GHANA: A hungry homecoming

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In the famine-stricken Ethiopian village of Zui Hamusit, an old woman and her grandson await treatment from the World Vision emergency medical team.
Hand-carrying what they could bring from Nigeria, weary Ghanaian returnees disembark after their cramped, uncomfortable journey to Accra.

A hungry homecoming

Famished and more than travel-weary, they returned in drove after drove to their homeland: some by sea, some by land, a few by air. Ghana, their native country, tried to be ready for them, but was not. Nor were the returnees prepared or eager to come back, leaving behind in Nigeria their incomes—or, for some, simply their hopes for employment.

But when the Nigerian government ordered all undocumented aliens out of the country, they had no choice. The government cited a slumping economy and fewer available jobs for Nigerians as the primary reason for its decision.

A bleak homecoming awaited the roughly one
Pulpiteers be warned: do something to limit those unguarded utterances or those carelessly edited church bulletins—particularly in the presence of Dr. Ted Engstrom, president of World Vision International. He collects them.

In January, when he addressed African church leaders in Nairobi, Kenya, and in Arusha, Tanzania, Engstrom told some of the church "bloopers"—things you didn't mean to say but blurted out, or misquotations or misprints in the Sunday bulletin—to the illustrious gathering which turned out to hear him. The stories gave them fits of laughter.

Example: A pastor wrote in a church bulletin, "I shall be away for the next few Sundays. The preacher during my absence you will find pinned to the notice board, and all births, marriages and deaths will be postponed until my return!"

Another: "This being Easter, we are asking Mrs. Johnson to come forward and lay an egg on the altar."

After cracking the formality barrier with such stories, Dr. Engstrom assured the audience that he himself had "times without number misspoken, and I am just glad that probably nobody is
recording them. I'm sure you feel the same way." They agreed.

Leaving it at that, he turned to the subject closest to his heart: that bright glimmer at the end of the tunnel, the current revival of the Christian church. The apparent dark clouds over the world of faith are, as he sees it, the very signals of light just around the corner.

"In Chinese characters," he said, "the word for crisis is made up of two other characters, one on top of the other; one of which means 'opportunity' and the other 'danger.' In other words, a crisis is a dangerous opportunity."

Dr. Engstrom sees the world as being in a time of crisis "with both great danger and magnificent opportunity. I am," he said, "of the firm opinion that today as never before since the first century, we are seeing a mighty moving of the Spirit of God.

"The decade of the '80s," he said, "can be for the church a watershed, because we are seeing not only the distress among nations and the deep, dark backdrop of sin in our world, but also the bright light shining. For 'where sin abounds, there grace much more abounds.'"

He pointed out that although just two centuries ago only 25 percent of the nations of the world had any knowledge of the gospel, today the church has been planted in every land mass of the world and in every country represented in the United Nations. "God has His people all over this globe. That could not have been said 25 years ago.

"And in the church of Jesus Christ," he said, "we are indeed brothers and sisters. God by His grace has brought us together in His family. You and I belong to each other. Whether you like it or not, I belong to you. And I like it because you belong to me."

Expressing his delight in being back in East Africa, he revealed that in his world travels he often speaks of the strength of the church in this part of Africa. "You may or may not know," he said, "how significant is the working of the Spirit of God in this part of the world." He said he often speaks of the impact of the East African revival experienced over the last 35 or 40 years.

"Like it or not, you and I belong to each other."

Where and how does World Vision fit into this jigsaw of believers? Dr. Engstrom answered in a nutshell. "The desire of World Vision world-wide is to serve the church. We want to be servants of the servants of Christ." He then cited examples of World Vision's working side by side with the churches in many locations.

In Arusha, Dr. Engstrom reminded the Christians: "There is a beautiful promise in St. John's Gospel, chapter 14. Jesus said: 'Whatever you ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask anything in my name I will do.' Either Jesus is the biggest phoney the world has known or He is indeed the Son of God. I choose to believe the latter. And if you believe in Jesus, then you should pray supernaturally, think supernaturally, plan supernaturally and claim supernat-
natural resources. With God, nothing is impossible."

A Western-rooted Christian humanitarian organization devoid of sectarianism and committed to meeting both physical and spiritual needs of the poor "with the compassion of Christ" was undoubtedly something that some churches in Africa were not prepared for. It had been easy for them to see World Vision as "just another charity organization." Its commitment to Christ and all the churches under Him is something that only time can establish. But the message appears to have gone home.

Said Bishop Kuria, "What gives me joy in the Lord is that although World Vision, together with churches, offers service to humanity—which in itself is service to God—I have come to know that World Vision does not render this service just on humanitarian grounds. It does so because it wants to reach people with the good news of our Lord Jesus Christ and have souls saved by Jesus. The ministry of World Vision is a ministry of Jesus. It is a good ministry, a blessed ministry."

It was not the first time for Dr. Engstrom to address Kenyan believers. He had lectured to them some years earlier, and it was as a result of that lecture that they requested time with him when they learned that he was coming to Kenya this year.

