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Eye talk

If you've ever seen famine victims in person, you know how much their eyes tell you. A starving mother may be unable to speak in your language; she may be too weak to gesture; yet her eyes tell you something you cannot ignore. Especially if her lap holds a malnourished child.

Eyes spoke to Jesus, too, when He was on earth. Visualize the widow in the city of Nain. Her only son had died when Jesus came upon her in the crowd. "When the Lord saw her," says Luke 7:13, "His heart went out to her." And reading her eyes' silent message, He stopped her tears with unforgettable help.

Not only did He act. He taught His followers to do the same. In His parable of the robbed and beaten traveler (Luke 10:30-37) He tells about three other travelers. Of each He says, "When he saw him ..." Two saw and simply passed by on the other side. Of the one who made himself a neighbor, Jesus says, "When he saw him . . . went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring in oil and wine." No longer a stranger, the new friend from Samaria even paid an innkeeper to provide the poor man's sustenance until he could again provide for himself.

Today, through television and such magazines as this one, you and I look into Ethiopian eyes whose gaze expresses as much agony as those of Nain's poor widow or the Jericho road's beaten robbery victim. So numerous are the starving and now homeless ones in Gondar and in Welo, that rescue can only come from numbers of Christ's people in such places as your home and mine. Thank God the distance still does not prevent our "going" to them with the oil and wine. No longer a stranger, the new friend from Samaria even paid an innkeeper to provide the poor man's sustenance until he could again provide for himself.

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Ethiopia's famine: from worse to catastrophic

On April 11, World Vision President Ted Engstrom received the following urgent message from World Vision field director in Ethiopia, Ato Tesfatsion Dalellew:

The drought disaster in the Welo and Gondar administrative regions has escalated drastically in recent weeks. The exodus from rural areas to towns and distribution centers has more than doubled in the last month. For example, more than 200,000 of the 300,000 people in the Wag district of Welo have fled their homes. Some 45,000 of these are being accommodated in overcrowded shelters in the town of Korem, about 620 kilometers north of Addis Ababa. About three thousand more have to camp in the open with no blankets to protect them from cold nights. Pneumonia is rampant among the children and the aged.

Shelters originally built for 100 people now hold from 300 to 450
An old man waits outside the clinic at Zui Hamusit. (below) At Ebinat, thousands wait for food at a government distribution center.

More alarming still is the ever-increasing death rate among the drought victims in Korem: from eight deaths in December to 23 in January; 52 in February; 58 in March, and now, 47 in the first week of April alone. Although the dramatic increase in deaths could be partially explained by the sudden influx of drought victims, nearly 50 deaths in one week is causing a great deal of concern.

World Vision was among the first agencies to respond to Ethiopia’s drought victims and has already assisted 500,000 victims in Gondar and adjacent regions. Without the generous contributions from the donors, World Vision could not have helped the drought victims in Zui Hamusit where overland transportation is almost impossible. The Twin Otter airplane, averaging nine flights a day from the Gondar airport, enabled 40,000 victims living in the rugged, dry landscape of Gondar to receive food and medical supplies. Another 95,000 are being supplied by road.

The problems in Zui Hamusit, however, have been increased by
the recent exodus from Gondar and Welo. When I visited Zui Hamusit recently, more than 2200 drought victims had just come from Welo. Some had walked more than 300 kilometers to reach the distribution center. This new group has stretched our limited food resources, and has also put a real strain on the water supply. Three of the five wells hand dug in February have dried up. The “wet wells” do not have sufficient water for the thousand pots lined up each day, which are to be filled once every 36 to 48 hours.

I am appealing to you and our partners for immediate assistance. We need vehicles to transport available supplies to Korem. Food, blankets and medicine, especially antibiotics, are also urgently needed. The outlook for both Welo and Gondar is grim. Rains were expected in January, but as in the previous two years, they didn’t come. Even if normal rains return by January of next year, it would be at least two to three years before aid to those regions could be discontinued.

Ethiopia’s Relief and Rehabilitation Commissioner issued a plea that reflected the urgency of Ato Tesfatsion’s message: “The situation here has quickly gone from bad to worse, especially in the central and northern administrative regions of Welo, Tigray, Gondar and Eritrea. Unless desperately needed assistance is provided soon, up to two million people could starve.”

As Ato Tesfatsion reported of the

More than three million Ethiopians have been affected by the drought.
situation in Korem, located in the Welo administrative region. “The death toll is increasing every day.” Situated just east of Gondar (where World Vision has focused much of its relief efforts to date), the area is incurring a dramatic influx of thousands of people who have left their homes in remote regions of the countryside in search of food and water in the more populated areas. However, even at Korem relief supplies are stretched dangerously thin. And, weakened by inadequate nutrition and exposure to the cold night air, the people are especially susceptible to disease. It’s gone from worse to catastrophic. The most common ailments are upper respiratory infections, measles, dysentery, pneumonia and malnutrition.

To try to meet the growing needs in Ethiopia, World Vision’s famine relief emphasis has been expanded. The Twin Otter airplane, which had been shuttling relief food and supplies primarily from the Gondar airport to the remote village of Zui Hamusit, has relocated its base of operation to nearby Debre Tabor. From its new vantage point, previously unreached areas are now receiving assistance. And members of World Vision’s medical team, presently based in Zui Hamusit, are now traveling extensively throughout remote areas, providing emergency medical attention and nutritional supplements to those in need.

