HUNGER in a tropical paradise

ALSO:
- HAITIAN COURAGE
- ‘DIFFERENT’ PEOPLE
- INNER-CITY ‘GANGS’
- AFRICA’S DROUGHT
- MELTING APARTHEID
**Nothing personal?**

You may have seen the comical cartoon in which a parson “grieves” parishioners who have just heard his sermon. As they file out the church door, he says to each one, “Nothing personal! Nothing personal!”

Makes you wonder why he preached.

The only people who can benefit from hearing any sermon are the ones who take it personally. Fortunately, many do.

Similarly, the only people who can benefit from reading this magazine are those who take what its writers say quite personally. Which, my mail seems to indicate, many do.

Recent mailbag samples:

- “Dr. Engstrom’s August article, ‘Creativity,’ came when I needed it. My life just now is requiring some major changes. After reading his essay, I’m facing the decisions with more faith.”
- “I read the June issue back to front. It touched me to know of so many Christians doing such good work in this world. My own faith is on shaky grounds. Please mail me a copy of ‘Becoming a Christian,’ right away.”
- “You people have really touched my heart in the short time I’ve been involved with World Vision. I’m struggling to be a good Christian. I need all the help I can get.”

And you? Is your need today for page 16’s mini-message on knowing the Savior? Or for the impact of one of the longer articles? Whichever—take it personally!  

David Olson

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**Hunger in a tropical paradise**

Mindanao highlanders’ unusual plight—and what’s being done to enable them to produce food in spite of drought.  

**My name is not Victoire for nothing**

A Haitian mother’s courage, heightened by opportunity to learn and earn.

**Nice people, but a little “different”**

A 2000-year-long “short story.”

**Working in drought-stricken Africa**

How World Vision is meeting relief and development needs through drought-assistance projects.

**Inner-city kids find a new kind of gang**

Life-changing ministry to urban teenagers.

**You can help melt South Africa’s apartheid**

A constructive “piece of mind.”

**You can know the Savior**

Life-changing ministry to urban teenagers.

**Samaritan sampler**

Life-changing ministry to urban teenagers.

**People & projects**

Life-changing ministry to urban teenagers.

**Please pray for . . .**

Life-changing ministry to urban teenagers.

**Globe at a glance**

Life-changing ministry to urban teenagers.

**In partnership with you**

Life-changing ministry to urban teenagers.
Wild foods which highlands people find in the forests near their homes include gabi leaves, premature wild bananas and banana shoots.

WORLD VISION BRINGS RELIEF TO MINDANAO HIGHLANDERS

Hunger in a tropical paradise

by Terry Madison

On the surface, the highland areas of southern Mindanao in the Philippines—home of several groups of traditional tribal people—appear to be a tropical paradise. The hills are lush and green. The recently-planted corn is beginning to grow. A few chickens, ducks, geese and horses nibble about. And the people do not appear seriously malnourished.

But appearances belie the island’s actual situation. The T’boli people, along with several other ethno-
linguistic minority groups, are in the grip of what some sources say is the worst drought to affect the area in 100 years. Drought has been with these highlanders since October 1982. A few rains finally fell in the spring, but even if rain continued to fall normally it would be months before the fields here began to produce food. Besides, much of the corn beginning to sprout in highland fields actually belongs to other, non-Tboli communities.

A recent census recorded 4272 highland families living in the drought-affected areas of South Cotabato, Mindanao. Most are of the Tboli tribe. Other smaller tribal groups include the Manobo, the Bilaan, the Ubo, the Kalangan and the Maguindanao. Highland people live in communities of 200 to 300 families scattered across the hillsides.

Because droughts so seldom occur here, the Tboli were caught unprepared. Since February there has been scarcely enough rice for one meal a week. Drought has forced many to eat banana shoots cut from the centers of young banana trees. One

"We are prepared to die rather than steal food from others."
shoot will feed 14 people, but cutting into the stalk prevents the tree from ever bearing fruit.

Everyone except young children and their mothers spends most of each day foraging for wild food growing on the hillsides. A successful search might yield some papayas or other wild fruits, including unripe bananas. The edible leaves of the gabi plant are often found. The people also are eating bamboo shoots, the seed corn they had intended to plant, and some of the young corn stalks in the fields. But by now, most of the edible plants near the settlements have been consumed.

Highland children say they worry about their parents, fearing their mothers and fathers might die while in the forest looking for food. And there is another fear—that the adults might return home empty-handed.

Last April, 60-year-old Kandado Sagan went to the mountains to look for food. His wife, Luhan, stayed behind to dig for camote (an edible root). When Kandado returned several hours later, he discovered that Luhan had collapsed and died. Kandado is convinced she died of hunger.

Despite their efforts to gather wild food, people are still hungry. One of the T'boli teachers at a school operated by Santa Cruz Mission (a North American Roman Catholic group that has been active in the area for many years) reports that every day several young children faint from hunger in his classroom.

In the village of Lemkemwek, men are said to be so weak from hunger that they can work for only an hour at a time. It is said that the women, who weave a distinctive cloth in their homes, are able to work only...
20 minutes before becoming weary. Many of the mothers are no longer able to breastfeed their babies.

Yana Tuan lives in K’lubi, a T’boli village of 303 families. She says she is about 24. (It is difficult to determine age precisely, since there are no written records). Yana has a 13-year-old daughter, Idine; a 6-year-old son, and an infant. A few days earlier she had lost her 2-year-old son, Bongbong.