It was his first time in Tanzania, however. There, those who heard him included four bishops, some government officials, a government minister, two regional commissioners and a member of Parliament, some of them having driven for over 14 hours from different parts of Tanzania to Arusha just for the few hours with him. In spite of his heavy schedule in Kenya and Ethiopia, Dr. Engstrom was just as eager to learn and converse as were the Tanzanian leaders. Watching him in conversation with Bishop Yohana Madinda of the Diocese of Central Tanganyika and Bishop Alpha Mohamed of the Diocese of Mount Kilimanjaro, one could easily conclude that the three had known each other for years. It was the first time they had met him. The government officials, too, felt at home with him, and he with them.
"He won their hearts," said Tekle Selassie, World Vision field director in Tanzania who organized the meeting. The Tanzanian deputy principal secretary said, after that meeting, that he now understood the uniqueness of World Vision and that "with people of that caliber in leadership, there is no way the organization could go wrong."

While in Kenya, Dr. Engstrom was received by President Daniel arap Moi at the State House. A cherished moment was when both men retired to the President's study for a brief devotion. Later, President Moi said, "I have come to know the valuable contribution by World Vision to rural development in Kenya. We encourage you to continue assisting our people the way you do. We are very appreciative of your help."

Apart from having strengthened ties with partners in the field, Dr. Engstrom was able in Kenya to tour Mathare Valley (a poor district of Nairobi), where World Vision has community development projects. He also found time to visit "Jane's Church," a spot under a tree in Masailand where Jane Nailante—a Masai Christian woman—and her converts worship.

On his trip Dr. Engstrom met informally with World Vision's senior and junior staff alike at the Africa regional office, the Kenya office and, later, in Ethiopia and Tanzania. What did his visit mean to staff members? Tekle Selassie said, "World Vision is an overwhelming organization—even to World Vision staff in Tanzania. But to see Dr. Engstrom as a man who could sit and talk with them and encourage them and want to know about their personal lives and families and things like that ... they were filled with joy."

As Africa Field Director Gen. Joshua Hamidu said, "It is the sincere wish of everyone here that Dr. Engstrom and his wife Dorothy have not only gone back with the warmth of the African sun but also with the warmth of our love."
One of the many couples seeking treatment from World Vision’s medical team at Zui Hamusit.

**Ethiopia famine relief update**

“We’re running with the minimum amount of fuel we can carry and still be safe. The aircraft is very productive on jobs like this. We’re working six days a week, so we can shuttle 120 tons a week, if all goes well.”

So spoke Mission Aviation Fellowship pilot Don Craig of World Vision’s Twin Otter airplane flights bearing relief food to famine victims in Ethiopia’s Gonder Administrative region (referred to as Gonder province in earlier reports). With an emergency airstrip recently cleared at the village of Zui Hamusit in Gonder’s Libo district, the Twin Otter has begun a rigorous schedule transporting grain and other essential foodstuffs to that remote village from the Gonder airport, 20 minutes away by air.

Upon landing on the village’s dirt airstrip, the plane taxis to a roped-off area where, with the engines still running, its cargo is rapidly unloaded. Within minutes, the plane is back in the air, returning to the Gonder airport for another load.

Near the landing strip in Zui Hamusit is another of World Vision’s major contributions to the alleviation of suffering in Gonder: the World Vision medical team. Consisting of team coordinator Mengistu Jembere, a health officer, a nurse, two health assistants, a nutritionist, a cook and a driver/mechanic, the team is involved in assessing immediate medical needs and in dispensing aid.

“At present, the medical team stationed at Zui Hamusit has started full operation and is doing well,” reports Ethiopian World Vision Director Ato Tesfatsion Dalellew. “The distribution of food supplies is also going very well. The Twin Otter averages eight flights per day from the Gonder airport to Zui Hamusit.”

Although the drought which brought on the current famine in...
In less than ten minutes, the Twin Otter can be relieved of its cargo and on its way back to Gondar airport for another load. (far left, upper) Young girls wait hours each day for a chance to fill the family water jar at this well in Zui Hamusit. (far left, lower) Wet or dry, Faffa—a nutritional grain and powdered milk porridge mixture—provides a tasty snack.

Gondar and other regions occurred last year, its effects are expected to linger for months to come. Last year, rainfall in several parts of the country was late in coming, then sporadic when it did come. Some crops grew part way, but didn’t mature, leaving many people—especially the poorest of the poor—in a desperate situation.

World Vision was quick to respond to the needs of those most severely affected, and, after an initial survey visit, implemented its emergency relief program in Gondar.

Assessing World Vision’s contributions to the situation thus far, Relief and Rehabilitation Director Tony Atkins comments, "I'd say World Vision's major accomplishments in Gondar to this point are threefold. The first is that of bringing the need to the world's attention. I think that's a very important role we have, and I think it's being done throughout the support countries.

"The second function is not so tangible," Atkins continues. "It is the process of introducing hope. These people, who are already so remote—and in addition to that have so few resources—often find there's very little basis for hope. But I think the sight of a relief aircraft flying overhead, or even the few commodities we've already brought in, is having a substantial impact in introducing hope into a nearly hopeless situation.

"Thirdly," Atkins concludes, "I would say the role of the medical team, particularly in evaluating the situation and communicating that information to the authorities, is an extremely important element. At the same time, they're also focusing help on the most vulnerable, particularly young children, nursing mothers and the elderly. The high-protein nutritional supplements are probably their most important 'medicines' in treating these with the greatest need."

