

CONTENDING FOR FUNDAMENTAL CHRISTIANITY

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Tapestry rich He doth sew Stitch by stitch and row by row,

Through the clouds and rain, sun and shine The Father's Love is forever mine.

> A warm hello and a sad goodbye Valleys deep and dawns blue sky

One by one He gives to me Treasures precious in my family.

Shining stars in the darkest night Till all again is robed in light.

The track of time down through the years His love Some days smiles, and some the tears.

Yet no dread in the face of fear My Father knows the way so clear.

Each step I take He leads about I need not worry nor even doubt.

My Father's Love and hand Divine For I am His and He is mine.

This month we dedicate this edition of *The Voice in the Wilderness* to our families. During Mother's Day and Father's Day take time to thank our heavenly Father for His love and blessings to us all.



Travel to India and the UK with Cross Vue and The Voice in the Wilderness (see p. 3) www.thevoiceinthewilderness.org

AMERICAN FREEDOM



MY PERSONAL MESSAGE TO YOU

Dear Reader: Please forgive the delay of this edition. It is my prayer this combined May/June issue of *The Voice in the Wilderness* will be a blessing.

Dear Friends:

It has been a joy, thus far in 2007, to be in 9 churches and share a report from The Voice in the Wilderness. Lord willing, by May, our team will have ministered in the states of NC, VA, TN, WV, VT, and NY. The hospitality, fellowship and generous support of God's people is always so very precious. From our hearts to yours, thank you for your partnership with The Voice in the Wilderness.

This edition of *The Voice in the Wilderness* is a combined May/June issue. We would like to honor all our families and thank the Lord for His many blessings. Happy Mother's Day to all you moms. Happy Father's Day to all the dads. You have such an important role of influence on so very many lives. May God help you as an example and teacher. Our churches desperately need godly moms and dads!

On May 6, 2007, my wife and I celebrate 34 years of marriage and ministry together. The Lord gave me the precious helpmeet I needed! Never in words could I express how special the "First Lady" of The Voice in the Wilderness is to this work and me. Eleven years ago, Bro. Royce got a team when he asked Ronnie Williamson to serve with him in this ministry. Believe me, there were and still are critical areas that need a lady's touch and my dear wife has met the challenge. Thank you Sis. Terry for your faithfulness. She enjoys traveling with me, but some destinations are a challenge for her. New York City is a place of teeming, mixed millions ever on the move. For my dear wife, however, it is a stressful, headache generating experience to do battle with the perpetual traffic jams.

(Continued on page 14)

The Voice in the Wilderness is a nonprofit, independent incorporation, founded by Rev. Dr. J. Royce Thomason D.P.D. Ph.D., evangelist and medical missionary. The organization is dedicated to the spreading of the whole gospel to the world, especially in foreign lands. The program consists of building mission stations, supporting American missionaries and native pastors by partnering with the local church in various areas of ministry and preaching Christ to the lost. We are supported by the gifts of those who care. Contributions to The Voice in the Wilderness for projects or to support the ministry of a missionary will be used as indicated by the donor following approved policies and procedures. Gifts are tax deductible and should be made out to The Voice in the Wilderness Magazine is a fundamental publication, published each month in behalf of the work of the Lord and preservation of the liberties of our United States. Printed material from other sources does not necessarily imply an endorsement from this ministry. There is no subscription charge; all interested people of good will may have a copy sent regularly to their address simply by requesting it. Address all correspondence to: The Voice in the Wilderness, PO Box 7037, Asheville, NC 28802.



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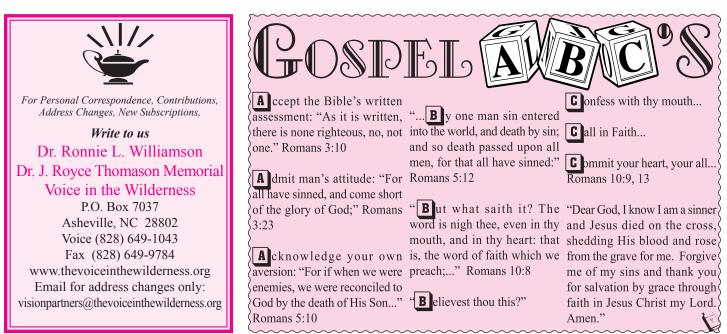


- A Bible that is falling apart probably belongs to someone who isn't.
- A frown is a wrecked smile.
- I don't know why some people change churches; what difference does it make which one you stay home from?
- A faithful friend is an image of God.
- One father is more than a hundred schoolmasters.
- It's hard to stumble when you're on your knees.
- A family altar will alter a family.
- Forbidden fruit creates many jams

TRAVEL TO INDIA AND THE UNITED KINGDOM Mission Vue Challenge with Cross Vue School of Missions

You are invited to journey with The Voice in the Wilderness on a Mission*Vue* of India and the United Kingdom. This will be the first annual teaching and Mission*Vue* (VUE : Vision – Until – Eternity) challenge, endeavoring to expand our vision for obedience to His Great Commission. For 10 days (only one Sunday away from your church and ministry) you will hear, see, taste, and smell the Mission*Vue*. The teaching ministry of The Voice in the Wilderness and CrossVue School of Missions will take you to India and the UK for a lifetime, eternal change. Projected dates are between October 30 and November 15, 2007. Space is limited. For additional information write:

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Interview with Pastor Gangwer

INTERVIEW WITH PASTOR JIM GANGWER

Pastor Gangwer, I appreciate your willingness to share your testimony with **The Voice In The Wilderness** subscribers.

Dr. Williamson (RW) How many years have you been Pastoring? **Pastor Gangwer (JG)** 33 years.

(RW) The Lord has blessed you with a faithful helpmeet and family-yes?

(JG) Yes, we have been blessed with 5 children all saved, and my wife has been truly a faithful pastor's wife. I believe a pastor's wife makes or breaks a ministry. A woman needs to be a servant. She has a tremendous influence on our children and ministry. Our oldest, Ron, has his Masters from PCC in Christian Radio ministry; Robin graduated from PCC and is a pastor's wife and in Christian Education; Rachelle, married, lives in Vermont, and is my secretary as well as for the church; Randi, Christian School Administrator and husband Administrative Pastor: Ricky. is married, and works for a technology company. We praise the Lord that all grandchildren, 12 with another on the way, are in Christian School.

(RW) How many years have you pastored Calvary Church here in Vermont? (JG) 28 years.

(RW) Tell us about God's call to Vermont.