According to Yana, Bongbong had been complaining of stomach problems for some time, and his stomach had become greatly distended. He drank unusually large quantities of water. After he had been ill for five days he was carried to the Santa Cruz Mission hospital, where he died.

Yana’s husband, who spends much of his time looking for food, is now also planting an abaca crop. (Abaca is a fiber used in making mats.) After nearly one year he will be able to begin harvesting the abaca, which he will sell in order to purchase food for his family.

Every day, Idine goes two or three miles into the forest in search of fruits and vegetables. She says it is difficult to find food because everyone is looking in the same forest. Sometimes she returns home with only wild gabi leaves. When Idine returns to school, her father will be the only family member able to search for wild food. Yana must remain at home to care for her five-month-old son, whose diet now consists largely of small, unripe bananas.

Before the drought, says Yana, her family ate three meals a day of camote, cabbage and cassava. “I don’t know what will happen if our food runs out. We are frightened about what will happen to us in the future. If someone doesn’t help us, we will just die.”

Fortunately, World Vision, along with other agencies, was able to provide help in time. Relief agencies often respond to disaster situations only after the people have become little more than skin and bones. By then, it can take millions of dollars and many months or even years to help restore health. Here World Vision is helping before the people’s physical health and mental ability have been destroyed by hunger.

The rice provided by World Vision will be sufficient to allot each family about seven pounds a week. World Vision will also provide each family four cans of salted fish a week. The cost of helping one family for eight weeks is slightly more than $12.

World Vision is working in partnership with the Santa Cruz Mission, the Christian and Missionary Alliance Church, and the Ministry of Social Services and Development of the Philippines government.

Ola Sangan of Talubic Village is eating snakes because he can find no other food. He is usually able to catch one snake a week, and has eaten both the non-poisonous and poisonous varieties. Once he was
bitten by a snake, but recovered after using native herbal medicines.

Ola Sangan must take care of himself. He has five children, all of whom are married and have families of their own. But contrary to local custom, his family will have nothing to do with him. He has no help in his search for food, but neither does he need to worry about finding food for other family members.

Until now, the people in the drought-affected area have seemed to be in good health despite their situation, due largely to the abundance of wild foods nearby (which now are nearly gone), and the medical facilities provided by Santa Cruz Mission. The SCM workers say that a few serious illnesses have broken out. Typhoid fever has been reported, and tuberculosis is now quite common due to the drought and resulting lack of food. Diarrhea is a chronic problem here. It is difficult to determine exactly how many are ill, because many cannot travel the long distances to reach the hospital.

Tuding Maguan, 24, lives in the village of Tablo. Two of her five children—boys aged 7 and 10—died two weeks ago. Neither of the boys had seemed to be sick, and they had not complained of stomach pains. The night before they died they had eaten one or two unripe bananas. Tuding Maguan says, “My two boys died of hunger."

After their deaths, she said, “All I wanted to do was cry and cry.” However, she had no time to mourn because she had to continue searching for food to feed her husband and her three remaining children. Her husband goes to one of the three nearby lakes to fish, but most of the time he comes home empty-handed.

“All I want at this moment is food for my children,” she added. “It is all right if I have nothing to eat, but I must find food for my children.”

Despite their current situation, the Tboli are a proud and generous people. What little food they have, they share with each other. One old blind datu (chief) heard that we were coming to visit his village (K’lubi, where Yana lives). He sent members of his family to look for food. They were able to find some camote and served the dish to us. As a courtesy we took a small amount of the meal and left the rest for the family.

“We are prepared to die rather than steal food from others,” said the datu, adding, “God has created us. God will help us.”

A special lift right now will help the Mindanao people greatly in their efforts to prevent more tragic food shortages. To provide timely assistance, please use the return envelope from the center of this magazine.
Propelled by a hope that city life somehow would be better, in 1975 the Israel family—father, mother and four children—left their home in rural Haiti and migrated to Port-au-Prince. In recent years the Haitian capital’s population has swelled to more than one million, due largely to this kind of rural-urban migration.

More fortunate than many new arrivals, Nathan Israel soon found a job at a mattress factory. It didn’t pay much, but it was steady work. Then he found a house to rent, and the children were enrolled in school.

But in 1979 Nathan lost his job. In the marketplace, modern machine-made foam mattresses had taken the place of the handmade cotton and feather-filled ones Nathan had so expertly crafted.
Suddenly the Israels were forced to give up their house; monthly rent payments—only U.S. $5—were far beyond the means of an unemployed factory worker in Port-au-Prince. No longer able to afford a formal education, the Israels withdrew their children from school.

By now, two more children had been born, and the fate of the eight Israels seemed grim. Nathan was unable to find another job. And wife Victoire's lack of marketable skills made her unemployable. Begging, prostitution, or some other degrading occupation seemed the only alternative.

But then a friend told Victoire about the "Association of Christian Women in Action," abbreviated "AFCA" in French. A few months earlier, Mme. Claude Noel, wife of a well-known Haitian pastor, had seen a man beating up a young prostitute in the street. Appalled, Mme. Noel spoke with her friend Mme. Lozama, another pastor's wife, about what she had seen. The two resolved to do something to help poor women in Port-au-Prince.

Quickly mobilizing other Christian women and securing financial help from local Christian agencies, they formed AFCA, launching a program to teach homemaking skills, crafts, literacy and Bible classes. A noon meal was provided for the women. Before long, AFCA added a nursery and school for children of the women.