Long-range plans for, among other things, the construction of an all-weather road between the villages of Zui Hamusit and Ebinat (in earlier reports, spelled Ebnet), are beginning to take form. But for now, immediate needs for relief persist.

The scarcity of water continues to be a problem, especially now, during the dry season. Looking at the needs ahead, Dr. Atkins remarks, "Besides the shortage of food, the biggest problem for many is the lack of water. The frightening thing is that it's still quite early in the season. There are a number of months yet before rainfall would normally be expected to begin. The thinking is that if it's this bad now, the need is going to be extremely great in a few months."
"Easter," wrote Bishop Herbert Welch half a century ago, "is a very queen of Christian festivals. It is too great and glorious to be used for some merely local purpose. It should be redeemed from smallness, from petty vision, from being confined within a narrow horizon. It is a world day—the triumph day of the world's Redeemer."

Associated with the first Easter was so much excitement that the tingle of it can still be felt in those resurrection narratives that climax the gospel accounts. Take, for example, the Matthew story. Let your imagination keep step with those devoted women of the dawn; the two Marys, stealing away to the tomb, only to find it empty! And then to hear the voice:

_Do not be afraid; for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples that he is risen from the dead (28:5,6)._

Too good to be true? No. Just too true not to be good.

Try sorting out the imperative-form verbs in the foregoing passage. All four of them: "come," "see," "go," "tell." There is nothing dull in any of them. Like split atoms, they yield the immeasurable energy of an incredible excitement.
Come, for Easter invites us to a satisfying verification. Investigate. Probe. Be an honest quester. For us who are centuries removed from the original resurrection event, this means: Consider the documents—Matthew, Mark, Luke, John. Weigh the word of the witnesses. Nobody has ever succeeded, on any rational basis, in tossing them out as fiction.

Or, if you wish, turn from the documents to the Christian community. Its very existence is bound up with the resurrection of Christ in a continuity of confession in which, from the beginning, it has affirmed: “The third day He rose again from the dead.”

It is in this community of faith that people by the millions have found that life comes from Life. Receiving the risen, living Jesus, they are set free from the graveclothes of their self-centered existence and liberated into a kingdom of love which is none other than the Kingdom of God. This is not provable scientifically; it is verifiable experientially.

See, for Easter offers us a world view achieved by gazing at a vacant grave? Some would ask in astonishment, forgetting that perhaps it was Isaac Newton’s reflecting on the fall of an apple that led to his formulation of the universal law of gravity.

Tennyson put it startlingly but truly: Thou madest death; and, lo, Thy foot Is on the skull which Thou hast made.

Go, for Easter calls us to a high vocation. “Get moving,” was the angelic imperative laid on the two Marys. For the moment, the going was restricted. Their going was to be to the “disciples.” A little later the “go” was to be picked up by the risen Master himself and placed upon the whole disciple-company as a mandate without boundaries: “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to the whole creation” (Mark 16:15).

Easter is nothing if it is not mission. Easter is nothing if it is not mobility. Easter is nothing if it is not ministry.

Dr. Charles Ranson, out of his years of official connection with the International Missionary Council, wrote disturbingly: “Christians must live as those who have no continuing city. [They] must never appear to have settled down in this world.” To which he adds, regretfully: “They do not always give the impression of a church militant and mobile.” In whatever measure this weakness exists it speaks sadly of our failure to be captivated by the glow and commanded by the “go” of Easter.

Tell, for Easter equips us with a witnessing voice. Tell the “disciples.” Their faith had been flattened by the ugly execution at Calvary. Tell “Peter.” His denial of the Lord who loved him had left him in a pit of despair. Tell “Jerusalem.” God had something better for it than a proud religiosity so callous it would resort to murder to preserve a tradition. Tell “Samaria.” Its people, for centuries rejected as mongrels and outcasts, need to know that God’s priceless shalom is theirs too. Tell the world. The victory has been won; sin’s stranglehold has been broken; death has been mastered; a new humanity has been assured.

Let this only be added: telling it with words—never under such close scrutiny as now—is not enough; it must be told with deeds, tiny as atoms, perhaps, or big as mountains, but deeds at any cost.

Dr. Rees, a former editor of this magazine and later a vice-president of World Vision, wrote this challenge as an editorial which appeared in the March 1970 issue.
If they kill me . . .

The writer of this letter, a Lebanese Christian, was killed at a checkpoint as he traveled to his village from Beirut. Although written in 1975, his words ring true today, as turmoil plagues his homeland, and his fellow Lebanese continue to yearn for true peace.

When I began to write this letter, it was as if someone else was speaking through me. Everybody's life in Lebanon, now, is at stake. And as I am a Lebanese, I imagined myself kidnapped and killed on my way to my village, Nabha. If this intuition comes true, I leave this letter for my family, for my fellow villagers and countrymen.

I say to my mother and sisters: don't be sad, don't overcry; this separation will be short and we will meet again. I'm sure we will meet in heaven where eternal joy reigns. Don't worry, God's mercy will bring us together.

I have only one request: forgive from your heart those who killed me, and pray with me that my blood be a ransom—even if it is a sinner's blood—and an offering mixed with the blood of all the victims who fell from all political factions and religious communities, as the price for peace, love and brotherhood in this country.

Exhort people to love one another because of my death, and God will console and help you. Don't be afraid. I don't regret leaving this world, but I am sad because you'll be sad. Pray, pray and love your enemies.