Both Ato Tesfatsion and Relief/Rehabilitation Director Tony Atkins have predicted that the need for assistance will continue for months—even years—to come. “The most optimistic forecast is that food grown locally might appear sometime around October,” said Dr. Atkins. “Relief assistance will be needed until then, at least, and most likely will continue in the next year.”

Weakened by exposure and inadequate nutrition, the people are highly susceptible to disease.

(above) With a new base of operation, the Twin Otter is able to bring assistance to areas previously unreachable. (right) In Zui Hamusit, muddy water seeps into this shallow well in a rocky riverbed. One small cup at a time is passed up to fill empty water jars.
According to the Ethiopian government, about 3 million people have been affected by the drought. Some have speculated that this crisis may be as disastrous as the great Sahel crisis of the early 1970s. It is estimated by the Ethiopian government that some 300,000 metric tons of emergency food supplies will be needed to avert mass starvation within the next few months.

While World Vision’s relief program in Ethiopia has thus far provided some 500,000 suffering people with quantities of food and basic medical attention, critical needs remain.

Upon returning recently from Ethiopia, Dr. Atkins commented, "In this area (of Ethiopia), most people with whom we work know of Jesus Christ. Almost every woman wears a cross around her neck.

"During these last few months," Atkins continued, "as I've been involved with the relief program there, it's often struck me that I am in the presence of the cross. That puts a peculiar responsibility on those of us in this country who are Christians. We have the means to meet the needs of these who are so devastatingly affected by this situation. It's a tremendous responsibility—and a tremendous opportunity."

Reader: So crucial is the situation that your immediate help can literally spell the difference between life and death for innocent victims of the extreme famine in Ethiopia. To speed assistance for this emergency, please use the return envelope from the center of this magazine today. Thank you!
Earthquake devastates Colombian capital

Popayan, Colombia, is considered the heart of Roman Catholicism in the small, South American country known worldwide primarily for its coffee. During Holy Week, its normal population of 160,000—with 100,000 in outlying areas—swelled to 500,000 as Easter pilgrims visited the popular city.

Many of the visitors, along with local residents, were attending mass in the city Thursday morning, March 31, when at 8:13 an earthquake gripped the city and shook it for a full 18 seconds. The collapsing of heavy tiled roofs (common in architecture throughout South America—including churches) contributed to much of the death and destruction.

The estimated death toll from the earthquake, which measured 5.5 on the Richter scale, could reach 500, with 2000 injured. An estimated 25,000 to 30,000 persons are homeless, but the total could climb as high as 80,000.

Thousands of the homeless are now living in the streets, with partly shelters of cardboard, plastic or salvaged pieces of roofing. Some of the fortunate ones have received
The fractured facade of one of Popayan’s numerous Roman Catholic churches. Many quake victims were attending Maundy Thursday services when heavy tile roofs collapsed. (left) Make-shift shelters dot every open space in Popayan. It is estimated that two-thirds of the city’s buildings have been damaged beyond repair.

(below) Marcellino Hernandez is still numb from the shock of losing two children when his house collapsed. He and his 2½-year-old daughter Sarah look at the place where Sarah’s sister Enia was crushed to death beneath the falling rubble.

Despite a relatively small Protestant population (about 300 members in the city’s seven Protestant churches), the Protestant relief committee, formed immediately after the earthquake struck, has had high visibility with citizens because of its prompt formation and action.

Thousands of the homeless are living in the streets.

World Vision Colombia Field Director José Chuquín and Operations Coordinator Samuel Albarracin were instrumental in organizing the committee.

World Vision has approved a $100,000 aid project for earthquake victims in Popayan. The project will assist 515 families (or some 5000 persons) with food and temporary housing. Each family assisted by World Vision will receive enough food for three weeks. The food package, valued at $40, will include corn, rice, vegetable oil, coffee, sugar, salt and soap. The housing
"These people have dignity and pride and a deep belief in God."

package, valued at $135, will include tin roofing, nails and wire, which will supplement wood and bricks the families are able to retrieve from the rubble of their former homes. World Vision Colombia staff member José Ariso is acting as project manager, working with and under the Protestant Relief Committee.

"The real disaster is just now starting," Willcuts commented upon his return from Colombia. "People who would normally return to businesses and schools have nothing to go back to. The reality of it is setting in. A major bakery in Popayan was completely destroyed. People still have mortgages (at interest rates from 30 to 50 percent annually) on houses and businesses which no longer exist.

"And yet," Willcuts added, "while they are aware that they need help, these people have dignity and pride. They are very concerned about helping their community, as well as meeting their own needs. They are well organized and know exactly what they need and will appreciate the help. They have a deep belief in God and His love and care for them."

Abado Hashim (left) and her sister Haize (right) during their hospital stay in Nairobi.

At the Baptist church, a volunteer helps assemble emergency food bundles provided by World Vision.

Abado and Haize play with friends following their operations.
Healing scars of war

It is an unpleasant fact that war affects the lives of many innocent people—including children. This sad truth can be seen quite clearly in East Africa, where the war between Somalia and Ethiopia (combined with severe drought) has brought suffering to thousands of men, women and children.

Ten-year-old Abado Hashim and her younger sister Haize, 8, were two such innocent victims. One sunny summer day, at the height of the conflict between the two countries, two planes descended upon their village, raining death and destruction.