This was the program Victoire Israel found when she followed her friend's advice. Not fully understanding at first, Victoire was hopeful that her children could be enrolled in the free AFCA nursery and school so that she could begin looking for work. She was pleasantly surprised to find that not only would her children be cared for, but there were both learning and earning opportunities for her at AFCA. Now she is acquiring skills in sewing, embroidery and cooking. She also works for AFCA as a nursery helper, earning a small income for the family.

"During the hard times I felt Jesus had stopped hearing my prayers. My family was always hungry and there was no place to stay, no help in sight," says Victoire. The Bible classes and the kindness of the women at AFCA, she says, have renewed her faith.

Since coming to the AFCA program, Victoire has joined a women's prayer group and has witnessed wonderful answers to prayer in her own life and in the lives of others.

Realizing that the needs of poor women far exceeded the limits of locally available funding, AFCA last year applied for World Vision assistance. A $25,000 grant enabled AFCA to start a health clinic and to hire a nurse, two children's teachers and...
two home economics teachers for the women.

Presently, 115 children are enrolled in the school. The nursery cares for 28 youngsters while 57 women learn home economics skills. AFCA has opened a small shop to sell items made by the home economics class—

"Courage is necessary to survive in this world. God has given me plenty of that."

one means the women have of earning money.

Mme. Alexandre, who helps run the program, says it is important that the women not become overly dependent on AFCA. Because the women and their children receive free health care, free food and free education, some have a tendency to view the project supervisors as "parents."

But Mme. Noel, Mme. Lozama, and Mme. Alexandre look for ways to encourage the women to help themselves. For example, AFCA makes loans available for use in starting small income-generating businesses. However, the waiting list is long.

Victoire hopes to receive a loan this summer. Her plan is to use the money to begin a small food-vending business near where she lives. Nathan, still jobless, will sell the food she prepares.

The practical concern of the women of AFCA has given Victoire Israel the tools she needs to live life with confidence. Despite many hardships and setbacks, she is optimistic about the future for herself, Nathan and their children.

"Courage is necessary to survive in this world. God has given me plenty of that. After all," she grins, "my name isn't Victoire for nothing!"

Marilyn Allien is a communicator on the staff of World Vision of Haiti.
This is the story of a family that began hundreds of years ago in a city many miles from here. This family was bigger than just a mom and a dad and a few kids. They had relatives of all ages and shapes and sizes living all over town. Like other families then, most of them were poor.

Though being poor was common, this family handled it in a most uncommon way. Their neighbors took notice: "They're nice people—but a little 'different,' don't you think?"

In this family, you see, when someone needed food or clothes, someone else shared. Now that wasn't so strange, but this family went to extremes. Those who owned houses even sold them and shared that money.

"Why do you share all your money?" neighbors often asked.
"Oh, it's not my money. It's the family's," they would reply.

Now, that was strange!
"That family really does love each other!" people would say. Then some would add, "But I'm glad I'm not in it" (for, you see, they weren't too big on sharing everything).

Aside from being strange, though, did the plan work? Yes, indeed! Every single family member always had everything he or she needed—all because they shared.

Well, the family grew (as families tend to do), and many moved to other towns and even other countries, where their children were born and grew up. And then they had children who grew up. Eventually, most of them knew very little about the home town.

After a while, this family tradition met its greatest test in many years. Famine invaded the home country. Persecution broke out. The few who had a surplus shared until they had no more to share.

It was one thing to share and share alike when most of them lived close together and knew each other, but would the plan work now?

A respected family leader carried the appeal for help from town to town. He presented the plan to those who had never heard, and reminded those who had: "Those who have more than enough should share with those who have less than enough, so that no one has too much or too little."

And share they did! The family's love triumphed again!

Generations later, this family is scattered throughout the world. Has their unusual tradition survived?

Just barely. As at the beginning, most of them are poor. In the richer nations, though, some have more than enough. Most of these folks have never heard of the family's time-honored plan. They spend freely on themselves, but share little with their needy relatives.

A few, though, have continued to share. And each day a few more rediscover the plan and begin learning to live with less so they can share more with their brothers and sisters.

This makes God happy, because, you see, the family with this unusual tradition is the family of God.

Yes, it was His family 2000 years ago who "were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but they shared everything they had. . . . There were no needy persons among them. From time to time to time those who owned lands or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales, and it was distributed to anyone as he had need" (Acts 4:32-37, NIV).
Drought and Africa are two words rapidly becoming synonymous. And although drought has been cutting an ever-broadening swath across the continent for the past two years, the world is just now beginning to understand the seriousness of the situation.

Twenty-two African nations now suffer from drought in varying degrees, from Senegal to Somalia and from Ethiopia to South Africa. Washington Post correspondent Jay Ross reports, "The worst drought in this century is forcing most southern African nations to revise economic outlays and seek vast imports of food. The drought stretches from the Atlantic to the Indian Ocean and has scorched the earth, leaving fields barren and rivers dry."

Zimbabwe, a nation accustomed to having a surplus of food, has had to turn to Western nations for food aid for the first time.

Mozambique is having to nearly double the amount of grain it usually imports in a year. Manuel Jorge Aranda da Silva, minister of internal commerce for Mozambique, estimates that a third of the nation's 12 million people now are suffering from the drought. A government report states: "Hunger is a striking reality in the southern areas," and adds that some 500 cattle a day are dying for lack of pasture and water.

South Africa, which has provided food for many African nations in recent years, now sees the drought severely hampering its agricultural outreach.

World Vision has drought-related projects in 12 of the 22 African nations affected by drought. Among them is Ethiopia, home of some three million drought sufferers and target of massive relief assistance from World Vision over the last several months. In spite of non-stop efforts by World Vision and other relief agencies, as well as by the Ethiopian government, desperate needs continue.