(JG) I graduated from Bethaven Baptist College. My wife and I prayed to be in a church by the first of the year 1979. (During this time, I was pastoring Grace Baptist, a satellite ministry of Bethaven, without salary.) It seemed God was not going to open the door for a church so we bought a house. However, we soon got a call from BIMI asking if we would go to Vermont. The answer, of course, was, we can't go, we just bought a house. So we decided to put a fleece out after BIMI called the second time. If the house can sell, tuition bill at Bethaven can be paid, and a replacement pastor for Grace 4 • Voice in the Wilderness • May/June 2007

Baptist could be found, we will go. Well, the house sold, tuition was paid, and a replacement pastor was found. Friends and family gave the money for the move. Interestingly, we never candidated for Calvary Church and never met the people, but soon found ourselves on the way to Vermont. So in January 1979 I preached my first message at Calvary, coming here at \$75 a week. God met the needs through other churches sending in additional funds to help us out through BIMI. The drive up was in a snowstorm and, thankfully, the church did have a parsonage for us. Two men met us to help unload the U-haul truck. These were the first two people out of the congregation that my wife and I had ever met. This congregation was very small, but they did have a desire to keep the church doors open. Thus, we soon got acquainted and began to work.

(**RW**) You gave me an interesting illustration of the types of church folk we preachers have the privilege of working with. Please share that illustration.

(JG) Vermonters in our churches are classified as..... VIP, VTP, VOP, VDP – these stand for:

- VIP Very important people, those who make things happen in the local church;
- VTP Very teachable people, those folks willing to learn, grow and serve;
- VOP Very ordinary people, those who can't or aren't interested in getting too involved;
- VDP Very draining people, those folks that grumble, complain and oppose, just to do so.

We are blessed because we have been together with our church so long that we all know what has to be done, how we think, and how to approach the needs.

(RW) Vermont and New England have been notorious as difficult fields. Give me your thoughts on a statement such as this.

(JG) Well, I believe the field is difficult because the elements can conspire against you: For example, there is cultural shock if you are outside of New England, and then there's the weather. I do think that Vermont is the least evangelized state in New England. You are going to have to draw from other towns and villages. We have people driving to our church from other areas. For pastors trying to start churches in small villages throughout Vermont, there simply aren't enough people to support a church so you would have to draw from outside areas.

(**RW**) What do you see the Lord presently doing in Vermont?

(JG) Good things are coming. Some good preachers have now been here 10-25 years now. I'm seeing some longevity in the preachers. Sadly, the contemporary movement is here too. We do have some conservative, independent Baptist in the state, 15-20 KJV conservative churches, however almost all are bi-vocational. Unfortunately, to come to Vermont to pastor, you would need to raise support for 5 -10 years and perhaps work a secular job on the side. Also most pastors' wives have to work, particularly for health insurance and other provisions for their families in the present as well as the future.

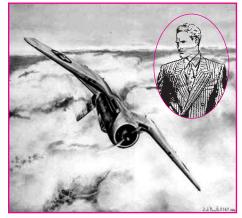
(**RW**) It seems many Pastors view the ministry from a professional standpoint rather than the ministry as a servant. Your wife said yesterday you spent hours in and under a mobile home changing out and repairing the hot water for a church member.

(JG) That's just what I do. A pastor needs to minister to his church family – Just as a husband needs to minister to his wife and children.

It has been a blessing to know Pastor and Mrs. Gangwer for many years. God's call upon their lives has been so apparent. Thank you, Pastor Gangwer and family, for being such an encouragement to this preacher friend. May God continue to bless you richly.

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Selflessness, Sacrifice, Duty and Honor



Please read both of these short stories.

1. World War II produced many heroes. One such man was Lieutenant Commander Butch O'Hare. He was a fighter pilot assigned to the aircraft carrier, the USS Lexington, in the South Pacific.

One day his entire squadron was sent on a mission. After he was airborne, he looked at his fuel gauge and realized that someone had forgotten to top off his fuel tank. He would not have enough fuel to complete his mission and get back to his ship. His flight leader told him to return to the carrier. Reluctantly he dropped out of formation and headed back to the fleet.

As he was returning to the mother ship, he saw something that turned his blood cold. A squadron of Japanese bombers was speeding their way toward the American fleet. The American fighters were gone on a sortie and the fleet was all but defenseless. He couldn't reach his squadron and bring them back in time to save the fleet. Nor, could he warn the fleet of the approaching danger.

There was only one thing to do. He must somehow divert them from the fleet. Laying aside all thoughts of personal safety, he dove into the formation of Japanese planes. Wing-mounted 50 caliber's blazed as he charged in, attacking one surprised enemy plane and then another.

Butch wove in and out of the now broken formation and fired at as many planes as possible until finally all his ammunition was spent.

Undaunted, he continued the assault.

He dove at the planes, trying to at least clip off a wing or tail, in hopes of damaging as many enemy planes as possible and rendering them unfit to fly. He was desperate to do anything he could to keep them from reaching the American ships. Finally, the exasperated Japanese squadron took off in another direction.

Deeply relieved, Butch O'Hare and his tattered fighter limped back to the carrier. Upon arrival he reported in and related the event surrounding his return. The film from the camera mounted on his plane told the tale. It showed the extent of Butch's daring attempt to protect his fleet. He had destroyed five enemy bombers. That was on February 20,1942, and for that action he became the Navy's first Ace of WWII and the first Naval Aviator to win the Congressional Medal of Honor.

A year later he was killed in aerial combat at the age of 29. His hometown would not allow the memory of that heroic action die. And today, O'Hare Airport in Chicago is named in tribute to the courage of this great man.

So the next time you're in O'Hare visit his memorial with his statue and Medal of Honor. It is located between Terminals 1 and 2.

2. Some years earlier there was a man in Chicago called Easy Eddie. At that time, Al Capone virtually owned the city. Capone wasn't famous for anything heroic. His exploits were anything but praiseworthy. He was, however, notorious for enmeshing the city of Chicago in everything from bootlegged booze and prostitution to murder.

"Easy Eddie" was Capone's lawyer and for a good reason. He was very good! In fact, his skill at legal maneuvering kept Big Al out of jail for a long time. To show his appreciation, Capone paid him very well. Not only was the money big; Eddie got special dividends. For instance, he and his family occupied a fenced-in mansion with live-in help and all of the conveniences of the day. The estate was so large that it filled an entire Chicago city block. Yes, Eddie lived the high life of the Chicago mob and gave little consideration to the atrocity that went on around him. Eddy did have one soft spot, however. He had a son that he loved dearly. Eddy saw to it that his young son had the best of everything; clothes, cars, and a good education. Nothing was withheld. Price was no object. And, despite his involvement with organized crime, Eddie even tried to teach him right from wrong. Yes, Eddie tried to teach his son to rise above his own sordid life. He wanted him to be a better man than he was. Yet, with all his wealth and influence, there were two things that Eddie couldn't give his son. Two things that Eddie sacrificed to the Capone mob that he could not pass on to his beloved son: a good name and a good example.