As the sisters ran in terror, a bomb exploded behind them, leaving both girls badly burned. Due to a lack of medical facilities, and because the family could not afford to send the girls to a hospital, their wounds healed without medical attention. This resulted in contracture—a deformity caused by shortening of the affected areas due to the development of scar tissue.

For Abado, the areas behind both knee joints were contracted, making it difficult for her to extend her legs. She was unable to run or walk fast, and could barely move about by walking on her toes.

The bombing left Haize with limited use of her right arm. And scar tissue formed a bond between her right thumb and index finger.

The injured girls came to the attention of our field staff in Somalia in late 1982. Determined to do something to help, World Vision arranged to have Abado and Haize flown to the Gertrude Garden Children's Hospital in Nairobi, Kenya, where they underwent corrective surgery.

Abado’s operation greatly increased her leg movement, and it is hoped that with regular therapy she will one day walk normally.

Haize’s surgery was complicated by the fact that the skin grafts failed twice before a successful graft was made. Now, however, 50 percent of her damaged arm has been renewed. And, as with Abado, daily therapy will help her recover additional movement.

Thanks to the faithful support of World Vision donors, Abado and Haize were able to receive the medical attention they so desperately needed. It is through such support that World Vision is able to help meet the physical, emotional, social and spiritual needs of others around the world.

Haize's hand in the process of recovery.
MARY ANN MOBLEY SHARES . . .

Impressions of Kampuchea

"In the 16 years that Mary Ann and I have been married, I don't know of any experience that has touched her life more deeply than her trip to Kampuchea," said TV talk show host/actor Gary Collins upon his wife's return from Southeast Asia. Mary Ann had visited Kampuchea late last year with a film crew to participate in the production of World Vision's TV special, "Children Caught in the Crossfire."

"The tragedy of Kampuchea has somehow been kept a secret from most of the world," Mary Ann said. "Most people know little about what is happening there today. But if there was ever a place where the practical expression of God's love can make a difference, it's in that little country."

Although the murderous Khmer Rouge government under the leadership of Pol Pot is no longer in power, the floundering country continues to suffer many needs. Pol Pot annihilated half the country's population (more than three million people), and virtually all of the country's leaders—teachers, doctors, lawyers and others with any education or professional training.

"The most accurate records of the Cambodian holocaust will never be read in history books," Mary Ann commented. "Those records of war and atrocity are kept in the memories of children."

While in Kampuchea, Mary Ann visited the World Vision-built National Pediatric Hospital in Phnom Penh, the only facility of its kind in the country. There she spoke with Dr. Marv Raley, then project director at the hospital.

"The hospital is always crowded," Dr. Raley said. "And the day-to-day dealing with death is exhausting. It takes its toll. But when someone makes a contribution to World Vision, they are saying to these people and to our team that someone cares."

Looking back on her time in Kampuchea, Mary Ann reflected, "There are some times when you feel God has put you in a particular place for His purpose. For me, this visit to Kampuchea was one of those times."
Mary Ann plays with one of the many children now receiving renewed health and hope at the pediatric hospital. The scene was grim during former Prime Minister Pol Pot's regime. Hundreds of thousands who were considered "contaminated" by education were systematically executed.
**World Vision's medical ministry in Phnom Penh**

Ten years ago, World Vision relief teams were providing emergency medical treatment to 26,000 war-ravaged Cambodians each month. But hundreds of children recovering from diseases like malaria and dysentery needed a place to stay near attending physicians. World Vision leaders dreamed of a pediatric hospital with a qualified staff to bring healing to young lives and prepare the way for them to experience God's love.

Thanks to the gifts of thousands of faithful World Vision supporters, construction of a 75-bed facility in Phnom Penh began in 1973. It was completed in 1975.

Just when the hospital’s staff appointees had come as far as Bangkok, Thailand, and were about to cross the border into Cambodia, Phnom Penh fell to the Khmer Rouge and the brand-new hospital was confiscated by Pol Pot. He used the new complex as a torture chamber.

But World Vision staff members continued to believe that the hospital would one day be used for its original purpose. In 1979 their prayers were answered. The Vietnamese drove out Pol Pot and returned the hospital to the World Vision staff and the children at Phnom Penh.

Facts on Kampuchea (Cambodia)

- **Population**: 6.1 million
- **Population growth rate**: 2.8 percent
- **Area**: 69.898 square miles
- **Population density**: 531 persons per square mile in agricultural areas, as compared to an average population density of 116 persons per square mile.
- **Capital**: Phnom Penh
- **Urban population**: 22 percent
- **Ethnic composition**: 85 percent Khmer, with Chinese, Cham-Malays, Thais, hill tribes, Burmese and Vietnamese.
- **Official language**: Khmer
- **Chief commercial products**: dried fish and rubber
- **Economy**: After being devastated by the civil war, the Kampuchean economy is undergoing a massive reorganization in the hands of the new rulers. The nation's economy is functioning despite no banking system or national currency.

Citizens must use rice and other foods or services as a medium of exchange.

- **Religion**: 90 percent of the Khmer practice Theravada Buddhism, while the bulk of the Chinese and others follow beliefs derived from Mahayana Buddhism, Taoism, Confucianism, Islam, ancestor worship and animism.

- **History and government**: Cambodia was once a leading power in Asia. It became a French protectorate in 1863, and fully independent in 1953. After independence, the Cambodian government moved toward a nationalistic system, then Communist. The Khmer Rouge seized power in 1974 under the leadership of Prime Minister Pol Pot. His regime was responsible for the death of some three to four million people. Those who resisted his rule in any way were executed, along with members of the former government or those thought to be educated.