Trevor Page, a United Nations World Food Program official, recently toured regions in northern Ethiopia and reported that throughout the area some 50 to 100 children die daily.

Unless worldwide assistance arrives in greater amounts very soon, says reporter Ross, "it seems certain that tens of thousands of Ethiopian children will not live until the next harvest in November. The crisis period is expected to be in October, when people will need more energy to start bringing in the food."

World Vision's medical team in Ethiopia is now working in Abaya, a village about 15 minutes' flying time from the town of Gondar. It is expected that some 3000 to 4000 people will soon begin to collect food rations there.

Relief efforts to meet immediate drought needs, and water-related development projects to assist in long-range rebuilding and to help prevent future emergencies, are equally important elements in World Vision's ministry of healing and evangelism throughout Africa. As the drought lingers across the continent, dire needs for both relief and development projects will continue. The desperate situation in Ethiopia will likely be duplicated in other African countries unless steady assistance from other nations continues.
Outside the Korem Shelter in Welo, Ethiopia, a mother awaits treatment for her baby.
Walk through certain South Los Angeles parks at your own risk. Gang members meet there every morning to plan the day and to decide how they’ll make their money. Should they wait outside a local supermarket and snatch a purse from an old woman walking out with her groceries? Or rob a liquor store? Or burglarize the home of a rival gang member?

At other times, leaders will plan raids into another gang’s territory or argue about the best way to avenge a pal hurt in the last conflict. Should they use clubs, knives or sawed-off shotguns? Buckshot or magnum loads?

Gang membership is a way of life for many teenagers in South Los Angeles. Many elementary school children know before they enter junior high which gang they’ll eventually join when they enter high school.

Gangs are more than fists and guns, anger and violence. For teens coming from broken homes, those raised without a father, and those left to raise themselves, gang membership may be their first taste of acceptance and approval. And their only taste—until they meet Jesus Christ.

A notable number of city high school gang members are being reached by Youth for Christ (YFC), which has units across America and in other countries. YFC staffers testify...
new kind of gang

"Many kids get involved with gangs because of the sense of commitment and caring they have with other members of the group," he said. "When Richard, a leader of one gang at a local high school, first came to one of our after-school Bible study meetings, I started talking to him and found he felt no one really cared for him. I spent some time with him, listening and sharing about God's love for him. Richard said it was the first time anyone had ever showed they were interested in him or concerned about his gang involvement."

Richard saw the reality of Jesus Christ, Mike said, because he saw God's love in the lives of Christian students at the high school, and the genuine concern Youth for Christ staff members had for him. For the first time in his life, Richard felt the presence of God's love—and it wasn't long before he made a decision for Christ.

"If it wasn't for the weekly Bible studies here at our junior high school, I would be in a gang with my brothers," said Paul, a 15-year-old eighth grader attending school in South Los Angeles. "One brother keeps trying to get me to come to his gang's meetings. I'm glad I'm not in a gang—they shoot people. I'd be shooting people too if I was in a gang."

Paul has attended the weekly after-school Bible club for two years, ever since he entered junior high. Paul, who has been a Christian for six years, said he comes to YFC meetings because of the friendships he's made. "I'm surrounded by good friends at the meetings," Paul said. "And after Bible study, my problems seem to solve themselves."

For Shondra, 13, who's battling a weight problem, the group acceptance, weekly Bible classes and games mean a lot. Teenagers can be cruel to students struggling to lose weight; Shondra has walked home from school many times in tears.

"I've been coming to YFC meetings for a year now, and I feel a lot better about myself," said Shondra, who enjoys going to the weekly after-school Bible club on her campus. "I've started reading my Bible more, and I'm not doing the things I used to do, like lying or..."

Youth for Christ

Growing up is hard. Lots of junior high and high school students need help going through their teen years. Youth for Christ, Inc., an evangelical, non-profit organization is dedicated to sharing God's message of salvation with students and helping them lead full lives.

YFC has more than 800 staff members working in 1000 cities around the country, reaching out to teenage students and guiding them to God's answer book—the Bible. One of the organization's most effective ministries is Campus Life clubs in which teens get together weekly for fun, friendship making and an introduction to Christianity. Those who make decisions for Christ are directed to a local church as well as to further Campus Life club activities.

Youth for Christ aims to be in every urban American high school within ten years. Information on YFC's urban work is available from YFC, P.O. Box 419, or from Greater Long Beach YFC, P.O. Box 7125, Long Beach, CA 90807.
You can know the Savior

Not everyone who supports World Vision is certain about his or her relationship with God. Some hunger for such assurance but don't know how to approach God or the Savior He has sent.

For these, each issue of this magazine carries a brief instructive word from the Bible, along with an offer of further help for any who are seeking the Savior.

This month's word is a statement made by the Lord Jesus Christ himself:

"I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me—just as the Father knows me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for the sheep" (John 10:14, 15, NIV).

If you are among those who long for a deep knowledge of the Savior Jesus Christ, we urge you this month to read, with open heart and open mind, the entire Gospel of John, and also to talk with a pastor or another understanding member of a Christ-centered church in your community.

We invite you also to write to WORLD VISION magazine, 919 W. Huntington Drive, Monrovia, CA 91016, for a free copy of the helpful little booklet called Becoming a Christian.

Youth for Christ workers are really concerned and willing to take time to listen, pray for a friend hurt in a gang battle, or just talk.

"What do you mean 'born again,' Mike?" you might hear a gang member ask at any of the weekly high school meetings. "I can't start all over again. I've done a lot of things I don't even want to talk about. Now how can someone like me be 'born again'?"

