we have merely tried to communicate a few points. But our whole life is evangelistic. Every single thing we do is a witness. Of course we're going to blow it sometimes. We are walking examples of grace, not perfection. We need to allow people to say,

"Look, this is where I am. Christ is real in my life, even though I am flawed. I'm not saying to you, 'Hey, do I have it together.' I'm saying, 'I know the One who has it together, and He's helping me get it together.'" I think one of the most valuable things I can offer is to share how Christ is making sense in my brokenness. □

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*LaVonne Neff is a freelance writer and editorial consultant living in Downers Grove, Illinois.*

*Rebecca Manley Pippert's four-part film series, Out of the Saltshaker, is available from TWENTYONEHUNDRED Productions, 233 Langdon Street, Madison, WI 53703. Its toll-free number is (800) 828-2100.*



## Someone's listening for your voice

**"For rain!"** That's Ted Engstrom's first reply, these days, to many who ask him for specific prayer requests pertaining to Africa.

Such a simple, obvious request in light of the role drought is playing in Africa's famine-plagued nations. Yet many who pray for the people of Africa (and even many who bring food and development aid to the drought-stricken) tend to forget to beseech God to send the rains that could produce harvests and hope.

Not that rain or bumper crops or the saving of livestock can solve all of Africa's problems. Other obvious and not-so-obvious factors require equally genuine intercession. But what a difference believing prayer can make!

In Ghana recently, Dr. Ted saw the people's joy because a three-hour shower fell on one area of long-parched land. Perhaps it was a token

of what will come in response to faithful, faith-filled prayer. In other places he has seen the joy and gratitude of people whose water needs are being met by wells and irrigation systems. Those also are answers to prayer.

To say that the Africans' need for water is desperate is an understatement. Have *you* called upon the Lord for their need? "Pray for rain!" pleads Ted Engstrom. "Pray also for those who enable Africans to get water from beneath the ground! And for 'the latter rain'—the Holy Spirit's outpouring blessing in these critical days."

**Calls to prayer** abound these days. Through numerous religious media you're being reminded, for example, of the National Day of Prayer (May 3)—when Americans are asked to spend

five minutes at noon in concerted intercession mainly for our own troubled nation. Unquestionably, our nation too needs prayer, though for reasons partly different from Africa's.

In June comes a day of prayer for world evangelization (Pentecost Sunday) in which Great Commission-minded churches on every continent will participate. On that day, Christians from scores of nations will gather in Korea for what is expected to be history's largest prayer meeting, linked by TV satellite (if plans succeed) with millions of Christians in other countries.

No less important than concerted annual prayer days, though, are the daily prayer minutes or hours in which, singly or in twos or threes, you worship God, acknowledge dependence on Him, confess sin, express gratitude for what He is already doing, and make requests large and small—remembering to intercede for those who need physical and spiritual rain.

**Both bad news and good news** about certain African countries will reach you in the next several issues of this magazine. In the June issue, a lead article called "From Senegal to Somalia—the Spreading Famine" will give you a glimpse of the situation World Vision's special Africa Task Force has assessed. Then most of the following issue (being prepared for August) will provide an in-depth analysis plus photos showing both the plight of the people and examples of the short- and long-term solutions World Vision people are developing. The August issue will also bring you a continent map identifying the most-affected areas and the locations of "life centers" now being set up. We hope you'll use the coming issues as discussion starters and prayer guides in your home and in your church.

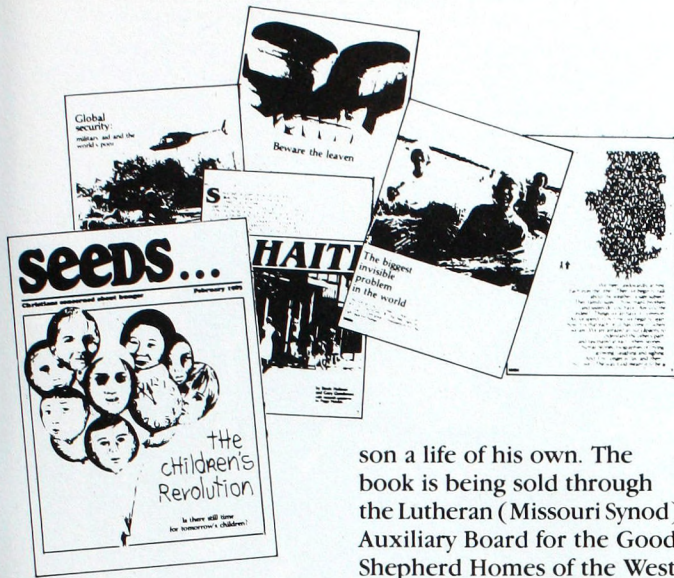
David Olson



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# Samaritan sampler



**Seeds**, a practical, down-to-earth bimonthly publication, encourages its readers to respond to the needs of the world's hungry. Each issue strives to provide biblical answers to world problems at the grassroots level. To receive six issues of *Seeds* and six issues of *Sprouts* (a newsletter sent on alternate months), send \$10 for a one-year subscription or \$17.50 for two years to *Seeds*, 222 E. Lake Dr., Decatur, GA 30030.