To my fellow Lebanese I say: people from the same home have different ideas, but they don't hate each other. They get upset, but they don't fight each other. They hit, but they don't kill each other. Remember the days of understanding and love. Together we ate, together we drank, together we worked. Let us do away with days of intolerance and fighting.

Each of us should pray as his heart believes that God will put an end to this tragedy, and that outside powers will fail to carry out their plots. I sometimes think I will grieve, even in heaven, if the situation remains like this in Lebanon.

For the funeral: Father Peter should conduct the service without much fuss. Not too many clergymen. And my soul will be happy if Abou-Khalil makes the coffin with wood from some old boxes. Let people forgive me without much mourning. Oh, people talk a lot, but don't mind what they say, because if they were truthful, they would not kill each other. Let the choir sing as much as they can; I feel better this way.

I am thinking about all of you while I am writing this letter. I haven't forgotten anyone: my friends, the one I love, my relatives, my buddies. But I don't want my emotions to overrun my Christian hope. I have found the suitable word: pray, fear and love God.
World Vision recently completed two major reconstruction projects in Lebanon, in the villages of Neemeh and Mye Mye. Reconstruction grants were given to individual homeowners in installments. Although the homeowners provided most of the capital for reconstruction, the grants provided impetus for them to begin and continue the work.

"As individuals and groups began the task of reconstruction under the direction of a village committee, they received graduated installment grants to help meet their costs," reports World Vision’s Middle East Representative Leonard Rodgers.

From the village committee in Mye Mye, World Vision received a card containing a special word of appreciation: "We deeply thank you for all the help you have given to our village. We were most impressed with the spirit in which you deal with people. We believe that your work will be leading us the same way the star led the shepherds on that holy night when peace, love and hope had been given to humanity."

Three new village reconstruction projects are now underway in the Marjayoun district in southern Lebanon. Sharing $205,000 in reconstruction grants are the villages of Rachaya Foukhar, Al Khiam and Ebl es Saki.

In Rachaya Foukhar, World Vision is working with the National Evangelical Synod of Syria and Lebanon in providing not only reconstruction grants for homeowners, but assistance in repairing both the National Evangelical Synod church and the Catholic church.

In the villages of Al Khiam and Ebl es Saki, World Vision is providing funds for the repair of each of their National Evangelical Synod churches. Funding for the repair of an elementary school in Al Khiam is also being provided.

The remaining $95,000 of World Vision’s current $300,000 allotment for reconstruction work in Lebanon is designated for the rebuilding of a relief center and an evangelical school for boys.

While reconstruction is now a major element in World Vision’s Lebanon involvement, the need for relief assistance remains. Says Rodgers, "Hundreds of Lebanese families are still without adequate housing, and many are still living in emergency issue tents."

Relief Associate Bruce Menser, who recently spent two months implementing World Vision’s programs in Lebanon, says, "People of all faiths and religious backgrounds have been helped through our relief efforts. Of course, when war and suffering strike, Jesus calls us to help all who are in need."

"I think World Vision now has unprecedented opportunities to help people in Lebanon," adds Menser, "through our ongoing relief efforts, and now, through our reconstruction projects."
DENNIS HILGENDORF IN LEBANON

‘Our business is people’

It’s easy to see the obvious needs in Lebanon: the half-million persons displaced; the 180,000 homeless; the 83 of the country’s 375 villages damaged or destroyed.

But the Reverend Dennis Hilgendorf sees beyond these needs. He sees the 23-year-old man who, eight years ago when civil war broke out, was just starting high school. That man still has no high school education, no job, little hope.

“In mid-1982, voluntary agencies dealt with the immediate needs for shelter, medicine and food,” said Hilgendorf. “Now it’s easy to breathe a sigh of relief and say, ‘There’s not much fighting. There are no needs.’ But for those of us who stayed behind, now is the time to deal with real problems. It’s easy to rebuild houses. But how do you rebuild people?”

Dennis Hilgendorf went to Lebanon 20 years ago as an American Lutheran missionary. He was about to move on to another mission field in 1975 when civil war broke out in Lebanon. Since then he has been active ministering to both physical and emotional needs of the people of Lebanon in times of crisis. He now is director of the Contact and Resource Center (CRC), a Beirut-based agency staffed by Lebanese, which reaches out to the young, the unemployed, the disabled and the drug-addicted.

World Vision had been working with the CRC before Israel invaded Lebanon in June of 1982. During the crisis, World Vision worked closely with the agency in administering a $1-million-plus program. Hilgendorf recently helped World Vision design its $300,000 package of rehabilitation projects.

The new projects will assist three villages and two institutions to rebuild homes, schools and churches damaged during the fighting. Last year, World Vision provided similar start-up grants to individuals and village committees to begin repairs. Hilgendorf said this assistance was effective in presenting a Christian witness because of the way it was disbursed.

“Most of the other government and aid agency assistance was designated,” he explained. “The Arab countries and many voluntary
Residents of the Ein el Hilweh refugee camp in Sidon scrape a meager existence out of war's ruins.

agencies specified that their aid go to Muslims. Those agencies which did provide aid to Christians usually specified members of a certain church. So, people in need who weren't members of that church couldn't be helped. World Vision, as a trans-denominational agency, was able to assist everybody."