"Well, it's something we can't do on our own, John," Mike replies. "We have to trust God to help us. Remember what John 3:16-18 says? 'For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life. For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world should be saved through Him. He who believes in Him is not judged..."

"Not judged, huh?" the gang member asks. "Sounds like going to court and having the judge throw out your case."

"You've got that right," Mike says. "We're all declared 'not guilty' because of Christ. If you're not busy tonight, some of us are going out for hamburgers. Care to join us? I'd like to talk to you about Jesus."
Wycliffe Bible Translators and its sister organization, the Summer Institute of Linguistics, announced in May the completion of their 200th indigenous language translation of the New Testament. It is in the Hanga language, spoken by some 4000 people living in villages throughout northern Ghana, West Africa. Hanga adults are currently learning to read and write their language with the use of the new Scriptures.

Welcome Indochinese refugees into your community with Welcome-Pak, a special package of materials designed to help refugees adjust to life in the U.S. Included are cassette and Christian literature in Vietnamese, Khmer (Cambodian), Lao and Hmong languages. Write for more information to Project SHARE, Far East Broadcasting Co., Box 1, La Mirada, CA 90637.

Jubilee Crafts, a non-profit mail order service, can help you with your early Christmas shopping while helping artisans in impoverished countries. Crafts, made by skilled workers in their own countries, include items such as rag dolls, bags, baskets, handmade cards and woodenware. For a catalog, send $1 to Jubilee Crafts, 300 W. Apsley, Philadelphia, PA 19144.

“Journey of Hope,” a new film produced by the American Bible Society, dramatizes how millions around the world are learning to read God’s Word through the Society’s New Reader program. The film tells the story of the “tree church” of Kenya, inspired by a Christian Masai named Jane Nailante, and the far-reaching effects that learning to read had among her fellow Masai. Groups may obtain “Journey of Hope” on a freewill offering basis from the American Bible Society, 1865 Broadway, New York, NY 10023.

Keep up with world mission developments through the International Bulletin of Missionary Research. Published four times a year, the Bulletin provides useful mission updates, conference reports, leader profiles, book reviews and bibliographies. Subscriptions are $12 a year. Write P.O. Box 1308-E, Fort Lee, NJ 07024.

Overseas Counseling Service (OCS) lists over 1500 job openings around the world in its monthly bulletin, Global Opportunities. OCS helps Christians find secular jobs in overseas countries where professional missionaries may be unable to go. Contracts are usually for two to three years, often renewable. If interested, call (213) 797-1512 or write OCS, 1600 E. Elizabeth St., Pasadena, CA 91104.

Christian Community Development is the title of a new three-part videotape series by Dr. John Perkins, founder of Voice of Calvary Ministries in Mississippi. Each 45-minute lecture presents tested strategies for helping the poor help themselves. Designed for use in churches, college classrooms and community development workshops, it can be purchased from GL Media, 2300 Knoll Dr., Ventura, CA 93003.

Simply Delicious, a new cookbook published by Alternatives, provides wholesome recipes for quantity cooking. Especially useful for church groups, camps and schools, the book is a practical guide to serving simple, nutritious meals. Also included are such practical recipes for large quantities, tables of equivalents, and recipes for sugarless foods and caffeine-free beverages. It is available for $5.40 from Alternatives, P.O. Box 1707, Forest Park, GA 30091.

HEART (Hunger Elimination Action and Resource Training) offers a living and learning experience to those preparing to minister to the world’s hungry. HEART courses include gardening, animal husbandry, food processing and storage, primary health care and sanitation, and facility construction and maintenance. Write HEART, Warner Southern College, Lake Wales, FL 33853.

ACMC (Association of Church Missions Committees) has available a new resource for helping the local church design, implement and evaluate a missions education program. The Missions Education Handbook sells for $25 bound in a three-ring binder (522 unbound), prepaid, from ACMC, P.O. Box 208, ACMC, Wheaton, IL 60189.

Planning a special missions program for your church or Sunday school? Mennonite Central Committee SELFHELP Crafts can help with their international clothing loan closet. Clothes from several different countries, along with information about the clothes and the countries from which they come, are available for loan free of charge. For more information contact MCC SELFHELP Crafts, 240 N. Reading Rd., Ephrata, PA 17522.
A South African friend talked with me about apartheid soon after my return from a visit to his country. "Knowing something is wrong," he said, "is only part of the process of change. The deep need is to have the political will and moral force to bring it about."

I believe that when the Apostle Paul writes, in Ephesians 6:12, "We wrestle not against flesh and blood but against principalities and powers," the pressures he refers to include discriminatory racial policies in many countries. Such policies result in actual physical and emotional oppression for millions of people simply because birth allots some white skin and others black or brown.

The beautiful, diverse, rich country of South Africa seems destined to suffer an ever more violent and protracted civil war. Oppressed peoples will be free; that is inevitable. Whether by negotiation between people of good will or by the force of arms, change is destined to come. It is the responsibility of concerned people around the globe to pray and work to avert the impending crisis.

But, people ask, what right have we Americans, with so many of our own problems and so many sins just as grievous on our national conscience, to impose our thinking on an independent country? I asked that very question of representatives of many different political groups in South Africa—from a far right Conservative Party member to an African National Congress (ANC) guerrilla on the left. Each person, including officials in the ruling National Party, indicated that they longed for people to help by being bridge builders between warring parties.