**The Bresee Institute** for Urban Training is offering six courses for students interested in inner-city ministry. Affiliated with Azusa Pacific University and other southern California educational institutions, the courses are available for graduate students, summer undergraduates and non-credit students. For more information write Fletcher Tink, Director, 3401 W. Third St., Los Angeles, CA 90020, or call (213) 385-6345.

**The Furies and the Flame**, a new autobiography published by Arena Press, recounts a mother's struggle to give her brain-damaged

son a life of his own. The book is being sold through the Lutheran (Missouri Synod) Auxiliary Board for the Good Shepherd Homes of the West to raise funds on behalf of mentally handicapped children. For purchasing information contact author Ingrid Rimland, 2731 Lost Creek Ct., Stockton, CA 95207, or call (209) 951-5200.

**850 managers** from more than 350 Christian organizations met in Anaheim, California, last February for Christian Ministries Management Association's seventh annual Christian Management Institute. The three-day development seminar focused on "The Ministry of Management." Next year's institute is scheduled for February 18-21, 1985, in Dallas, Texas. For more information write Christian Ministries Management Association, P.O. Box 4651, Diamond Bar, CA 91765.

**Christians** for Urban Justice helps students prepare for urban ministry through its Student Summer Internship program. Summer interns live in Boston's innercity from June 13 to August 20, ministering through local church or social service programs. For more information write Christians for Urban Justice, 563A Washington St., Dorchester, MA 02124.

**International students** attending Chapman College in Orange, California, can experience "a touch of home" through a host family program sponsored by ISI (International Students Incorporated) and Trinity Presbyterian Church. Host families introduce students to American family life and provide them with an opportunity to learn about Christ. For further information contact John Rantal, Director of Church Ministries, International Students Incorporated, Star Ranch, P.O. Box C, Colorado Springs, CO 80901.

**Bread for the World** (BFW) is training Christians across the U.S. to lead their churches, schools and communities in planning strategies to end world hunger. "Outreach on Hunger" seminars offer participants workshops dealing with causes of global hunger, land use and foreign policy. For more information write to Kathleen O'Pella, BFW Educational Fund, 802 Rhode Island Ave. NE, Washington, DC 20018.

**Ministers and youth leaders** desiring more confidence and competence in counseling teenagers can obtain training from His Love Christian Counseling Services. Based on the Buddy Scott method of counseling, the training is available either in person in Lake Jackson, Texas, or by correspondence. For more information write His Love Christian Counseling Services, P.O. Drawer 518, Lake Jackson, TX 77566, or call (409) 297-3236.

**Operation Mobilization's** ship, the *M.V. Doulos*, has spent the last four years ministering in Latin America through church mobilization, literature distribution, discipleship training and world evangelism. Conferences, evangelistic meetings and book exhibitions have helped thousands to come to the knowledge of Jesus as Savior. For more information write *M.V. Doulos*, Operation Mobilization, P.O. Box 148, Midland Park, NJ 07432.

**the kaki seed**, a new quarterly publication dedicated to reporting developments in evangelism and ministry to Japanese people worldwide, includes short articles, biblical and cultural insights and book reviews. The newsletter is published by Iwa, a Christian organization whose aim is to produce materials that lead to more effective evangelism to people of Japanese ancestry. Subscription is on a donation basis. Write Iwa, P.O. Box 50432, Pasadena, CA 91105.

**The Atlanta Community Food Bank**, an outgrowth of St. Luke's Episcopal Church Street Ministry Program, retrieves good but unmarketable food from manufacturers and redistributes it to over 270 private, nonprofit agencies. Most of the food goes to day-care programs, orphanages, community kitchens, halfway houses and senior citizens' homes. For more information write Atlanta Community Food Bank, 372 Augusta Ave. SE, Atlanta, GA 30315, or call (404) 627-2346.