One day, Easy Eddie reached a difficult decision. Offering his son a good name was far more important than all the riches he could lavish on him. He had to rectify all the wrong that he had done. He would go to the authorities and tell the truth about Scar-face Al Capone. He would try to clean up his tarnished name and offer his son some semblance of integrity. To do this, he must testify against the Mob, and he knew that the cost would be great. But, more than anything, he wanted to be an example to his son. He wanted to do his best to make restoration, and hopefully have a good name to leave his son.

So he testified. Within the year, Easy Eddie's life ended in a blaze of gunfire on a lonely Chicago street. He had given his son the greatest gift he had to offer, at the greatest price he would ever pay.

What do these two stories have to do with one another? Well, you see, Butch O'Hare was Easy Eddie's son.



If you are ever in the Chicago O'Hare airport, look up the life size display in honor of the courageous "Butch" O'Hare!

NEWS BITS FROM HERE AND THERE

FORGOTTEN VOICES- The wives of illegal immigrants in Tecalpulco, Mexico, have asked the US government to send their husbands home. These women have created a web page in English where they identify themselves as "wetback wives." On their site, they tell the US to "close the border, send our men home to us, even if you must deport them (only treat them in a humane manner-please do not hurt them)." A woman writing to her husband says, "You said you were only going to Arizona to get money for our house, but now you have been away and did not come back when your sister got married. Oh how I worry that you have another woman! Don't you love me? You told me you love me." In 2005, 10 million Mexican born people were living in the United States. That number includes 14% of the US work force according to the Migration Policy Institute. Of the 14% in the US, 77% were younger than 45 and 70% were men. This doesn't just affect the work force, but also the homes. A wife writing to her husband said, "I know we agreed you should try your fortune in the United States, but I didn't know that it would be so lonely and that you would be gone for such a long time, please return to us." Steven Camarota, research director for the Center of Immigration Studies, had this to say about the situation, "These women would not be asking their husbands to come back if they themselves were starving. It's really more of people wanting more, a better life. It's perfectly understandable. But that's different than these people fleeing such desperation [that] there's no way you could enforce the law." The Washington Times 3/5/07

GETTING PAID-Congress just recently made an hourly hike in wages for the common man. But do you know how much they get paid an hour? According to Harper's Index (March 2007), the minimum hourly wage in the House of Representatives in 2006 was \$203.95. This year, with more session hours, it has decreased to \$139.97. *The Washington Times 3/5/07*

ECONOMICALLY FREE- Human *Events (3/5/07)* gives us a list of the top ten economically free countries. Here they are from 10 to 1. Canada's economy is 78.7% free. Although Canada has a number of social programs, they have laws that encourage property rights, low levels of corruption, and a strong commercial code. Next is Switzerland. This country, whose economy is 79.1% free, leads the world in protection of privacy and openness to foreign institutions. They do have high income taxes, but a flexible labor market aids their commercial operations. Not to far away from Switzerland is Luxembourg. This little country's economy is 79.3% free. They have a low average tariff rate and efficient business regulations. Their only problem is that the government spends more than 2/5 of the GDP. The Republic of Ireland is number 7 on the list. Entrepreneurship is easy due to light regulations by the government and low inflation are positive, but they have a low monetary score due to EU agricultural subsidies. All of this leads to an 81.3% free economy. Across from Ireland is the United Kingdom. This country precedes Ireland on the list. With low average tariff rates, support for private enterprise, and a modern financial sector, the UK boasts of an economy that is 81.6% free. Another country that belonged to the British Empire is at number 5. New Zealand has a competitive financial system, low inflation, and low tariffs. It is also the world's second most corruption-free country. All of this helps it with an 81.6% free economy. With low corruption, highly flexible labor market, and open to foreign competition, the United States comes in at number 4 with an economy that is 82% free. Another former

British colony comes in at number 3. Australia has low inflation and tariff rates, globally competitive financial system, and a strong rule of law that protects property and doesn't tolerate corruption. The flexibility in licensing, regulation and employment practices allow this country's economy to be 82.7% free. Because of their transparency and speed in their commercial operations, private enterprise has boomed in Singapore. Due to low inflation, welcoming of foreign investment, and no tariffs, Singapore can claim the 2 spot with an 85.7% free economy. The number 1 country that is economically free is Hong Kong. With low income and corporate tax, simple business regulations, flexible labor market, and low inflation, Hong Kong's economy is 89.3% free. Human Events 3/5/07

DEATH IN THE CLASSROOM-

Professor Jessica Bryan of North Idaho College is under fire for her comments made during her English 102 class. Linda Cook, who is a longtime supporter of the Republican Party, said that Professor Bryan used her class period to "criticize and disparage Republicans, including the suggestion of the death penalty for everyone who chooses to support a Republican with a vote." According to Miss Cook, Professor Bryan said that President Bush won the election "because people can't read," and, concerning the death penalty: "First we line up everyone who can't think and right behind them, anyone who's ever voted Republican." The professor defends herself by saying,

"Never in my wildest dreams would I have thought that anyone would take it seriously. They were always said with a smile." She also said that the comments were to help her students think, and that she thought that Cook had enjoyed the

News Bits

(Continued from page 6)

debate that spawned from her comments. Bryan also said that she sees "it as an insult, personally and professionally." She also believes that her student "is making a mountain out of a molehill." In response to the debate comment, Miss Cook said, "If someone's suggesting you just be killed you don't sit down and say 'let's talk." *Worldnetdaily.com 3/13/07*

FIGHTING CITY HALL- The ACLU and Hispanic activist groups have joined together to fight a law implemented by the city of Hazelton, Pa. This is the first federal trial to determine if local governments can act on their own to contain illegal immigration. Lou Barletta, mayor of Hazleton, says that the illegal aliens are costing his city millions of dollars. Mayor Barletta said, "This is the day we've been waiting for a long time. Small cities can no longer sit back and wait for the federal government to do something." According to Hazleton officials, illegal aliens have committed 47 crimes since spring of 2006. They consist of 1/3 of all drug arrests in 2005, and driven up the costs of health care and education. The city's Illegal Immigration Relief Act would fine landlords who rent to illegal immigrants and deny business permits to companies who hire them. The judge in this case has already temporarily blocked the law. In his opinion, the judge wrote, "We find it in the public interest to protect residents' access to home, education, jobs and businesses." About the crimes committed by the illegal aliens, he said that the city officials presented "only vague generalizations about the crime allegedly caused by illegal immigrants" and also said that they had "nothing concrete to back up these claims." www. irnnews.com 3/12/07