In one village where the aid went to both Christians and Muslims, the pastor reported the entire community was very grateful. He said that if World Vision had just rebuilt the homes of Christians, there would have been tremendous ill will in that village.

The two institutions World Vision will assist in rebuilding are the Lebanon Evangelical School for Boys and the CRC's Handicap Halfway House. The Evangelical School for Boys, like many schools and other large buildings, seemed to be a target for shelling and bombing during the fighting. Hilgendorf said that institutions received more damage than homes.

World Vision's $70,000 grant to the CRC Halfway House is assisting that institution in helping the disabled readjust to life in Lebanon. The Halfway House offers a hostel to newly-disabled persons who have already received medical treatment and some vocational training. There they learn to cook, wash their own clothes and handle other self-care matters. "We're attempting to make them whole persons again," said Hilgendorf.

Of an estimated 100,000 disabled persons in Lebanon, less than five percent had been helped. Most live with their families—who are often embarrassed by them—with no hope for jobs or an education.

Although the needs in Lebanon are massive, Christians can make a real difference. "We're in the business of people, not houses," he said. "We build houses to put people into. We rebuild institutions to educate people. We develop feeding programs to feed people."

"It's the people who stay behind after the immediate crisis is over to try to put lives and relationships back together who have the opportunity to help people," he said. "And I believe that we now have many years of fruitful ministry ahead of us."

To help Lebanese villagers get a fresh start after their ordeal, please use the return envelope from the center of this magazine.
Bread for the World Educational Fund publishes a variety of useful materials, conducts conferences and workshops, and does research on hunger and related issues. Its book and materials service offers books, teacher's manuals, action packets and worship aids. For a list, write BFW Educational Fund, 6411 Chillum Pl. NW, Washington, DC 20012.

Local churches can work in partnership with Bread for the World through BFW's Covenant Church Program. This one-year program increases local churches' awareness of the dimensions of hunger and encourages creative Christian response. It includes Leaven, a quarterly publication of bulletin inserts, worship aids and Bible studies. If interested, write Bread for the World at the above address.

ACMC (Association of Church Missions Committees) is preparing for its 1983 North American conference July 21-24 at Wheaton College (Illinois), on the theme, "Supporting World Missions in an Age of Change." Pastors or missions committee representatives interested in attending may write Box ACMC, Wheaton, IL 60189.

Visually impaired persons can find 131 items designed for them in a 12-page catalog issued by American Bible Society (ABS). Included are: a complete, 18-volume Braille Bible; special selections of Scripture in extra-large type; complete Gospels, and recorded Scriptures in both English and Spanish. Write ABS, 1865 Broadway, New York, NY 10023.

Food First Comics, put out by the Institute for Food and Development Policy (IFDP), presents world food problems in creative cartoons. A useful secular resource for junior high or high school discussion groups, it is available for $1 per copy, plus 15 percent shipping. For more information or to order copies, write IFDP, 1885 Mission St., San Francisco, CA 94103.

Logos Language Institute, Inc., helps equip Christians to witness and work in foreign languages through a self-training program. Language packets contain everyday phrases, witnessing phrases, Scriptures and a teaching tape. Packets cost $6.95 postpaid. For information, contact Logos Language Institute, Box 111223, Houston, TX 77293.

Nutrition 1985 is the name of a unique program for students at Whitworth College in Spokane, Washington. Besides providing students nutritious meals, it increases their awareness of world hunger issues through education on the economic, political, ecological and nutritional aspects of foods. Guest speakers discuss such topics as U.S. food policy or the psychology of overconsumption. For a 20-page brochure on the program, send 50¢ to Nutrition 1985, Whitworth College, Spokane, WA 99251.

Samuel Zwemer Institute offers help to those interested in sharing Christ with Muslims through Muslim awareness seminars, field evangelism ministries and training programs. Their "Summer '83" program, "Orientation to Muslim Ministries," will be held July 25-Sept. 2. For more information write Samuel Zwemer Institute, P.O. Box 365, Altadena, CA 91001.

Charles Colson and four other articulate thinkers provide timely essays in an Eerdmans book called Crime and the Responsible Community, edited by John Stott and Nicholas Miller. Christians seeking to minister to offenders or to work for prison reform will find study of this book beneficial.

AIT, Campus Crusade for Christ's Agape International Training program, helps prepare trainees to make life-style adjustments and develop effective ministries in cross-cultural settings. For 13 weeks, candidates live and work in south-central Los Angeles and serve as adjunct staff for pastors of participating churches. A week in Mexico further promotes language-learning skills. More information is available from Campus Crusade for Christ International, Arrowhead Springs, San Bernardino, CA 92414.

"Year of the Bible" materials are now being prepared by numerous religious organizations to foster Bible reading in the last half of this year, and to motivate millions of Americans to read the Bible through.

Sunday school in prison is a unique program run by Prison Fellowship volunteers, inmates and families. PF alumni and ex-offenders at Florida's Eglin Federal Prison Camp. On Sundays, when the prison visiting room is packed with inmates and their families, PF volunteers hold Sunday school for a group of 20-30 children. This enables the adults to attend chapel services together or to spend time alone. Organized by an ex-offender from Eglin, the classes provide the children the opportunity to learn Bible stories, sing and work at crafts.