It is emotionally difficult to be in South Africa in the first place. To see systematic destruction of the social and family fabric of a people by others who produce clearly discriminatory laws causes a deep grief.

For example, one of my World Vision hosts pointed out a lush farming area on a drive out of Johannesburg to the "homeland" of Bophuthatswana (where all people of Tswana tribal origin are supposed to live), and she indicated that 25 years ago her parents had been given eight hours notice to take their belongings from their "freehold" (homestead) properties and vacate Sophiatown. In her memory there had been, from horizon to horizon, a self-sufficient community of social, political and economic life. It had been bulldozed and the people scattered to relocation sites all over South Africa. This was not a squatters village like the notorious Crossroads, but a functioning city where people were living fruitful and happy lives. Today, not a trace of that city of 100,000 people remains. Livestock now graze on the site.

Apartheid is based on the belief (indeed the theological tenet) that people of different cultures and ethnic backgrounds cannot live together. The gospel has been manipulated by leaders so that policies conform to a twisted view of reality.

Places like Soweto were originally allowed because transient laborers needed a place to live when they came to the cities to work. Opportunities on the workers' "homelands" are minimal. Even though separate development of industrial infrastructure is trumpeted, most of the factories and light industry which provide jobs for homelands are across the border from Transkei, Venda or Bophuthatswana. The people from these "countries" have to pass border checkpoints in the morning, and again at the end of the day.

Even ruling party officials long for people who will build bridges between warring parties.
The Psalmist tells us that “in arrogance the wicked hotly pursue the poor; let them be caught in the schemes which they have devised” (10:2). Increasingly, people of good will on all sides of the apartheid question are aware that their country is “caught in the schemes they have devised.” A November 1982 “Survey of White Opinion on Foreign Policy Issues” indicates that 75 percent of respondents of all political parties believe that “a terrorist war will develop in South Africa.” Without deep attitudinal change, the violence will deepen and the partitions heighten.

What besides prayer and tending to the needs of the dispossessed poor can Christians in our own country do to help bring about healing in a faraway land? I have five suggestions:

1. **Develop deep, mutually supportive friendships with both the oppressed and the oppressor.** If one knows that a trusted friend loves someone who is a perceived enemy, it opens the possibility of re-evaluation of relationships. And in Christ, of course, we bear one another’s burdens and all become oppressed by injustice together.

2. **In travels and when meeting citizens from around the world, introduce people to people.** One black friend in Soweto had never met a Nationalist Party official. After they were introduced at lunch, they entertained one another in their homes. Nothing destroys preconceived notions and myths like the discovery that you enjoy and even love a person who is supposed to be your enemy.

3. **Engage these friends in friendly dialogue.** Across all racial or political boundaries, some people have a heartfelt desire to obey the biblical directive: “Let each of you not only look to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.” Courage to practice this often comes through others who believe and seek to be faithful.

4. **Avoid moral judgments; instead share the accountability we all bear as individuals and nations.** Senator Hatfield and Chief Gatsha Buthelezi each spoke at a prayer breakfast in Durban, South Africa last year. Instead of castigating the South African government, the Senator spoke of our own struggles for justice and asked for prayers from political and business leaders as we seek to be faithful. Instead of feeling demeaned by a scolding from a “48-hour expert,” South Africans were inspired toward mercy by a message from a fellow pilgrim.

5. **Aid organizations and corporations which work for fundamental change.** World Vision’s feeding and educational programs are striking at the very root of oppression by forging links with supportive agencies worldwide and developing self-help projects among the downtrodden. Many U.S. corporations are advancing the black union movement and providing housing and education for the dispossessed.

**One highlight** of the visit to South Africa was an appointment with a “renegade priest” of the Dutch Reformed Church, Dr. Nico J. Smith, who pastors a black congregation. He told an instructive story of a Western journalist who asked a friend if there were reasons for hope.

“Yes,” the friend said, “there are two reasons for hope. One is natural, one is supernatural.”

The journalist, not wanting to get involved in a theological discussion, asked, “What is the natural reason for hope?”

“That the angels of glory would come down and lead us by the hand,” replied the minister.

“Well,” the journalist exclaimed, “if that is the natural, what is the supernatural reason for hope?”

To which he responded, “That our hearts would change.”

Dr. Smith and many of his friends of all colors are gathering in numerous groups of 10 to 12 to study the Scriptures, pray that hearts will change, and work toward that end before it is too late. I believe we are being called together to join in such movements to encourage the sizable body of people—black, white, English-speaking and Afrikaans-speaking people—who are eager to bridge the gulf of mistrust, fear and anxiety built over the years.

As we departed Jan Smuts airport in Johannesburg for points north, I read Psalm 25 and was struck with the appropriateness of David’s plea to the Lord to “relieve the troubles of my heart and bring me out of my distresses. Consider my affliction and my trouble and forgive all my sin.”

One cannot visit people experiencing oppression without being troubled of heart and wanting to stand with brothers and sisters in their desire to rid themselves of the affliction. But we can do more than feel troubled. In obedience to Christ we can help build bridges—especially in our own country, but also, in some ways, even overseas. □

Tom Getman is legislative director to Senator Mark O. Hatfield (R.-Oregon) in Washington, D.C.
**Educational opportunity in India**

Four hundred poor children from Andhra Pradesh, India, are now attending school, thanks to the faithfulness of World Vision donors and the Sisters of St. Ann's Orphanage.

Struggling parents, unable to provide for their families, often leave their children to the care of the Sisters at St. Ann's in Reddipalem in the hope that there they will have a better chance of survival. The Sisters provide the children a loving atmosphere where they are fed, clothed and educated at a high school located in the orphanage compound.