IRS AND ILLEGAL ALIENS-

Excuse me but we have a bunch of idiots running this country into the dirt! The IRS said it's not their responsibility to report illegal aliens. Straight from the IRS on April 12, 2007, this bunch collects taxes from illegals and said as long as the IRS gets their money, it is not the IRS' job to report the illegals. Then a cop in NC stops a load of illegal aliens and said he had no place to lock up that many, so he let them go. Have you ever tried to do business with your State or Federal government. The paper work, bureaucracy, hoops you have to jump, and utter waste is beyond a reasonable person's tolerance. Even Mr. Bush wants amnesty for a bunch of criminals. The Mexican government agrees with our president. This quote was taken from NORTHCOM's notes entitled "Demographic and Social Dimensions of North American Integration": "Mexico wants the United States to acknowledge it needs Mexican workers. . . Mexico would like to see in place an immigration agreement between the two countries that awards work, awards visas for workers and families, respects rights and offers a path to earned citizenship for undocumented workers in the United States." May God help us!

TRAGEDIES ON CAMPUS

DAILY – The following in no way intends to diminish the gravity of loss on the Virginia Tech Campus. But are we not reminded to pray for America's young and vulnerable? Tragedy comes to the lives of campus students daily. I'm reminded of the local university allowing *Playboy* Magazine to come on campus to photograph young women to publish their perverted, co-ed edition. Then, what about the ruin from binge drinking, drugs, and sex parties? Rush Limbaugh and Shawn Hannity seemed to laud the innocent verdict and "Character" of the Duke Lacrosse players. However, those young men initiated that year long nightmare of accusations and potential imprisonment by hiring a stripper for a night of lasciviousness. Does it take a team of Philadelphia lawyers to know a female student with babies "earning" money as a "stripper" has mental, emotional, not to speak of, spiritual problems? Beyond my comprehension, are "Christian" parents paying huge bucks to send their children to schools where a system and professors rob and rape their heritage of all that's good and godly? Daily, tragedy occurs on any campus where boys and girls arrive with a knowledge of God and soon deny His very existence.

SHORT BITS- All of the following were taken from *Judicial Watch April* 2007 issue.

• "At least one of the 9/11 hijackers was in the U.S. on a student visa and,

according to the Center for Immigration Studies, the lion's share of foreign terrorists infiltrate their targets by abusing the student visa program." The article continues to tell us that 15 of the 19 hijackers were Saudi nationals carrying student, tourist and business visas. *CNN.com* wrote, "Six months to the day after Mohamed Atta and Marwan Al-Shehhi flew plans into the World Trade Center, the Immigration and Naturalization Service notified a Venice, Florida, flight school that the two men had been approved for student visas."

- You may have heard about Nancy Pelosi's demands for a luxury Air Force jet to take her and her staff to and from Washington DC and San Francisco. Judicial Watch President Tom Fitton said, "An 'Air Force 3' for the Speaker of the House is not a surprise, as Washington, DC's security mentality can lead to elected officials seeing themselves as royalty rather than public servants." Rep. John Murtha, who is the chairman for the subcommittee that controls defense spending, accused Pentagon officials of "being sexist for not giving in to Pelosi's demands for a luxury Air Force jet." Mr. Murtha also threatened the Pentagon saying that it would be a mistake not to give into Pelosi's demands since "she decides on allocations for them."
- President of Judicial Watch Tom Fitton said, "One of the reasons we have a crisis in this country [over] illegal immigration is because the local police refuse to enforce the law making it easier for illegal immigrants to live and work."
- Hillary Clinton is off to a good start for her presidential bid by trying to shatter fundraising records. At a reception in her Washington DC home, Mrs. Clinton asked her guests to raise at least \$250,000 each for the campaign. Each person that attended is trying to fulfill his or her pledges.



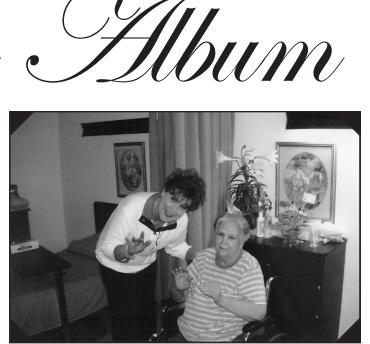
On our recent travels we took this photo of a Chavez Citgo gas station in a former Catholic church. The name of the station is "Steeple Market."

Family Album

family

Grandma Williamson, Rebekah and Steve traveling on a snowy day. We love you, Grandma.

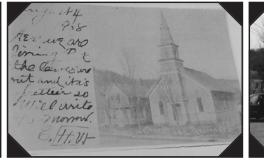




Terry's Mom has been in and out of the hospital for quite some time now. We appreciate your prayers for the family. We love you Mr. and Mrs. Little.



Terry, Rebekah and Steve minister in music to the Calvary Church family in Fayetteville. What a joy to serve the Lord together.





Note the postcard above left compared to the photo on the right. Only the parsonage remains after a devastating fire destroyed the church. Sadly the congregation was scattered, and for years the church was closed. Thank you, Pastor Yoder, for your vision to purchase the parsonage from a dentist and re-establish the church. We had the privilege in April to preach for this fine congregation.



As many of our readers know, The Voice in the Wilderness supported the jungle ministry Sophie Muller served in for over 50 years. Bro. Williamson visited with Bruce Peterson and his fine company that now underwrites the Jungle Bible Institute and work. This beautiful display has been established by Bro. Peterson in memory of Sophie. A large painting depicts the birth, death and resurrection of Jesus. Sophie was an excellent artist and the Lord is still using her influence in the jungle today to win souls to Christ.

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Family Album



Sophie actually attended this church in Queens, NY many years ago. Only a short period ago, this church had dropped to only 12 voting members. Praise the Lord that on April 8, 2007, the church was filled to celebrate our Lord's resurrection. Revival has come for this re-established congregation. Thank you Pastor Shafer for your vision and hard work.

The Voice in the Wilderness invested \$21,000 in a past printing for New Testaments and materials translated by Sophie. We praise the Lord that the jungle work continues.