Pol Pot's reign ended in 1979 when the People's Republic of Kampuchea, a Vietnamese-backed government, came into power. The Kampuchean National United Front for National Salvation is the leading political party, and rules as a one-party civilian dictatorship.
God, a nurse and a little girl

Angry, frustrated, confused, I head back up the green-tiled hall to the ward. Ah, there’s the mother! I volunteer a nurse to explain the gravity of the situation to her and plead with her to donate blood.

Expressionlessly chewing her red betel nut, the mother replies that she’s too tired to give blood.

Too tired? Lady, I say to myself, you’re daughter is going to die and you’re too fatigued to save her life? Again the nurse tries to persuade her to give blood. But to no avail.

“Oh Lord,” I pray, “this is your child. Please keep her through the night so that we can get blood.” With tears of confusion and heartbreak brimming in my eyes, I head back to the lab for one more try. An hour later we got blood.

Before leaving the hospital I pecked in and saw blood running through the plastic tube. As I walked out I whispered another prayer.

Next morning, I timidly opened the door to the ward, hoping good news would greet me. It did. As I walked to her bed the little girl’s eyes followed me.

“Oh, Father, thank you, thank you!”

This morning when I walked in she was sitting up. She smiled at me as I came in. “Thank you, Lord! What a precious gift! Touch her. Continue to restore her. And please heal her mother’s heart.”

Suon Bench is alive this morning because God’s Spirit is alive and His healing power is at work here.

How can we possibly give each child the necessary attention? Why did I go into the ward at that particular time? Why did I choose that child out of all the others to look at? Because God directs. His hand pushed me to the right bed at the right time.

I’m sure we often miss, and that is hard to accept; but I know that many are well today because of His grace. His prompting. His love.

“Let Thy work appear to Thy servants, and Thy majesty to their children. And let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us; and do confirm for us the works of our hands; Yes, confirm the works of our hands.” (Psalm 90:16-17).
Four-year-old Lonyenyche doesn't know his father. He doesn't know his mother. And because of the upsets experienced during his young life, he doesn't yet know how to talk. But Lonyenyche does know about love, thanks to some caring Christian people in Katilia, western Kenya.

Lonyenyche's struggle started soon after birth. His unmarried mother apparently abandoned him and fled in search of a new life. The hungry, thirsty infant was discovered by passers by who carried him to the World Vision-assisted relief distribution center at Katilia.

Today Lonyenyche has a new mother: Mariam Amoni, a widow with three children of her own. With assistance from World Vision, Mariam cares for Lonyenyche and four other orphans.

Mariam arrived in Katilia in 1973, hoping to find help from the growing group of Christians there. Soon she became a Christian herself and dedicated her life to serving others in the name of Jesus Christ.

In mid-1981, Mariam agreed to take five orphaned children into her home—Lonyenyche, Lodaan (a girl, 9), Ekomwa (a boy, 9), Lochiperiet (a boy, 8) and Mamtal (a girl, 6).

Mariam's primary responsibility at the Katilia relief project center is the care of these orphans. Occasionally she also does odd jobs at the relief supplies warehouse not far from her home. But Mariam is like a real mother to her foster family, devoting her full attention and love to all eight of her little ones.

As the drought continues in parts of western Kenya, the Katilia relief center continues to grow. In six months the size of the settlement at Katilia has more than doubled. More than 700 families now live near the relief distribution point.

"The rains let us down," says Marko Esokon, assistant chief for the area. Although most of the residents of Katilia planted gardens this year, few could harvest. Rainfall continues to be irregular and scanty. The total harvest at Katilia amounted to only two bags of sorghum—enough to feed six families for three months.

The area's Africa Inland Church pastor, the Rev. Paulo, explains: "Until these people get water and do irrigation like their neighbors at Morulem, they will still need relief food." Full self-support in food is only a remote dream for the people of Katilia.

But the dream is a vivid one, and project leaders are planning for community development activities at Katilia.

Meanwhile, consistent supplies of nutritious relief food plus the numerous personal expressions of Christian love—like Mariam's love for her family of eight—are making all the difference at Katilia. There, in the midst of suffering and hardship, health is being restored and lives changed.

Full self-support is a remote dream for the people of Katilia, but it's a vivid one.
I'm intrigued by what I hear from friends who've attended "Managing Your Time" seminars led by Dr. Engstrom and Mr. Dayton. Will there be any more "MKT's"? If so, what will they be like?

The only one President Engstrom and Mr. Dayton will conduct in the U.S. in 1983 is scheduled for September 22 and 23 in San Diego. As your friends may have told you, it's worth the time and cost even if you must travel quite a distance. In the rather full but lively two-day experience you focus on goals, priorities and planning—

1. You take stock. (At the beginning of each day you analyze how you feel about the way you spend your personal and organizational time.)

2. You match goals against actuality. (You learn the difference between clear goals and "fuzzies." You learn how to write goals that overcome problems you've discovered in your personal inventory.)

3. You learn how to set priorities. (Most of us suffer from too many goals. We need a way to highlight the most important ones.)

4. You discover how to turn goals into reality. (You gain skills in both personal and corporate planning.)

5. You see that managing your time is really managing your life (with practical how-to techniques to make you more effective as a person and as a Christian leader).