**Help after the flood**

Milk and medicine were provided for some 3600 children in Indonesia after July's flood washed away acres of rice, corn, sorghum and other crops, and destroyed some 1650 head of livestock. In addition, World Vision donors' gifts provided 1500 families with more than six tons of vegetable seed, farming tools and agricultural guidance to help them replenish lost food supplies.

**From prisoner to freedom in Christ**

Willy DeLeon is experiencing renewed freedom and hope in his new home in the Philippines. As one of the former prisoners living on the Katuparan rehabilitation farm, Willy is responsible for cultivating a small plot of land all his own as well as working on the group's farm plot. Produce from the communal plot yields income for the project fund.

**Spreading the Word in Korea**

Some 4000 factory workers in Korea heard the gospel of Jesus Christ last March through two World Vision-sponsored evangelistic meetings. The meetings were held at Dae Nong Factory, one of the largest spinning and weaving export industries in Korea. The outreach resulted in 230 workers making decisions for Christ. The new believers were then invited to attend local churches.

**Brazilian waters on the rise**

Flooding in Francisco Beltrano City, Brazil, left some 5000 families without food, clothing or furniture. Thirty-five homes were completely destroyed, and the suffering was intensified by cold weather. World Vision responded by providing food, clothing and medicine, which were distributed by a committee of people from local churches. The government is helping the families to rebuild their houses.
Kampuchean award
The World Vision-sponsored National Pediatric Hospital in Phnom Penh, Kampuchea, recently received the Ministry of Health's outstanding medical team award. Opened in October of 1980, the Pediatric Hospital has helped hundreds of thousands of the country's sick, malnourished children. The facility originally was completed in 1975, but Khmer Rouge soldiers seized and occupied it for four years.

Help for the handicapped
The Margaretha-Hugo School for the Blind is changing the lives of its students in Zimbabwe. With the help of World Vision donors, the blind are learning to read and write in Braille, and are then entering the nation's primary and secondary educational system. Other skills the school helps develop include typing, metal work, carpentry, animal care, sewing, gardening, and the making of sisal mats, mattresses and chalk. The project is also involved in teaching the Word of God and in printing Braille Bibles.

Reading, writing, and a whole lot more
Literacy training is an important aspect of the work in the Niksek community of Papua New Guinea. Five classes a day are conducted in this effort. Agricultural and nutritional guidance, daily clinics and training in preventive health care are also provided. And the message of Christ is made known through Bible teaching and evangelism.

Please pray for...

- Mindanao's highlanders and the efforts to enable them to produce the food they need.
- Haiti's desperately poor families needing employment opportunities.
- Your church's special opportunities to minister to poor or displaced people.
- Drought relief efforts throughout Africa.
- Inner-city youth ministries such as Youth for Christ's.
- Racial harmony efforts in South Africa.
- Zambia's many Christians, deeply affected by drought and unemployment.
- 8500 Colombian children being helped by World Vision.
- Students in Taiwan's Campus Evangelical Fellowship.
- Spiritually hungry readers of this magazine.
Mark O. Hatfield, U.S. senator from Oregon, has called for a “spiritual renaissance in the hearts and minds of Christians” to help overcome poverty and violence in the world. “We are abusing the resources God has given us” by failing to meet the needs of those in developing countries, he said, and added that with human resources and technology we must go on the offensive against the coming crisis of hunger and poverty in the world.

Church growth in the Philippines took a giant leap forward last year as the Mindanao Convention of Southern Baptist Churches established 125 new congregations. The new churches represent 18 percent of the churches established worldwide through the denomination’s foreign mission board work in 1982.

Jails are killing young people, according to prison reform leader Judith Johnson. For jailed youths under 18, she says, the suicide rate is nine times higher—where they are rarely separated from adult criminals—than for youths in other correctional facilities. Johnson asserts that most of the 300,000 young people jailed each year should instead be placed in juvenile detention centers.

Compulsory sterilization for couples with two or more children has begun in China in an attempt to limit the growth of the world’s most populous nation. While use of coercion was denied by the Chinese government, forced abortions and heavy-handed tactics by local birth control cadres have been reported. Urban dwellers who ignore childbearing policy could be fined up to ten percent of their wages, and dissenters in rural areas could lose part of their land.

Apartheid in Namibia remains a constant struggle for Christians and others, according to the Rev. Zaphaniah Kameeta, vice president of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Southwest Africa. Kameeta described apartheid as “not only sin, but a form of violence, regarding people as God’s mistakes in creation. It is not only an ideology, but a reality that is killing people daily.

The internment of Japanese Americans during World War II was a “grave injustice” caused by “race prejudice, war hysteria and a failure of political leadership,” says a report by the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians. The report further states that not a single instance of espionage, or sabotage by a Japanese American has been documented. The average stay for the some 120,000 detainees in camps was two and a half years.

Chinese peasants’ total cash income increased by 12.3 percent last year, and the number of rural poor families has dropped sharply, Beijing Radio asserted recently. A survey of 18,000 peasant households indicates that the proportion of poor families with per capita annual incomes below $50 dropped from 33.3 percent to 4.7 percent.

A new handgun is sold in America every 13 seconds. If that rate continues, more than 100 million handguns will be owned by Americans by the year 2000. Currently, 29 Americans will be killed by handguns each day, not counting suicides and accidental shootings.

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“Catholicism,” says leading German theologian Johannes Baptist Metz, is now “a Third World church . . . on the way from a cultural monocentricity based on Europe and North America to a cultural polycentricity encompassing the world.” This reformation, coming from developing countries, is leading toward an “epoch of a church with its roots in the entire world,” he says.