It was an honor for Bro. and Sis. Williamson to visit Sophie's grave on April 7, 2007, and place flowers there in her memory. Sophie passed away in Asheville, NC, in October 1995. It was her family connections that were instrumental in the location of The Voice in the Wilderness headquarters in Asheville.

What a joy to preach for Pastor Gangwer. Please read the excellent interview on page 4 of this edition of The Voice in the Wilderness.



Thank you, Bro. Kissinger, for bringing the young men from Marion out for a workday. Your guys did a great job. Steve and the fellows moved and placed by hand thousands of pounds of rock for the drainage ditch. We are thankful for the many hours of safe and productive work



RELIGIOUS NEWS AND COMMENTS

DEATH - A DEFINING **MOMENT** - For 79 years Dr. Lee Roberson preached and ministered the gospel around the world. On Sunday, April 29, 2007, at age 97, he passed from this life into the eternal - a fascinating story with amazing longevity. Even after his retirement Dr. Roberson preached some 3000 times continuing a different phase of ministry. Sadly, over the last few years, he had to watch the compromise of work he had poured his life into. Yet, it is not the obedience or disobedience of others that defines us. We personally, with life and lip, declare by our own faith and practice who we are. That is why it is so important before the crisis, before sickness, yes, before death, we declare our stand. Even when those closest to us stray no one need question our position. From life to death may it be said we fought the fight, kept the faith and finished the race set before us. It was said at the funeral that Dr. Roberson will live as long as we stand. In that final defining moment may we all have declared our colors and held the banner high. A discouraged pastor with a dwindling handful of church members and not one soul saved in months stated "if Lee Roberson had never said ' everything rises or falls on leadership', well, I could at least blame someone else!

HAPPY 400TH BIRTHDAY

- What an amazing history with an undeniable, Biblically rich heritage 10 • *Voice in the Wilderness* • May/June 2007

America has. With each passing milestone there are those revisionist determined to deny the truth. With all their pomp and circumstance they celebrate deliberately omitting the very heart of our history. At the 400th birthday celebration of the Jamestown Settlement, may we all remember with thanksgiving how the mighty hand of God raised up this nation. He has not only blessed America but has used this people to carry the gospel of Jesus Christ to a lost and dying world.

ARMY LOOKING FOR GODLY MEN- The Army Chaplain Corps, which includes the Army, Army Reserve, and Army National Guard, are looking for men to fill the 520 vacancies it currently has. Col. Dolinger, who has been a chaplain for 21 years, said, "When I see the atrocities of man toward man, it shows me the need for God." About the lack of chaplains, Col. Dolinger explained it this way, "A lot of churches don't want their senior [pastor] to be gone. They say one weekend a month, well, ministers are usually pretty busy then- that's prime time. You can guarantee if a person comes into the reserves, in time they're going to be deployed." Lt. Col. Ken Lawson of the U.S. Army Chaplain School at Ft. Jackson S.C. said that the number of chaplains increases during times of conflict, but decreases during times of peace. Lt. Col. Ken Beale, in charge of recruitment of chaplains for the Army and Army Reserve, said, "We're grateful that our Chief of Chaplains is not going to allow our men and women of uniform to be in harm's way without the presence of a chaplain, but that means our active-duty chaplains and existing reserve chaplains are being rotated 'into theatre' more than might be desired." The qualifications for a chaplain are that they must be between the ages of 21 to 42, have a master's or seminary degree, meet the same physical requirements as other troops, and be endorsed by a recognized denomination or faithbased group. To attract chaplains, the Army is offering \$10,000 signing bonus for first-time officers; and the Army Reserve is offering student loan repayment and college scholarships. The Washington Times 3/5/07

TEMPLE MOUNT REAL ESTATE- The country of Jordan has been purchasing real estate around the Temple Mount through shell companies that they have set up. These shell companies periodically have presented themselves as acting on behalf of the Waqf, the Muslim custodians of the Temple Mount. Sheik Azzam Khateeb, the new manager of the Waqf, is devoted to the monarchy in Jordan. A Fatah official said that "Khateeb answers directly to Jordan." Jerusalem's Old City, where the Temple Mount is located, was previously divided into parts based on residence. Jordan controlled this area from 1948 till the Six Day War (Continued on page 11)

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(Continued from page 10)

in 1967. During this time, the Jews were banned from the Western Wall and the Temple Mount, and hundreds of synagogues were destroyed. In January, Jordan was approved by Israel to restore the main podium in the Al Aqsa Mosque. The Muslims believe that where the podium is located is the "exact spot" where Muhammad received his visions from Allah. Prime Minister of Israel. Ehud Olmert also granted Jordan to build a large minaret (a tower from which Muslim prayers are called 5 times a day) on the Temple Mount. Jewish groups had petitioned to build a synagogue at the same location. A Waqf official said that this "confirms 100% the Haram al-Sharif (Temple Mount) belongs to Muslims. This proves Jewish conspiracies for a synagogue will never succeed and solidifies our presence here. It will make Muslims worldwide more secure that the Jews will never take over the Haram al-Sharif." www.worldnetdaily. com 3/13/07

BIBLES BANNED ON

SIDEWALK- Two members of The Gideon's International were arrested for handing out Bibles on the sidewalk of Key Largo School in Florida. Ernest Simpson and Anthony Mirto were arrested and charged with trespassing even though they did not go onto school property. David Cortman, the men's lawyer, said, "The First Amendment protects the right of citizens to distribute Bibles and engage in other religious speech on public sidewalks, and it's certainly a sad day in America when Gideons are arrested for distributing Bibles on a public sidewalk." www.irnnews. *com 3/13/07*

CRACKDOWN ON CHRISTIANS- In Uzbekistan, Christians are under attack for their www.thevoiceinthewilderness.org beliefs. Dmitry Shestakov, a Pentecostal pastor, was arrested and could be sentenced for 20 years for witnessing to his countrymen. The country only recognizes two religions: Islam (88% of Uzbeks) and Russian Orthodox (9%). Forum 18, a religious advocacy group in Oslo, Norway, said that the Uzbek government is targeting charity groups and pastors. *World 3/3/07*