# People you're helping

## A measure of hope despite drought

The nomadic Gabra people of northern Kenya move every three months due to a need for water (there's been no rain for two years), and because of a tick-borne disease that attacks their cattle. If they don't move, their livestock die.

World Vision donors bring extensive Christian outreach to these Muslim people who survive on a meager diet of milk, blood and honey. A measure of hope has been brought to the Gabra village of Bubisa through the construction of a health clinic, dispensary and school, and through an animal husbandry program.

## More assistance for Brazil

A new project in Brazil will bring food, medical care and water to thousands of residents in the village of Charco, a government-declared emergency area in the state of Minas Gerais. In partnership with the local Presbyterian church, World Vision donors will help residents of Charco build a dam, drill wells and install a water transport system. Some 150 villagers will participate in the work. In addition, the city councils of Espinosa and Emater (the government rural service agency) will combine their resources to provide machines, tools and labor. Initially, 200 families (1400 people) will receive aid. By October, the project will be serving 7000 people.

## Filipino Pastors' Conference

More than 700 church leaders from 20 denominations attended a World Vision-sponsored conference in Iloilo City in March. Sessions led by Dr. Sam Kamaleson, Dr. Oscar Baldermar, Bishop George Castro, Rev. Benjamin DeJesus, Rev. Fiscal Emmanuel Galicia, Ms. Esther Fe B. Gusto, Dr. David Howard, Ms. Julieta Jimeno, Ms. Anne Orlund and Dr. Augustin Vencer, related to the theme "I Will Build My Church." During the event, Dr. Don Douglas of World Vision's MARC division conducted a helpful "unreached peoples" survey.



*An evangelist travels by camel among the Gabra people and from village to village in Kenya. Here his belongings are being tied on his camel as he prepares to leave Bubisa.*

## One solution for starvation

Drought victims in an area of Upper Volta who are near starvation will be the recipients of a new project of the Fédération des Eglises et Mission Evangéliques (FEME) in partnership with World Vision.

Grain will be supplied to 255 of the neediest people in the northern part of the country. Each person will receive 500 grams of food each day for three months. Others who have some financial resources will be able to purchase grain at very low prices.

Funds from the sale of grain will pay for transportation costs. A local village committee, including a pastor, will store grain, identify needy villagers, and report distribution and prices to the FEME office in Ouagadougou.

## Refuge and emergency aid

An outbreak of fighting in Burma caused 6000 tribal people to flee their country in March. These Karen refugees have found temporary asylum in Thailand, where they are also receiving emergency aid. Cold weather intensified their suffering, especially since there was no time to gather possessions as they fled.

World Vision donors have already provided 100 bags of rice and some emergency items. The Thai government, along with the Anglican and Adventist churches, Baptist mission agencies and World Vision are coordinating this relief effort. World Vision's contribution through Burmese Refugee Relief will include food, medicine, clothing, blankets and utensils.



## Severe drought strains African cities

In the West African nation of Mali, the regional capital of Timbuktu struggles to provide refuge for rural migrants. Due to a total rainfall of less than three inches last year, most of the land used for grazing livestock in the rural areas is bare. The people in these areas are migrating to the city in search of jobs or to beg for food. The burden of helping these rural migrants has often fallen on the local churches. Thanks to World Vision donors, emergency food has been purchased which will benefit 280 families for up to four months. This food is being distributed to Muslim drought victims by Baptist and Catholic churches.

## An offer of water

Last year the people of San Rafael de Namasigue, an impoverished rural village in southern Honduras, dedicated a new piped water system. It was the second such dedication ceremony. A year earlier, a flood swept away lives, homes, possessions and a month-old water system that the people had spent hundreds of back-breaking hours installing.

The flood destruction left the villagers

discouraged and reluctant to build again. World Vision encouraged them with flood relief and an offer: If San Rafael's people would rebuild, World Vision donors would supply the materials. In a few months the people had capped a local stream, laid 1970 feet of metal pipe, and run plastic pipes to more than half of San Rafael's homes.

## Floods in Swaziland

January floods in Swaziland isolated 20,000 families who might be without food until midyear. To help feed these families, two small shallow-draft boats able to carry up to 1653 pounds of food each will be purchased by funds supplied by World Vision donors. Additionally, in partnership with the Swaziland Conference of Churches, the Ministry of Health and the Swaziland Red Cross, World Vision is supplying 500 blankets, as well as plastic sheeting, timber, nails and twine to reconstruct damaged homes.

The flooding began when cyclone Domoinia dropped nearly 20 inches of rain in 36 hours. Flood waters may linger up to five months. Standing water in the plains will delay by several months planting for the next harvest.