Among India’s 684 million people, 22.3 percent, or about 150 million people, reside in large cities, giving that nation the largest number of urban dwellers in the world. If current trends continue, this figure will more than double by the year 2000. Such rapid growth would almost certainly bring about an intolerable breakdown of many of the largest cities’ already overburdened facilities.

American Chinatowns, in cities such as San Francisco, Seattle, Los Angeles and New York, hide depressed conditions, high unemployment, poor housing and low wages behind a flashy facade of prosperous markets, souvenir shops and restaurants. Sixty-seven percent of all American Chinatown housing has been designated substandard, and the neighborhood unemployment rate is more than three times the nation’s. The suicide rate is likewise three times the national average.
Christian holism: \(1 + 1 = 3\)

A word increasingly heard in Christian conversation is "holism." As in "holistic ministry." It's simply a new way to describe something that has been going on since the days of Jesus on earth.

The dictionary defines everyday, run-of-the-mill holism as "a theory that the universe, and especially living nature, is correctly seen in terms of interacting wholes that are more than the sum of elementary particles."

In other words, when you put certain things together, in the resulting wholeness you have more than the sum of the parts. I think that is true also of Christian holism.

When you and I hear about holism in a Christian context nowadays, those using the word are usually talking about what happens when evangelism and social ministry are combined. I believe it takes both to be faithful to the clear commands of Christ. Yet, it is not simply a matter of adding one to the other and coming up with a \(1 + 1 = 2\) proposition. It is more like \(1 + 1 = 3\), for when faith and caring are intermixed, the result is more than the sum of the two.

This is what World Vision has been demonstrating since its beginning. Not that caring for human needs is an optional Christian addition; not that evangelism is something you do if there are no earthquakes or famines; not that a starving parent must earn his or her children's supper by first listening to a sermon; not that witnessing must be always wordless. Rather, that the gospel is holistic—whole, caring about hurts of both body and soul, caring about what happens to a person and what happens in that person, caring about the present as well as the future.

Then, somehow, by God's creative arithmetic, the whole becomes more than the sum of the parts.

I have seen it happen hundreds of times in the world, most recently in a little village of about 700 or 800 people in the Philippines. Six years ago, when World Vision became involved, the village was in desperate straits in every way: no work, no industries, no evangelism (except for what could be done by a little Mennonite church with about 25 members).

World Vision provided loans which enabled a number of fund-generating programs to get going. Wells were dug so that families could have an ample supply of clean, clear water. Vocational training was begun. More than 400 children found sponsors through our childcare ministries.

In April I was in that village. Where six years ago there was only despair and hopelessness, I saw a growing fishing industry made possible by small boats World Vision had supplied. I saw a number of women involved in making tablecloths and other cloth products. I saw small poultry industries, a piggery, a blacksmith shop and other little businesses which not only are a result of village growth but also are helping the village to come to life.

But that wasn't all I saw. That little church, six years later, was ministering to over 350 families and had planted six other congregations in the hills surrounding the village.

That's Christian holism! More than preaching with empty hands to hungry listeners! More than raising pigs and catching fish! More than either alone and more than simply the quantitative sum of the parts. When one comes caring for the whole person, sensitive to hopes and fears and hurts, showing that love is something one does as well as something one says, this can happen. For World Vision, it's no dictionary "theory." I have seen it happen repeatedly.

That village no longer needs our help. Now those resources can be used to help another village.

I am distressed by the conflict still being waged between some proponents of evangelistic caring on the one hand and social caring on the other, as if either can stand alone. It is a false conflict. We must use both, not like one stone upon another—for then some would be quarreling about whose stone comes first—but like the ingredients of concrete, which, thoroughly mixed together, become something more than the ingredients ever can be separately.

Besides, the matter of the foundation has long since been settled. "No one can ever lay any other real foundation than that one we already have—Jesus Christ" (1 Corinthians 3:11 LB).

Let us build on that foundation in partnership and see what God makes of it.

Ted W. Engstrom
President

Ted W. Engstrom
Meet Flora.

She's poor, but she has great possibilities.

Flora is the youngest of nine children. Her father used to be a high school janitor. But as hard as he worked, it seemed like there was never enough to go around. Never quite enough food, never enough money for school supplies, or clothes, or needed repairs for their bamboo hut.

To make matters worse, one of Flora's sisters was born blind and needed special care. That meant extra expenses. Flora and the other children often had to do without.

Then Flora's father had a stroke. It left him almost paralyzed on one side of his body, and unable to work. But when Flora became part of the World Vision family of sponsored children, the impossibilities of her life began to change to possibilities.

The sponsorship program helped Flora with such things as school fees, books and clothes (new, not hand-me-downs, for a change!). Her whole family is helped with rice, lumber for house repairs and emergency medical care. And Flora's parents are learning about nutrition, sanitation and basic health care.

Best of all, the entire family has come to know Jesus Christ as Savior and attends a weekly Bible study. Flora enjoys going to Sunday school and helping in the church office. She says her "favorite part" of the World Vision program is learning how to pray.

Flora and her family are still poor, but now they can see a chance for a better life ahead. Flora likes school, and wants to become a nurse when she grows up. Because of the consistent care of Flora's sponsor, the whole family has renewed hope in life—and new possibilities for the future.

Right now, World Vision knows of more than 25,000 children who need sponsors. For just $18 a month, you can help one special child like Flora.

Think of the possibilities!