JOURNEY TO WHERE?-

In St. Louis, a church called The Journey is led by Darrin Patrick. They have started a ministry in Schlafly Bottleworks, a bar, where people come on Wednesday night and discuss topics such as music. The church, which had 30 members in 2002 and now 1,300, defines itself as an "interdenominational church, but has a working relationship with the Missouri Baptist Convention." The Missouri Baptist Convention is a part of the Southern Baptist Convention. The ties are due to the fact that The Journey borrowed \$200,000 from the Missouri Baptist Convention to purchase and renovate a former Catholic church in St. Louis. Sociologists call churches like The Journey the emerging church movement. Scott Thumma of the Hartford Institute for Religion Research, said, "Emerging congregations offer a radically different style of worship that appeals to certain kinds of young folks." Bill Edwards, chairman of the church planting subcommittee in Missouri, said that he had several complaints about The Journey's web site, because some pages portray or suggest the consumption of alcoholic beverages. Kerry Messer, member of the Missouri Baptist Convention's executive board, said that he attended a meeting at the Bottleworks in December, and what he saw worried

Religious News and Comments

him. This is contrary to the meeting that was held in October, in which David Clippard, executive director for the Missouri Baptist Convention, held The Journey as an ideal model. Mr. Patrick said about the current conflict between The Journey and the Missouri Baptist Convention, "We look at the Missouri Baptists as a group that wants to start churches and help the poor. When you partner with other people, you invite conflict. But if we're both going in the same general direction, why not link arms?" www.worldnetdaily.com 3/11/07

ATHEISTS AGAINST THE TRUTH- Michigan Atheists are challenging the constitutionality of a two-semester Bible elective that is being considered by the curriculum committee in Howell Public Schools. The National Council on Bible Curriculum in Public Schools created the course, "The Bible as History and Literature". The Council claims that 93% of schools approached for use have implemented the course. Currently it is being used by 370 schools in 37 states. But according to Arlene Marie, a Michigan Atheist, courts of four of the 37 states- Kansas, Missouri, Texas, and Illinois- have declared the curriculum unconstitutional. Steve Crampton, chief council for the Center for Law & Policy and serves on the NCBCPS board of directors, said, "Among other things, we [the CLP] serve as the litigation counsel for the National Council on Bible Curriculum in Public Schools and have for several years; so I can speak from firsthand knowledge. Not only is [the report] not true, but we've never even been threatened with litigation along these lines. I don't know where she got her information." The Berean Call 2/12/07

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A casual glance at my day-timer quickly reminds of that upcoming special date to remember – Mother's Day. Take a moment to ponder with me the importance surrounding this day. Mothers... What mothers, that perhaps you have known or read about, first come to mind as being a GREAT MOM and why? Maybe you think of:

- -Susannah Wesley mother of 19 children, determined spirit, godly influence
- -Hannah trusted God to give her a son, gave her son back to Him, son became a prophet of God
- -Perhaps you even think of Laura's mom, you know, Caroline Ingalls, of *The Little House on the Prairie* faithful wife, comforter, always knew what to say, when to say it, and when just to give a hug.

God has graciously allowed me the privilege of working with many children from all age levels and various home situations. I am a people-watcher. Even as a child, I was always more interested in observing the adult conversations than playing (Mom, called that nosiness!) Nevertheless, from childhood observations to teenage time spent babysitting, working with church bus kids, and later, working with hundreds of home school parents and their children, and then to adult life as a teacher in various venues, my people-watching eyes have seen ALOT and are constantly reminding me to be ever thankful for the mom that God gave to me.

The National Center for Educational Statistics reported in their Statistical Analysis Report, February 2000, that "4 out of 5 first-time kindergartners received care on a regular basis from someone other than their parents." Unfortunately, in a few cases, it is necessary for a mom to work and be away from her child during his earlier years, but I am so thankful that, even through much sacrifice. I never became a part one of those statistics. On occasion, before I entered five-year-old-kindergarten, my mom did have to work outside the home, but never was I without mom or dad training me up in the way I should go. Training ... Mom, thought that was her important job – to train or teach me. And that she did. The more I "watch" parents and teach children, the more I realize all the teaching that my mom did in my early years. I think she must have been teaching all the time! When I was just a little girl in pigtails (stubborn and independent), my mom taught me to dress myself, fold and put away the clean clothes, eat neatly with a fork and spoon, be quiet when adults were talking, never to question an adult or tell them what to do, tie my shoes, wash the dishes (ugh!), answer the phone properly and be quiet when mom or dad were talking on the phone ... and the list goes on. Now when I, as an adult, meet those little tykes. I am saddened to realize that most have just become a statistic with a mommy who does a lot of working but none of the teaching. Little Johnny can't tie his shoes? – Why, my mom taught me that. Little Susie doesn't know how to nicely ask an adult for help? Why, my mom taught me that. Even the National Center for Educational Statistics realized through their report that "families are the primary context of children's development and strongly influence their developmental outcome." Surely, if a secular organization can see the overwhelming need for parents to be actively involved in the upbringing of their child, then we as Christians should not have to be told twice that a godly mother's influence will direct her child's outcome for life. May I implore you who are reading, whom God has blessed to be a mom, to take the time to teach your little one. My mom did, and I am so thankful.

A mother's love given from God equips her to teach her little one what he/she needs to know. Yes, there are countless books, magazine articles, internet websites and seminar speakers who explain how to prepare your child for kindergarten, but may I share with you a few practical "things I learned from my mother" before I went to kindergarten, but BEWARE she did not get any of these from the sources above. She looked to her Heavenly Father and the instruction BOOK He wrote. *- Beka Lilly*

A MOTHER'S LOVE

- A nswer respectfully when an adult speaks to me.
- **M** ake my bed.
- rganize and put away my toys when finished.
- **T** ie my shoes.
- **H** ow to be saved.
- **E** at what is on my plate without comments.
- R ealize the world does not revolve around me.
 - it like a lady.
 - ove God.

S

- bey the first time.
- isit others and tell them about Jesus.
- **E** njoy spending time with mom and dad.



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Mother of a Thousand Daughters

From The Mailbox

ELIZA AGNEW - Called "The Mother of a Thousand Daughters" in Ceylon (1850-1883)

Would you like to hear what the study of geography did for a little girl, who was born as long ago as the year 1807? It was in New York City that this girl studied her geography lessons, and learned about the great world. Perhaps she was the only one in the class that thought about the great number of heathen people in the countries far away that were so interesting in many ways, but Eliza Agnew thought about them. She thought about them so much and so earnestly, that at last she made up her mind to go as a missionary as soon as she was old enough. She was eight when she made this resolve.

The study of geography, as far as the book was concerned, was finished long before Eliza was old enough to carry out her purpose, but she never forgot it or gave it up. By and by the way opened, and Miss Agnew sailed away to the Island of Ceylon, where there were pearl fisheries.