6. You build personal relationships with fellow Christian leaders. (You share your vision and your frustrations with them, and they with you.)

The seminar fee is $125 per person, not including lodging or meals except lunches. For more information, write very early to Norval Hadley, World Vision, 919 W. Huntington Dr., Monrovia, CA 91016.

How many missionaries are there in the world?

There are approximately 53,000 Protestant missionaries from North America (U.S. and Canada), and about 27,500 from other nations, making a total of 80,500 Protestant Christian workers around the world.

Roman Catholic missionaries, including priests, nuns, brothers and lay missionaries number about 7000 from the U.S. and 5000 from Canada, with a world total of about 138,000 Roman Catholic missionary workers from all countries.

The total from the other Christian or quasi-Christian traditions is unknown, but probably does not exceed 10,000.

Does World Vision send missionaries overseas?

World Vision is not a missionary-sending organization. It works as a service agency of the church to help existing churches and missions. Many overseas programs are done in conjunction with national churches, denominational missions and independent agencies whose leaders are familiar with the customs and needs of their people. World Vision assigns staff members to work overseas, however, when providing assistance to leaders and workers, or completing other assignments.

How long does World Vision remain involved in a typical development project?

It depends upon the location and the needs of an individual community. World Vision's commitment to development projects such as well digging may last one to four years. Holistic development programs, like community development in rural areas, featuring child sponsorship, are planned for five- to seven-year periods.

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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).

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 the Lord Christ, we'll be glad to send you, without charge, a helpful booklet called Becoming a Christian. Write Editor David Olson, WORLD VISION magazine, 919 W. Huntington Dr., Monrovia, CA 91016.
Soul Liberation Festival, an eight-day outdoor witness to their urban community, is part of a multifaceted ministry of Minneapolis' Park Avenue Methodist Church. As in the last nine summers, the festival will draw several thousand blacks, whites and others to the church's specially arranged parking lot for nightly music and gospel messages. The church (at 3400 Park Avenue, Minneapolis, MN 55407) also conducts year-round and seasonal outreachs ranging from backyard Bible clubs to clothing exchanges.

M-2 volunteer sponsors offer friendship and practical help to prisoners through the M-2 (Match-2) prisoner visitation program. Sponsors meet with their matches on a one-to-one basis at least once each month, and accompany their inmate friends on their first day of release. If interested in becoming a volunteer, contact M-2 Sponsors, Inc., 1276 A St., Hayward, CA 94541.

Help for the hearing impaired is available from the Sign Language Store. Almost every kind of sign language material imaginable can be found there, including books, posters, flashcards, films and tapes. For more information contact the Sign Language Store, P.O. Box 4440, Northridge, CA 91328.

Shoebox Libraries, a project co-sponsored by the David C. Cook Foundation and Feed the Minds, is an effective tool for evangelism in many countries around the world. Each "library" is contained in a small cardboard box and includes a Bible, New Testament and several Christian books. "Librarians" (people who want to reach the unsaved) provide prayer and spiritual counseling for the borrowers. For more information write the David C. Cook Foundation, Cook Square, Elgin, IL 60120.

Domestic hunger is the subject of a new Mennonite Central Committee educational packet entitled "Resource Materials: Domestic Hunger." It is designed to help churches, groups and individuals develop programs to combat hunger. Included are Scriptures on helping the needy, facts about the relationship between military expenditures and domestic programs, and creative ways to respond to the poor, hungry and homeless. For a copy, send $2 to MCC, Development Education Office, 21 South 12th St., Akron, PA 17501.

Evangelicals for Social Action (ESA) will be among the sponsors of this year's World Food Day (October 16). ESA will distribute educational materials designed not only to promote the event, but also to increase understanding of the world food situation and to stimulate practical efforts to combat causes of hunger in developing countries. For information write ESA, 25 Commerce SW, Grand Rapids, MI 49503.

Vocational assistance is available from Intercristo, a Christian placement service. Intercristo matches career opportunities worldwide with those whose abilities meet job qualifications. Some positions are salaried; others require employees to raise their own support. To find out what jobs are available, write Intercristo, P.O. Box 33487, Seattle, WA 98133, or call (800) 426-1342.

Have a garage sale for world missions with the help of "Acts 2:45™ Garage Sale Packet." The packet, designed to help you raise funds for the missions project or organization of your choice, includes a booklet of how-to tips, record keeping forms, price labels, layout suggestions and garage sale signs. It is available for $7.75 from Missions Concern, 1929 Elmwood Ave., Columbus, OH 43212.

To honor 1983 as the "Year of the Bible," the American Bible Society (ABS) is offering a special edition of the Good News Bible at $2 a copy, and Good News New Testaments at 65c each. ABS is also featuring its Bibles and New Testaments in large print, Braille, records and cassettes.

The Japanese Evangelical Missionary Society (JEMS) ministers to the needs of Japanese people living in North America, Japan and Latin America. These ministries include short- and long-term mission programs, a college campus outreach, Bible studies, conferences and retreats, a Christian businessmen's fellowship and a musical outreach. For more information write JEMS Ministries, 112 N. San Pedro St., Los Angeles, CA 90012.

MCS (Mennonite Conciliation Service) trains people to teach skills in conflict solving within the home, church and community. Participants in their mediation training seminars learn about the mediation process while developing skills in listening and arbitration. For more information contact MCS, 21 S. 12th St., Akron, PA 17501.