Christlike servanthood is the underlying theme of a provocative book by Cheryl Forbes, being published this month by Zondervan. The Religion of Power will appear in Christian bookstores.
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 Dr., Monrovia, CA 91016.

QUESTIONS PEOPLE ASK

What's the difference between relief and development?

Relief provides an immediate response to urgent needs such as food, clothing, medicine and shelter. It's brought on by such natural disasters as floods, droughts, hurricanes, earthquakes or human-caused catastrophes such as persecution or war.

Development is a response to long-term, basic needs. It attempts to provide new ways of solving problems by providing techniques, equipment, training or guidance to combat malnutrition, illiteracy, underemployment, overpopulation and public health problems. World Vision's development efforts focus on community and "grass-roots" levels, always seeking to help people help themselves.

How does World Vision try to achieve a balance between emergency relief and longer-term development programs?

A life-and-death decision that farmers in some African (and other) countries must make is: "Do we eat our seed now (because we have no other food), or do we plant the seed so we can eat more later?" If they eat their seed now, they will die by harvest time; if they plant their seed now, how will they ever make it to harvest time?

So the solution does not lie at either extreme. To focus on only one of the possibilities would spell disaster.

A similar situation exists with the hungry, malnourished children of the world. If children are not given an adequate diet in their early years, chances are that many will be doomed forever to a future of mental retardation. If, however, their brains have the opportunity to develop fully, they will become able to care for themselves. They will, however, need guidance and support for some months or years in order to be able to learn, to work, to function.

World Vision wants the farmer to be able to eat both today and tomorrow. Likewise, we want each child to receive proper nutrition at birth and as he or she grows toward adulthood. Therefore we seek to meet emergency needs and to help people help themselves permanently, everywhere we can.

Friends of mine with impressive vocational experience sometimes tell me they think God may be calling them to use their expertise as part of a distinctly Christian humanitarian ministry to needy people overseas. What sorts of openings might World Vision now have for specially qualified Christians?

Several really challenging ones, each of which can make a real difference in saving lives and spreading the Good News. A current opening, for example, is:

Latin America Regional Associate Director of Communications—To plan and implement an entire communications effort in Latin America. Responsibilities include training of communications personnel throughout Latin America who provide public relations support for our regional office in Costa Rica and for our fundraising offices. The candidate must be a committed and mature Christian, skilled as a communicator, with a minimum of five years experience in print, film, photography and communications marketing. The individual must also have experience living and working in Latin America and be completely bilingual in Spanish and English.

For information on this and other overseas positions, send resume to Gary Lausch, Overseas Personnel, 919 W. Huntington Dr., Monrovia, CA 91016.
Filipino farmer Prudencio Caquing and his family pounding and winnowing rice.

Lighthouse in the Philippines

Filipino farmer Prudencio Caquing and his family now live with confidence and hope, knowing there will be enough food to eat each day. With World Vision's help, Prudencio was able to increase his crop yield with the scientific farming methods he learned in a farmers' literacy class, where he also learned the basics of arithmetic, reading and writing. The family also learned about God's redeeming love through the project, and they joyfully describe World Vision as "a lighthouse guiding us to the true meaning of life."

Community benefits

Not just sponsored children but the entire village of Mentonye in Indonesia will receive long-term benefits from World Vision's involvement there. Through a new WV project, some 250 families will be aided through agricultural improvement, animal raising, fish ponds and the development of home industries and a village cooperative. Special literacy training in the Indonesian language is also in the works. Sunday school services, Bible courses, Bible camps and the development of a community Christian library with cassettes and films will provide people the opportunity to hear and respond to the gospel.

Rebuilding after the flood

Working in partnership with the Delhi-based Discipleship Center, World Vision is continuing its work with flood victims in ten villages of Uttar Pradesh, India. While still assisting more than 1300 families with needed relief supplies, the project has broadened to help meet rehabilitation needs as people begin restoring their land to produce harvestable crops. World Vision is also providing 300 families with low-cost permanent housing.

A changed community

The rural citizens of Jalapa, Guatemala, are taking responsibility for some needed changes in their community. With the help of World Vision (working with the Central American Mission Church), entire families are participating in programs of Christian education, as well as in health and nutrition training. Courses in carpentry, cooking, human relationships and community development are also offered as part of the adult curriculum. A special nutritional recuperation program for undernourished children is helping ensure that future community leaders will have the chance to grow up healthy.

Young war victim

Fadi, an innocent victim of the war in Lebanon, lost one eye and received severe damage to the other when a playmate unknowingly tossed an unexploded grenade into a group of young boys. Fadi and another boy were wounded; one child was killed.

Fadi was flown to Montreal, Canada, where a series of operations restored partial sight to the damaged eye. World Vision of Canada helped pay his medical bills, and WV staff there befriended him during his hospital stay. Throughout the ordeal Fadi maintained a positive spirit and a love for singing, which he now enjoys as he accompanies himself on a new guitar donated by some caring Canadians.

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Willy Njiru works as a masonry foreman in his hometown of Thika, Kenya, thanks in large part to his education at the Thika Industrial Training Center. Sponsored by World Vision, in partnership with the Thika Anglican Church, the center provides training for students who otherwise would be unable to afford schooling. Courses include carpentry, masonry, plumbing, welding, hygiene and farming. Evangelism, through Bible studies and morning devotions, is also a part of the program.