But this missionary was a seeker after pearls of a different sort, and she found them, too. The pearls were the souls of girls in that tropical island, who were led to Jesus Christ by this missionary.

For all of forty-one years Miss Agnew was the principal of a girls' boarding-school in Oodooville, on the island, and, altogether, she taught a thousand girls. In some cases she had the children, and in others the grandchildren, of her first pupils. She was so gentle, and loving, and good, that they all called her "Mother." This meant that they felt themselves to be her daughters, and this is the reason that the good missionary was called at last "The Mother of a Thousand Daughters."

She was very, very happy in her work of "finding pearls," and it was said that no girl who took the full course in the school went out without becoming a Christian. During the forty-one years, six hundred girls came out on the Lord's side, and were received into the church as members. Many of these girls became teachers in village schools, and in other places. Many became the wives of native teachers, preachers, catechists, doctors, lawyers, merchants and farmers, who brought up their children "in the fear of the Lord, faithfully." Some were even taken as wives by the chief men of the district, and had great opportunities to do good. In northern Ceylon forty Bible readers gave their time to this work. In forty-three years Miss Agnew never went home at all. She died in 1883, aged seventy-six. Her watchword was: "I'll tell the Master." - *Fifty Missionary Heroes*



Dear Ronnie and Steve,

As usual your April issue of *The Voice in the Wilderness* is thought provoking and deeply spiritual! We receive a blessing from reading it!

I thank you, Steve, for taking my phone call on Monday and being so kind to send me four more copies of *The Voice in the Wilderness*. I want to get out "A Redress of Grievances" for signatures in my church and send some to my son's church.

We appreciate your ministry

that you are carrying on for Brother Thomason! Our prayers are with you that many will come to know our Saviour from your dedication. Sincerely,

Subscriber – Virginia

Dear Bro. and Sis. Williamson,

Just a few lines to let you know I enjoy *The Voice in the Wilderness*. It has been coming to our home some 50 years now and since my husband went to be with the Lord, I still love to receive it and read it. It has been a blessing to us. I am alone now, so it really is read and appreciated. I am almost 93 now and am so thankful I have good eyesight to read. I would like to send more, but am on a low income and everything is so expensive. God richly bless you in His work. Praying for you.

In Christian Love, Subscriber – Pennsylvania

IS GOD'S WORK IN YOUR WILL?

"One of the most important documents a man ever signs is his will. I can tell better what a man had in his heart by reading his will than I can by reading his obituary. His obituary tells the world what his friends thought of him; his will reveals what he had in his heart.

- A. M. Vollmer For as (a man) thinketh in his heart, so is he- Proverbs 23:7. Out of (the heart) are the issues of life

- Proverbs 4:23."

A bequest in your Will to Voice in the Wilderness can assure that the outreach of this ministry at home and abroad will continue after you have gone to your eternal reward. Prayerfully consider us in your Estate Planning.

Thank you!



On the Light Side

My Personal Message

(Continued from page 2)

On April 6th we drove into Queens with several appointments - one of which was to visit the gravesite of Missionary Sophie Muller. The cemetery is located in a beautiful section of the city area called Utopia, which has some lovely homes, and to my amazement, very expensive. The lady at the cemetery office said the houses there range in average price of \$600,000 to \$850,000. Many exceed a million dollars, yet still are very modest in size. In my neck of the woods, a comparable building lot and structure would cost 75% less. She went on to say that her uncle sold his home in Long Island and moved to Hendersonville, NC, just south of Asheville, NC, and The Voice in the Wilderness Headquarters. She described her uncle's home in North Carolina as a mansion next to the one in Long Island, however the NC real estate cost half. It is beyond my comprehension how so many can afford such inflated prices. Their taxes can be \$10,000 to \$12,000 per year. New York City is certainly a place of extremes. With that, there are multitudes of lost souls with no knowledge of God's truth in Christ. Pray for the missionaries, church planters and pastors serving faithfully to win the lost in this most needy field.

Terry and I soon found the site of Sophie and placed flowers on the grave of one who knew the Resurrection and The Life. From these very streets, this missionary left to serve for over 50 years in the jungle – then to have that tabernacle of clay returned to Queens awaiting the last trump. But the gospel work continues. I have seen with mine own eyes the fruit that remains and yes continues in the jungle to this very

day. Praise the Lord that even with Peterson in Irving, TX. the political difficulties presently in Venezuela the indigenous believers are faithfully holding forth the Word of Life in the jungle ministry where Sophie so faithfully served. If you are interested in getting financial support to those laboring where Sophie worked you may send contributions to:

Total Life Management % Bruce Peterson 7717 Sumac Road Irving, TX 75063

If your desire would be to help financially with "Sophie's work" you should direct all funds to Total Life Management. It is sad to say, but there are individuals affiliated with another organization that misrepresent their connection with and support of "Sophie's work". Bro. Peterson has been traveling to the jungles for some 18 years now. After meeting Sophie personally, his burden has been to continue the jungle ministry. If you have any questions about the jungle work do not hesitate to write Bruce

Finally, we need your help. Please look at the May and April editions of The Voice in the Wilderness! If you have not submitted your Redress of Grievances with as many signatures as possible, as well as the country you have added to your daily prayer list, please do so without delay. Extra copies can be printed from our website www.thevoiceinthewilderness. org. These are two very important projects. Then, if you could, send a financial contribution toward this printed missionary, APM projects and outreach needs for India and Venezuela. We would be deeply appreciative. Missions' support has not been sufficient to meet the needs. An envelope was provided for your convenience in the April issue. Thank you again for your prayers and partnership with The Voice in the Wilderness



Happy Trails! For Christ and Souls, Bro. Ronnie

ON THE LIGHT SIDE

This is the transcript of an radio conversation of a US naval ship with Canadian authorities off the coast of Newfoundland in October, 1995. (Truth or Hoax?)

Americans: Please divert your course 15 degrees to the North to avoid a collision

Canadians: Recommend you divert YOUR course 15 degrees to the South to avoid collision.

Americans: This is the Captain of a US Navy Ship. I say again, divert YOUR course

Canadians: No...I say again, you divert YOUR course

Americans: THIS IS THE AIRCRAFT CARRIER USS LINCOLN, THE SECOND LARGEST SHIP IN THE UNITED STATES ATLANTIC FLEET. WE ARE ACCOMPANIED BY THREE DESTROYERS, THREE CRUISERS, AND NUMEROUS SUPPORT VESSELS. I DEMAND THAT YOU CHANGE YOUR COURSE 15 DEGREES NORTH, THAT'S ONE FIVE DEGREES NORTH, OR COUNTER-MEASURES WILL BE UNDERTAKEN TO ENSURE THE SAFETY OF THIS SHIP.