Ethnic America is the focus of an evangelism con­vocation being planned for April 1985. Proposed by the North America Committee of the Lausanne Committee on World Evangelization, the event is intended to provide 500 to 700 participants from across the nation with an opportunity to learn from each other.

"Psychological Resources for Frontier Missions," a conference co-sponsored by the OUR Association and the U.S. Center for World Mission, will take place at Biola University, June 13-16. For information write OUR, 1605 E. Elizabeth, Pasadena, CA 91104.

The Good Newspaper, a biweekly tabloid, gives subscribers news, editorials and sections on living, family, sports and entertainment from a Christian perspective. Subscriptions are $8 per year from Box 219214, Houston, TX 77218.
Among the many people who hunger for spiritual certainty are some of the readers of this magazine. So every issue of WORLD VISION includes a gospel “mini message” (page 17 this time) which highlights a Scripture truth about the way of salvation through Christ. It encourages them to seek further light in God’s Word and to request a free copy of the booklet “Becoming a Christian.”

Hundreds of the readers of these “mini messages” have written to request a copy of the booklet. Here are samples of their letters.

A man in New York:
I am not a Christian, though I have always been interested in religion and philosophy. Recently I have been noticing how meaningless and futile my life is. I want to know more about the way of salvation through Christ, yet I tend to stumble and fall. If your booklet would help me stand firmer in my faith, I would be very thankful. And I will pray for you. This is surely a time for us to pray for each other.

A woman in California:
I received your booklet “Becoming a Christian” and enjoyed it very much. Will you send one for a friend of mine?

A man in North Carolina:
I feel so far away from God. I want to be a Christian. Can you help?

A woman in Ohio:
I noticed and read the article, “Do You Know the Savior?” Please send me a copy of “Becoming a Christian.” I need a deeper understanding of my inner self.

A man in Oregon:
I have tried everything and still can find no peace with my soul. I would appreciate having the booklet “Becoming a Christian.”

A woman in California:
Several days ago I received a phone call informing me my mother had attempted suicide as a result of my stepfather’s leaving her and her receiving bad news at the same time about two of her sons. I shared Jesus with her as I have before, but I know she has questions I can’t answer. I feel it would be very helpful to have the booklet “Becoming a Christian.”

A man in North Carolina:
I'd like to give copies of “Becoming a Christian” to close friends of mine who are starting to know our Lord Jesus Christ on a personal basis.

A soldier in Germany:
I received your booklet “Becoming a Christian” and read it often. Thank you. This is surely a time for us to pray for each other.

A woman in Connecticut:
My boyfriend is a nonbeliever and I hope the booklet will help him to believe in God and Jesus Christ, as I have always and always will.

A nonagenarian in Wisconsin:
I am past 90 years of age, and need to resist Satan every day. I asked you for the booklet “Becoming a Christian” and I read it often. Thank you again. Pray for me that I may remember the Truth, and that Satan has no power over me.

A man in the Bronx:
I am a church member but not a born-again Christian. I need to know Jesus as my personal Savior. Please pray for me.

A woman in California:
Several days ago I received a phone call informing me my mother had my relationship with God. Please send me the booklet “Becoming a Christian” and please pray for me.

Another California woman:
I'm 60 years old. I certainly need some help of this kind.

A man in Texas:
I noticed and read the article, “Do You Know the Savior?” Please send me a copy of “Becoming a Christian.” I really would like to know more about the new life. I want to make Christ the center of my life and dedicate myself to Him.

A man in North Carolina:
I want to be a Christian. Please pray for me that I may remember the Truth, and that Satan has no power over me.

A woman in California:
I am a struggling Christian, doubting and uncertain about the sincerity of
Taniok Tubuni feeds his cross-breed pig while his wife Absina works in the garden.

A bright future
The future looks bright for Taniok and Absina Tubuni and their son Vunipas. Thanks to World Vision donors' generous support of the work in Indonesia, this husband and wife team can now read after graduating from the WV literacy program. Taniok has also received a cross-breed pig and is enjoying increased income from his resulting new breed of pigs. Vunipas takes part in the nutrition program, and the entire village is learning of Christ's love through a program of evangelism, teaching and seminars.

Good news for women inmates
Women inmates at Krugersdorp, an urban prison in South Africa, are hearing the good news of the gospel through a new World Vision project there. Led by Dorothy Oosthuizen, this evangelistic/discipleship ministry involves the formation of believers' care groups, in-prison Sunday services, Bible studies, private counseling and legal aid assistance. Christian literature is also available for those interested in further study. In addition, inmates can obtain help in contacting churches in their home communities upon release from prison.

No-cost medical care
Indians living in the Amazon basin of Peru are now receiving medical care, thanks to the faithfulness of World Vision donors. Working with the Swiss Indian Mission, World Vision is helping cover the costs of emergency flights to hospital facilities outside the remote region. Dseca Cacoda, a seven-year-old boy, was one who recently benefited from this service. When discovered by a health supervisor, Dseca was severely malnourished and had suffered from a broken leg for 11 days. He was flown to the hospital in Pucallpa for corrective surgery and nutritional care. Without World Vision's help, the boy's family would not have been able to afford any medical help.