## Brown honors Engstrom

In its commencement services this spring in Siloam Springs, Arkansas, John Brown University awarded World Vision President Ted Engstrom the honorary Doctor of Laws degree (LLD). University President John E. Brown III related that the institution's board of trustees had determined to do so not only in recognition of Dr. Engstrom's World Vision ministry but of the outstanding leadership he has provided to the evangelical world at large. Engstrom addressed graduates on the subject of being world Christians.

## Please pray for . . .

- **the homeless** in Beirut, Lebanon, and the many others in that beleaguered city who have been injured, bereaved or traumatized.
- **those who are helping** the suffering children, women and men in Beirut by assisting them with temporary shelter, food, encouragement and Christian witness.
- **flood victims** in Bangladesh and the many other residents of that poverty-lashed country.
- **the flood relief workers** seeking to assist Bengalis in Christ's name.
- **the drought-stricken** people of Mozambique, for whom food has become so scarce that many are dying.
- **the relief/development project** workers who are giving themselves unsparingly to the task of saving Mozambiquan lives and enabling the drought survivors to again produce or obtain the food they need.
- **rain** in the 24 desperately dry African nations where many despair of life.
- **the many Christians** now experiencing suffering along with their other countrymen in Africa's long and excruciating famine.



## Making a difference in Madras

The World Vision-supported Love Your Neighbor Center in Madras, India, benefits young and old by providing health care, nutrition and hygiene education, vocational training, literacy classes and other services. One family to benefit is Indrani and Sivalingham and their five children. A \$15 loan from the

project helped Indrani purchase an initial supply of goods to begin a small produce shop. Shown here selling produce with her daughter, she has since repaid the loan and generated enough money to help other slum families start small businesses.

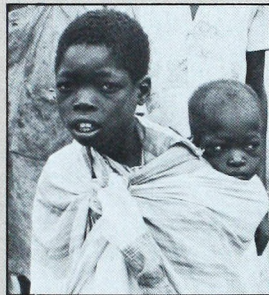


# Globe at a glance

NEWS BRIEFS FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND INTERCESSION

**"Africa's refugee problem** is the greatest the world has known since World War II," asserts author and veteran Africa journalist David Lamb. "More than half the world's (ten million) refugees are Africans. Taken as a group, the refugees of Africa are larger in number than the combined populations of Benin, Botswana, Burundi, the Central African Republic, Chad, Djibouti, Gabon, Gambia, Liberia and Swaziland. Of Africa's 51 countries, 25 have sizable refugee populations."

**100,000 people have died in Mozambique** in recent months from malnutrition caused by severe drought and disruption of food supplies, making the nation Africa's worst famine victim. International relief officials estimate another 100,000 are likely to die over the next four months. Nearly 350,000 people have fled their homes to seek food and shelter at government relief camps. Another 60,000 to 80,000 have crossed the border to Zimbabwe for relief. Children below age five face the greatest risk of death from starvation or related diseases.



*Famine victims  
in Mozambique*

**Children in the poorest nations** are sick an average of 180 days a year—spread over three or four bouts with diarrheal infections, four or five onsets of respiratory infections and one or more of the common diseases of childhood, such as measles, reports the *Los Angeles Times*. Diarrhea alone afflicts some 500 million children, and is a major reason that one out of every 20 children in developing nations dies before age five.

**Church attendance in the U.S.** has remained fairly constant for 15 years, according to a Gallup poll, varying no more than two percentage points since 1969. Four adults in every ten attended church or synagogue in a typical week in 1983. The rate of churchgoing is higher among women than men, and among older people than younger.

**The annual loss of agricultural land** worldwide, according to a United Nations report, is more than 36 million acres: 20 million by urban industrial encroachment, 7 million by erosion, 4.5 million by desertification and 4.5 million by toxification. The U.S. Department of Agriculture concludes that about three million acres of America's farmlands are urbanized each year—a rate of 320 acres each hour.

**Bolivians struggling to recover** from the effects of drought continue to face economic hardship. Many subsistence farmers who lost crops and livestock have crowded into cities, where half of all construction and hundreds of businesses have shut down. Two of every five workers are without jobs,

and inflation is spiraling at 30 percent a month. Thousands of Bolivians with nowhere to turn are lining up for the small amounts of bread and milk still available at controlled prices.