Canadians: This is a lighthouse.... your call.





There's a little song that says something like this "I'm so glad I'm a part of the family of God. . ." What a joy it is to be blood washed and born into our Father's family. All around this world it is my privilege and blessing to have dear brothers and sisters in the Lord. My parents, in-laws and relatives are all so precious. For 34 years, Terry and I have been so blessed to have a wonderful union in Christ. Now our daughter and son-in-law serve along side us in The Voice in the Wilderness ministries. Then, literally around the world, our family in Christ makes us rich beyond measure.

A preacher friend said recently, "I'm not sure anyone will attend my funeral." That comment was in light of a very large and well-attended service for a friend in the Lord. On several

occasions, I have stood in lengthy lines to express condolences to the family at the passing of a loved one. Then there have been times when only a few came. When Sophie passed over, the gathering here in the States was modest. But I'm told multitudes came to the memorial service in the jungle. As a result of Bro. Royce's age and constant travels, the number at his funeral was relatively small. Yet if his family from all around the

world could have been present, that certainly would have been a reunion to talk about.

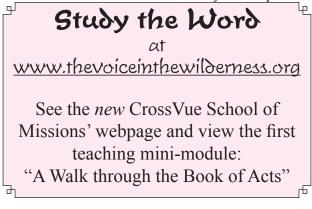
For those of us who are joint heirs with Christ, the family extends far beyond the registry when the casket is laid out. By faith and in this soul winning work, our family is extended from "Jerusalem, in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth."

Think about it. Not only your saved spouse, children and relatives, but all those in Christ from here to the uttermost part of the earth will gather with you and I for the greatest family reunion ever. What a supper it will be when our family finally sits down at the Father's table. Right now as you read these words, someone is grieving in a deep dark place. They think the sun will never shine again on their face. It is only, "Why me and why is this happening?" But for the child of God a better day is coming. That dark servant of death and suffering rides behind the chariot of life. It is only through the shadow we must move; and then, praise God, the eternal day shall dawn!

Do you have your Bible before you. Look at Acts 1:7-

8. Notice that Jesus said ". . . the Father hath put in His own power." Can we simply trust our Father? Do we struggle to yield our way to His will? Verse 8 begins with an enormous word-BUT! Our Father's promise, power and provision are ours in Christ when we acknowledge the Father. Then after the BUT, comes the POWER of His Holy Spirit. However, when we hesitate to accept His will, we miss out on the Father's promise. Even the Bible you hold in your hands is too big and heavy for you. Yes, it is full of blessings, but you cannot handle it without the Father's help.

A preacher was in his study preparing Sunday's sermon. His little boy sat near by. "Son, daddy left his big commentary and study Bible upstairs beside the bed. Can you go get them



arms.

for me?" "Yes, daddy," replied the small voice. Quite a bit of time passed when Dad realized his little boy had not returned. It was then he heard his son's faint cry. Rushing to the stairs, Dad saw his little boy with tears streaming down his face beneath the load of those two large books. "Oh Daddy, they are too heavy. I can't carry them." In a moment Dad was up the stairs sweeping the boy and books into his loving, strong

You have God's Holy Book in your hands. Read His Word and believe. BUT you will not be able in your own strength to manage the divine. BUT after the Father's loving, strong arms sweep you up into His care, it is then you say, "Abba, Father."

From Jerusalem to the uttermost may seem a long, long way. Taking the Gospel to your city and to the ends of the earth is a heavy task. You may read it and believe it, but without His help you will never accomplish it. BUT Thank God as a family we can rest in the loving, strong arms of our Heavenly Father who is able.

For the last 16 years of our 34 years as husband and wife, Terry and I have traveled hundreds of thousands of miles in ministry together. It has been a joy to meet our brothers and sisters around the world and hear how our Heavenly Father is blessing. One day soon we will all sit down together never to say goodbye again. Thank You Father, for that blessed eternal hope!



REJOICES AND REQUESTS

Become a more active prayer partner of The Voice in the Wilderness by subscribing to The Weekly Voice e-mail edition. Specific weekly prayer requests, "Rejoice with The Voice" notes, ministry updates, and a weekly Nugget of Gold are sent in a half-page e-mail message. Send your e-mail address to membersnp@thevoiceinthewilderness.org

Parting Thoughts

ATTENTION "VOICE" SUBSCRIBERS!

The Power of One

One song can spark a moment One flower can wake the dream One tree can start a forest One bird can herald spring.

One smile begins friendship One handclasp lifts a soul One star can guide a ship at sea One word can frame the goal.

One vote can change a nation One sunbeam lights a room One candle wipes out darkness One laugh will conquer gloom.

One step must start each journey One word must start a prayer One hope will raise our spirits One touch can show you care.

One voice can speak with wisdom One heart can know what's true One life can make a difference You see, it's up to you. -Author Unknown This May/June combined edition submits several very important requests for our readers:

1. If you have not mailed your commitment to pray for a designated country listed on the World Missions Map in the March 2007 edition of *The Voice in the Wilderness*, please do so without delay. Your prayer commitment will be posted on The Voice in the Wilderness missions map at The Voice in the Wilderness headquarters.

2. Plans are to take thousands of signatures representing the Redress of Grievances from the April 2007 edition of *The Voice in the Wilderness* to Washington DC. Please gather your 100 signatures and mail ASAP to The Voice in the Wilderness.

3. Projects in India and Venezuela need additional funding. Also APM awaits support for summer ministries. Then we are praying about our India trip before year end. Thanks for your prayers and generous gifts.

Help The Voice in the Wilderness reach, preach and teach the Word of God to precious souls around the world. Send your responses and support to:

The Voice in the Wilderness PO Box 7037 • Asheville, NC 28802

PRAISE ITEM! ALL THE APM CHILDREN'S BIBLES HAVE BEEN FUNDED!

Dear Voice in the Wilderness Subscriber,

It will save time and make our record keeping more accurate if you would kindly include your subscriber number on your correspondence and contributions sent to Voice in the Wilderness. When writing a check place your subscriber number on your check in the "For" space at the bottom. **Thank you** for your assistance.

Please note the **sample** address label with the **sample** subscriber number circled. **Your** number can be found on your address label. It is **not** 99999.

The Voice In The Wilderness P.O. Box 7037 Asheville, NC 28802

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