Long-term downpour
Heavy rains persisted from February to April in Santa Cruz, Bolivia, causing extensive flooding which resulted in contamination of the water system. World Vision responded by trucking in water and providing rations for some 800 persons affected by the deluge of water. These supplies included milk, noodles, rice, potatoes, sugar, vegetable oil, soap, medicine and clothing. In addition, roofing materials were provided for 25 families whose homes were damaged.

From farmer to community leader
Lucio Ancheta used to be a struggling rice farmer in his village of Camburay in the Philippines. Today, because he has received training in farming technology, his rice harvests have tripled. As a result, this father of four and grandfather of three no longer has to borrow from moneylenders to make ends meet. His increased income also has enabled him to spend all of his children and grandchildren to school. To top it off, Lucio was elected to the village council, and now serves his community with joy. He attributes his new position to the training he received in the World Vision COLT (Community Leadership Training) program.

New board appointments
Two new members have been appointed to the World Vision U.S. board of directors. Colleen Townsend Evans is the author of six books on Christian growth and has an extensive background in leadership. She is an active supporter of the National Presbyterian Church's
hunger committee, serves on several church and college-related boards, and has been a consultant to a House Foreign Affairs subcommittee examining human rights and social justice issues. She and her husband, the Rev. Louis Evans Jr., have three sons and one daughter.

Lowell Williamson is president and board of directors chairperson for Glenex Petroleum Inc., based in Phoenix, Arizona. He also heads a partner development firm called Atlas-Glenex Ltd. Mr. Williamson is active in his church and community, serving as a member of the board of directors of the Phoenix Symphony and as president of the Mountain Shadows East Home Owners Association. He is also the recipient of an honorary Doctor of Law degree from Warner Pacific College, Portland, Oregon. He and his wife Dorothy have two sons.

Renewed health in the Philippines

Bonifacio Andrade and his family are now enjoying physical and spiritual health in their home in the Philippines. After learning of the saving grace of Jesus through World Vision-sponsored home Bible studies, the entire family accepted Christ as Lord. Their older son, Ramis, participates in Christian youth activities and is being assisted in school through the community scholarship program. And the health of the younger children is improving because of the nutritious meals provided by the daycare feeding program.

Baby supplies for Somalia

The Afgohi Girls' Orphanage in Somalia, established by the government and assisted by the Consulata Mission, is home for some 800 young girls—80 of them babies under 18 months old. World Vision is helping supply them with several acutely needed items including medicines, bedding, cooking and plastic wares, a washing machine and diapers.

No connection

World Vision is not in any way related to the "New Age Movement."

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WATER is a valuable commodity for the people in Vyulya Village, Kenya. Because of drought, grazing land is impoverished and farm crops are poor. But through the training center, the villagers are learning ways to harness the water available and make it work for them. This 5000-liter water reservoir was constructed by the center's masonry class using locally available wood, sand and cement.

Please pray for . . .

- the starving children and adults of Ethiopia's Welo and Gonder regions who have fled their homes to seek food.
- those who are ill with pneumonia and other exposure-related diseases, with little or no medical help.
- Ethiopia Field Director
  Ato Tesfatsion as he coordinates a massive effort to save thousands of famine victims from seemingly certain death.
- the Twin Otter flight crew, working long hours every day to deliver food to famine victims unreachable any other way.
- the many believers among the drought victims, that their witness to fellow sufferers may lead many more to faith in Christ.
- rain for the parched land of Ethiopia.
- African and other World Vision personnel now planning rehabilitation assistance to enable displaced Ethiopians to return to their homes and to care for themselves again as soon as possible.
- your personal part, and that of your church, in the efforts to meet Ethiopian brothers' and sisters' emergency needs in the name of Christ.
- Colombian earthquake victims endeavoring to rebuild their homes while still suffering the shock of bereavements and severe injuries.
- Kampuchean girls and boys in the pediatric hospital, the over-worked doctors and nurses, and the hundreds more children needing medical care there.
- Dr. Annette Fortin, who directs World Vision's ministries to thousands of war-ravaged Guatemalans.
- World Vision Honduras Field Director Carlos Hernandez and field workers assisting many food and hurricane victims plus refugees.
- Consultation '83, a broad-based evangelical conference scheduled for June 20 through July 1 in Wheaton, IL, to consider "A Christian Response to Human Need."
Mauritania has become the latest of several African nations to suffer severe drought. Rainfall in 1982 was only 20 percent of the normal amount. Locusts and other predators further damaged the crops. The Mauritanian government has declared the country in a state of disaster and launched an international appeal for food.

Homeless Americans now number over two million. Despite glimmers of an economic recovery, that figure is expected to rise to three million by December. Mary Ellen Hombs, coauthor of *Homeless in America: A Forced March to Nowhere*, testified before a House subcommittee on housing:

"Unemployment and the economy have combined to drive hundreds of thousands of middle-class people into utter and absolute destitution."

Abnormal weather patterns during early 1983 created a series of serious problems worldwide. Major droughts in the African nations of Zimbabwe and Ethiopia; extensive flooding in the Latin American countries of Bolivia, Brazil, Ecuador and Peru; and a cyclone in Fiji, have brought widespread devastation, disease and loss of life. Unusually destructive storms also produced near-record flooding and destruction in coastal areas of California and Louisiana.

Church giving in the United States rose faster than inflation in 1981, according to statistics compiled by the National Council of Churches. Each church member donated an average of $239.71 that year, representing a 12.3 percent increase over the year before.