**The Christian community in Nepal** has grown in the last five years from 500 to 15,000, according to World Evangelical Fellowship General Director David M. Howard, who visited the country recently. However, the growth has been accompanied by severe persecution in the predominantly Hindu country, where Christian baptism is illegal and punishable by six years in prison.

**U.S. child abuse victims** number more than one million a year. Of those, more than 2000 die. "Our best information says these numbers are on the rise," says Anne Harris Cohn, executive director of the National Committee for Prevention of Child Abuse. "Abused children suffer a wide variety of developmental, emotional and physical difficulties. Some need to be institutionalized. Others require special education. Some become juvenile delinquents, teenage runaways, teenage drug addicts or teenage prostitutes."

**Injustice** is the scourge of Central America, say bishops who met recently at the Central American and Panamanian Bishops' Conference. The bishops issued a statement saying that the principal causes of the present state of conflict in the area are injustice, violence and foreign intervention. In a message to all governments, the bishops called for an end to foreign interference in the affairs of the region.

**Regarding nuclear war**, the question for many young people is not *whether* there will be one, but *when*, according to a recent *Washington Post* poll. More than one in four of the young people interviewed—27 percent—say that fear of nuclear war causes them to "worry frequently about death." Two-thirds of the girls and nearly half the boys interviewed feel nuclear bombs are likely to fall by the year 2000.

**Drought in Africa** is now affecting 34 countries in some way. Of those, 24 countries are considered by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization to be "seriously affected." In those 24 countries, 150 million people are living in directly affected areas, with 20 million people facing imminent starvation. Of those 20 million, 5 to 6 million are currently experiencing starvation.

**"The status of women** directly bears on their health," says Indian physician Lelia Mehra, an executive of the World Health Organization. Dr. Mehra claims that in developing countries there is a serious deterioration in the health of women because "women are placed in a disadvantaged position by the problems of economic marginalization, discrimination and the burdens of multiple roles."



# In partnership with you

"BECAUSE OF YOUR PARTNERSHIP IN THE GOSPEL"

(Philippians 1:5)

## Really loving God

**Charles Colson** has written another fine book. Anyone who questions the quality of prose from contemporary Christian writers should pick up a copy of *Loving God*, recently released by Zondervan Publishing House. Not only is the book well written, but there is something exceptional about it.

Convinced through his own experience that most Christians don't understand the greatest commandment—to love God—Colson wanted "to do for the gospel what Lenin did for Marx." So he carefully planned a book around the great principles of Christianity: "To believe, to repent, to obey, to be holy, to bind up the brokenhearted and to serve." This is what loving God really means.

One might skim this book and see it simply as a collection of stories. For example, Colson tells about a judge who, by obeying the voice of God, disrupted his own promising career. He also retreats to the fourth century and recounts the conversion of Augustine. With just a touch of

whimsy he relates the strange case of Mickey Cohen, who aspired to be a Christian gangster. Colson's gallery of saints includes POW's in Vietnam, a 91-year-old grandmother with a letter-writing ministry to prisoners, and a hotel broker who closed his liquor bar against his own financial interests.

But the book is much more than the sum of these tales. The tales serve only as capsules of the concepts Colson wants to convey. As I see it, the book, in a small way, represents the Christian life. Let me explain.

The good books of our time seem to fall into categories. We have the works of thinkers such as John Stott, Francis Schaeffer, C.S. Lewis and Dietrich Bonhoeffer, to name a few. These are books of ideas, doctrine, philosophy and biblical exposition. They set forth concepts that guide our behavior.

Then we have the deeply moving accounts of the lives of Christians such as Elisabeth Elliot, Corrie Ten

Boom and Joni Eareckson Tada. Colson's first book, *Born Again*, which tells the story of his conversion, falls into this category.

*Loving God* combines these—the doctrines and the stories of the lives that proceeded from the doctrines. In this sense the book contains a model of what our lives should be. If we immerse ourselves in the Word of God and build a solid foundation of faith, our lives should reflect the kind of exploits of faith Colson has chronicled.

I don't mean we must have great theological understanding and discernment before God will use us. We only have to use the gifts He has given to us.

Not all of us are profound thinkers. But each of us is called to believe and to obey. And when we do, the overwhelming love of God in our hearts compels us to go out and preach the gospel, give bread to the hungry, bring justice to the oppressed, bind the brokenhearted. When we carry out the greatest commandment of all—"to love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind"—our lives become the vari-colored yarn with which the storyteller weaves.

*Ted W. Engstrom*  
Ted W. Engstrom  
President

*After speaking in a recent World Vision chapel service, Charles Colson shares some thoughts with Dr. Engstrom.*





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