Pastors’ conferences
Dr. Samuel Kamaleson and special teams will conduct two conferences in July: one in Kashmir (at the north of India and Pakistan) for approximately 150 pastors; the other in Recife, Brazil, with an anticipated attendance of 200 pastors. These will be the 147th and 148th such conferences sponsored by World Vision in diverse parts of the world.

Schools no longer without books
Working with both the Church of Uganda and the Roman Catholic Church in Uganda, World Vision has assisted in the reprinting of 50,000 copies of a book approved for use in the school system. Other Christian education materials are also being printed for use in Protestant and Catholic primary schools throughout Uganda. The education system had been virtually without any books for many of its students.

Honduran women in leadership
World Vision is helping train rural women in Honduras to help their communities through involvement in small industries. Technical, administrative and organizational training is provided through area seminars, and spiritual training and retreats offer women the opportunity for Christian nurture. The resulting economic, social, cultural and spiritual benefits have motivated these women to become active participants in all levels of community development.

Private voluntary organizations
World Vision is one of seven private voluntary organizations chosen for special mention in a new volume, Private Foreign Aid, which analyzes the whole range of American approaches to relief and development among needy peoples throughout the world. The book (which sells for $12.45) is published by Westview Press, Boulder, Colorado.

Please pray for . . .
- Ghanaians returnees and all who are helping them find lodging and livelihood.
- Famine-stricken Ethiopians and the relief workers aiding them in Christ's name.
- African Christian leaders in positions of opportunity to provide far-reaching assistance to the needy.
- Construction workers bringing the touch of Christ as they help rebuild homes and lives in shattered Lebanon villages.
- Yourself and your church as you serve the risen Christ by making His love known to others.
- Readers weighing the message of the booklet “Becoming a Christian” which they have requested from this magazine.

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Honor a loved one with a gift of life.
One of the finest ways 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 life and hope through your thoughtfulness.
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World Vision
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August 4-27, 1983
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George Hahn, Tour Director
World Vision
Box O, Pasadena, CA 91109

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China's new constitution, recently passed by the National People's Congress, will extend more rights to individual citizens. The new constitution offers freedom of religious beliefs, speech, press, assembly, association and demonstration. Other freedoms include the right to "criticize and make suggestions to any state organ or functionary," but advises citizens that their new rights "may not infringe upon the interests of the state, of society and the collective."

One of India's leading nutritionists has warned that nearly 87 percent of children born this year in that country will suffer physical and mental defects due to malnutrition. Dr. Coluther Gopalan, director of the Nutrition Foundation of India, says that deterioration of the physical and mental capacity in a vast number of the Indian population is undermining human potential and threatening future generations. Dr. Gopalan says of the 25 million babies born this year, three million will die in their first year and another one million will die before they complete childhood.

In Lima, Peru, the number of new cases of tuberculosis has risen 69 percent since 1979. In the nation as a whole (population 18 million), 4,000 new cases were reported in 1980 alone, marking one of the highest TB rates in the western hemisphere. More than 20 percent of the people who contract the disease in Peru die of it. With less than one-tenth the amount of the U.S. population, Peru counts 50 percent more TB deaths per year than the U.S. Poor diets, inadequate sanitation and high medicine costs are factors.

The bishops of Chile have released a joint statement calling on the military authorities to return the nation to civilian rule and to respect the human rights of the people. The statement says the economic crisis in Chile results in deep social problems that increase violence and fear.

In Russia, according to the Slavic Gospel Association's Sparks, the number of churches permitted to function legally is restricted to about 8,000 Orthodox and 5,000 Protestant churches for the population of 266 million. Currently, says the report, at least 350 Christians are in prison for illegally conducting Sunday school, printing Christian literature, or organizing other Christian activities. Christian education of children under 18 is forbidden.

Ugandan refugees fleeing political persecution in their homeland are migrating to the Sudan desert at the rate of 100-200 a day. United Nations spokespeople estimate 150,000 Ugandans already live in refugee camps in southern Sudan, and 50,000 more are expected to settle in the area.

In the province of Assam, India, 1,300 Bengali Muslims were slaughtered recently by Hindus in that area who became enraged when the Muslim immigrants voted in state and national elections. Controversy raged over the Muslim immigrants, who have been entering the province since 1947, taking jobs and resources from native Hindus.

Latin America experienced in 1982 that region's worst economic crisis since World War II. Median inflation rate for the 19 Latin American countries was 80 percent, according to Times of the Americas. Most severely affected were Argentina and Bolivia, each at 200 percent.

In Northern Ireland, peace programs are being taught to children. Subjects include "People of Peace," a study of peace advocates like Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.; a discussion of the media's reporting of violence in Ireland, and a comparison of cultural and religious differences. Sponsored by the Irish Council of Churches and the Irish Commission for Justice and Peace, the classes will be given to children 8-12 years old.

Infant mortality is on the rise in the United States, and the Food Research and Action Council (FRAC) blames the rise on "deteriorating economic conditions and lack of adequate nutrition and health services" in areas hardest hit by the recession. In 1981, infant mortality rose from 15.6 (per 1000 infants) to 27.5 in Graham County, AZ, and from 17.5 to 24.0 in Saginaw, MI. Other states with increases include Alabama, Alaska, Kansas, Missouri, Nevada, West Virginia and Wisconsin.