The Romanian government has imposed a strict quota on the number of theological students allowed to study there, according to the Swiss Catholic press agency KIPA. Roman Catholics in the country, who number 1.6 million, will be allowed to send only 30 new students to seminary each year. Romania's 180,000 Lutherans will be able to send only three students, as will the country's one million Reformed.

South Korea's population may become more than 50 percent Christian by the end of the century, according to Won Sul Lee, vice-chancellor of Kyung Hee University, Seoul. In 1950 Korea had one million Christians. Today there are nine million Christians among the country's 39 million people.

Thailand has closed eight refugee camps, but 169,000 people still live in six remaining camps. According to Christian and Missionary Alliance, 24,000 people left the camps last year. Many resettled in Western nations. Some returning to Laos were killed. Most of those trying to settle in Thailand were rounded up by police and taken back to the camps.

Pope John Paul II has condemned foreign nations for supplying arms to combatants in Central America. After his visit to Central American nations, he called the provision of arms a major factor in the continuance of the fighting. He called for prayers for the suffering people in that region.

Salvadoran and Guatemalan refugees seeking shelter in the U.S. continue to be deported in huge numbers by the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS). Although they are fully recognized as refugees by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the U.S. State Department refuses to grant them that status. According to *Christianity and Crisis*, of over 15,000 asylum applications by Salvadoran refugees in two months, only seven have been granted.

Leaders of "nonaligned" countries met in New Delhi recently to discuss mutual economic cooperation and nuclear disarmament. It was the seventh summit conference for the countries, which, according to Chairperson Indira Gandhi, advocate "national independence, freedom and the avoidance of confrontation." The 99 leaders in attendance agreed that cooperation between industrialized and less-developed nations would benefit all.

According to UNICEF, simply increasing the world's food supply will not reduce world hunger. "However important increasing production may be," the agency claims, "it is clearly not the central problem. And the answer to hunger is therefore not ultimately technological. The problem is rather which crops are grown by whom on whose lands and for whose benefit. The solution lies in allowing the poor to both participate in, and benefit from, increases in production."

Infant Chinese girls are being killed by the thousands by parents who want a son for the one child that official policy allows them to have, according to the Los Angeles Times. Girls from infancy to age five are being killed in China by parents influenced by the remnant feudal idea that men are superior to women. The number of such deaths has risen in recent months, according to the official Chinese press. And the All-China Women's Federation reports that in some areas boys under age five outnumber girls five to one.
It’s OK to stub your toe

One obstacle we all face in attempting to reach our potential is the fear of making a mistake. Yet achievement is based upon failure, usually one failure after another.

At the seven hundredth unsuccessful experiment to develop the incandescent light, Thomas Edison encouraged his dejected assistants, "Don't call it a mistake. Call it an education. Now we know seven hundred things not to do."

Mistakes. No one is immune. Yet when we look at ourselves, we tend to be mercilessly critical. We speak of ourselves as failures.

Charles Kettering said: "You will never stub your toe standing still. The faster you go, the more chance there is of stubbing your toe, but the more chance you have of getting somewhere."

Which translates: When you don't know what to do, do something. I’ve heard psychologists say that action—any kind of action—is a tremendous cure for depression, even if it's no more than a walk around the block.

Today is a good day to start believing that you don't need to live a life of quiet desperation, fearful of any new challenge. Starting today, you can begin to enjoy using and developing your gifts. Fear of failure is no excuse for doing nothing.

Paul Tournier, the well-known Swiss psychiatrist, has said, "God's plan is fulfilled not just through the obedience of inspired men, but also through their errors, yes, their sins."

The Bible is replete with examples of how God turned people's failures—and forgiven sins—into triumphs. That's His business and He's good at it.

Look at King David. He failed to discipline his sons, and as a result a whole chain of sorry events occurred. David also failed to control his physical passions. When he added to his sin with Bathsheba the murder of her husband Uriah, a faithful warrior in David's army, he demonstrated a basic character flaw: not being willing to own up to sinful behavior soon enough to avoid adding another sinful act as a cover-up.

Despite his colossal failures, David stands as one of history's truly great men of God. He was a man after God's own heart. When he failed, he repented and earnestly prayed that God's Spirit would never be taken from him.

Consider Sarah. In her day, being childless in marriage was often construed as being a failure. A wife's role was closely related to rearing children and maintaining the family name and heritage. Sarah had to bear her sense of failure until she was 90. At that age she was undoubtedly a frustrated and disappointed woman. Then God turned failure into a triumph that gave her a place in the "Hall of Fame of Faith" (Hebrews 11).

Each of these Bible characters was unique. So are you. No one else has had the life experience you have had; no one has the contributions to make that you can make. It's not a question of being better than someone else, but of being better than yourself.

Let today be the day you begin to chip away at the granite mountain of self-defeat. You can read books about how to do it. You can attend seminars. You can pray about it until the cows come home. But only you can put mallet to chisel.

Partner. I believe that God made you in a special way for His special purpose, and that He wants this special you to be all He meant you to be.

It was said of Jesus, "Behold, He does all things well." A Jesus of mediocrity, a Jesus of the average, is not the Jesus of the Bible. And He said that His followers—you and I—would do greater things than He had done. Did He really mean it? If He did, then we need His discipline and His courage. We need His anger at injustice and His untiring concern for those who suffer. We need His capacity for taking risks. And we need to know more of His great love.

After all, to do nothing for fear of making a mistake could be the greatest mistake of all.

Ted W. Engstrom
President
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