Eye-opening facts about television worldwide fill much of the New Internationalist magazine's January 1983 issue. Through both serious articles and humorous cartoons, the magazine shows how not only TV programming but the TV industry itself is impacting the people of the most-developed and the least-developed nations.

"No cause justifies nuclear war," declared an international group of religious leaders and scientists in a statement issued in Vienna. The group included Protestants, Catholics, Muslims, Orthodox and Copts from seven countries, and scientists from the U.S. and the Soviet Union. The statement condemned the idea of a "winnable" nuclear war and called for reduction and eventual elimination of nuclear weapons.

National Day of Prayer (an annual observance in the United States since a 1952 Congressional action) will occur on May 5 this year. President Reagan, calling for every citizen of the nation to gather in homes and places of worship on that day, has asked them to pray "each after his or her own manner, for unity of the hearts of all mankind." Participants will pray for five minutes at noon and, in some instances, engage in other Day of Prayer activities.
Part of my World Vision presidential responsibility in 1983 is to visit our three regional offices—in Africa, Asia and Latin America. As reported elsewhere in this magazine, I have now made the first of these visits—to our strong and effective Africa regional office in Nairobi, Kenya, East Africa. On that trip I also visited some of our ministry programs in needy Ethiopia and Tanzania.

Regional Director Gen. Joshua Hamidu accompanied Mrs. Engstrom and me on those visits, as did Jacob Akol, the Sudanese who is our Africa regional communications director (and author of the article on pages 6-9 of this issue). It occurs to me that the following additional observations by Jacob might interest you.

"World Vision is multinational and multiracial. James Mageria, the Kenyan member and vice-chairman of World Vision International's board of directors, said of his position on the board: 'I feel a partnership which I never knew existed between the 'haves' and the 'have nots.' This was apparent when I was selected as moderator to the WVI Council.' It is quite clear that World Vision does not use its Third World members as exhibits.

"The 'symbolic' African, who gives respectability to a well-meaning yet basically racially-constituted white organization, is clearly not a feature in World Vision. It is a true partnership. World Vision of Kenya, for example, is run entirely by Kenyans who are responsible for the planning and spending of between $4 million and $5 million annually raised by partners in America, Canada, Europe, Australia and New Zealand.

"An interviewer in Trans World Radio studios in Nairobi wondered whether a church in a Third World situation would not fear World Vision, both financially and in terms of personnel, coming in to help a church situation that is basically floundering, and that would be crushed in such a situation.

"In response, Dr. Engstrom indicated he felt World Vision should be described as 'large' rather than 'powerful.' 'We don't look at ourselves in any sense in those terms, nor do I think that the national churches feel that way. We don't try to exert any power or particular influence on the church itself. We want to be supportive of the church.'

"While that is true, its recognition did not come overnight to churches in Africa. His grace, Archbishop Manasses Kuria of Kenya, had first come to know World Vision in Nakuru Diocese in the Rift Valley some years back. There, World Vision worked in partnership with the local churches. 'I know,' the Bishop stated, 'that the churches have benefited from assistance given through them by the ministry of World Vision to the people who are in need. This is greatly appreciated. People are happy for what God is doing through World Vision.'"

Please pray with us for our beautiful colleagues working under great stress and strain in parts of East Africa that God may continue to give them special grace, courage and strength in their strong witness for Christ. They are much aware of the warm support they receive from you who pray and give. God bless you for it.

Ted W. Engstrom
President
THE DAY THAT
CHILDHOOD
DIED

For Amilia, it happened suddenly one afternoon...

There was pounding on the door of their little mud-walled home. Soldiers burst in, grabbed her terrified mother and father, and dragged them outside.

Shots exploded in the afternoon air. Minutes later, Amilia found her father shot to death in the road of her little El Salvadoran village. She never found her mother.

For Amilia, childhood also died that day.

At 12 years of age, Amilia has all the responsibilities of a parent. She’s up at five every morning, grinding corn, cooking for her two brothers and her sister, and getting them ready for school. Then Amilia works at a job nine and a half hours a day, six days a week, so she can buy a meager amount of food for her little family.

Who cares?

World Vision cares...because God cares!

And we’ve never stopped caring. Today we’re working together with people just like you to share God’s love with as many people as possible. That’s why, for more than 30 years, World Vision’s Childcare Sponsors have been making a big difference for children like Amilia—186,218 of them this year alone.

Childcare Sponsors give $18 a month to help provide things like food, clothing, shelter, medical care, and educational opportunities for children like Amilia—and help them learn about God and the love-gift of His Son, Jesus Christ.

Share the Childcare experience.

With your gift of $18 a month, you can become a World Vision Childcare Sponsor. We’ll send you a photograph and a brief history of your child. You’ll experience the joy of those special times when letters and pictures are exchanged, and the magic moments when the hopes and dreams of a child of need become part of your life.

A child is waiting—waiting for someone like you to care.

Mail this coupon today.

YES...

I want to keep the joy of childhood alive by helping World Vision bring health, hope and happiness to one little child of need.

☐ I want to sponsor:

☐ a boy ☐ a girl

☐ Enclosed is my first monthly Childcare gift of $18.

☐ I cannot sponsor a child at this time, but have enclosed a special gift of $___________ to help the world’s needy children.

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