

From the Mailbox



- The Bibles have truly been a blessing in sharing God's Word and truth with those who are not believers. I have used the "How to Find God" NT with many who are looking for answers. It is easy to look things up, and the questions and answers are so pertinent. May God continue blessing your ministry! – Vanessa
- I received my Bible at our Bible study and loved reading the whole book. I found almost every answer I needed almost immediately when I opened it – my manual for life. I cannot afford a donation because I am in jail. I would like to be enrolled in a Bible correspondence course. – Michael
- The "How to Find God" Bibles fit perfectly for our youth Bible studies and our "Life Changes that Last" Program. The practical teaching and easy-to-understand language is great. Thank you for your ministry in making the Word available in relevant ways and for staff who know your products and passionately love the Word. – Robert
- I am very pleased with the "How to Find God" New Testament. The first day I had it I read seven chapters in a matter of minutes, rather than days. It is easy to comprehend and easy to find the New Testament's guidelines, thanks to "Cornerstones" and reference points. Keep up the good work. I would like to be enrolled in a Bible correspondence course. – Christine
- I recently received a copy of "Hope for the Highway" at a meeting of the International Christian Bikers Association. What an awesome tool! I wish to give away as many of these New Testaments as possible to all who ask. I have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and wish to share it with everyone. Yes, I march to a different drummer; however, I love Jesus, and my passion is to lead others to Him. What better way than to give this awesome gift! – Mike
- Thank you for sending me a copy of "In Search of the Perfect Christmas." It means a lot to have a copy of this message. – Greg
- Hi, my name is Jessy. I am 11 years old, and I really, really, really like the New Testament. It is great so far. Goodbye. – Jessy

Operation Overcoat

Corporate Counselling and Chaplaincy Inc. is a non-denominational organization designed to provide "quick response" assistance to those in need and to support individuals seeking meaningful solutions in their lives. They help by addressing physical, emotional and spiritual needs. Their purpose is to share God's love and care as evidenced by the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Assistance provided includes sending children to summer camps, providing shelter and financial assistance and arranging counseling as needed. They also support other ministries which address similar issues in a Christian manner.

One exciting program, which was initiated this past winter, is *Operation Overcoat*. This program provided warm winter parkas for people in need. Both new and used parkas and coats were given to a number of missions in the Toronto area, as well as to people living on the streets. Some of them actually prefer older garments in order to avert being robbed of them. A copy of *The LifeLight* New Testament was put into the pockets of the coats.



We received this letter recently from Jacob: *I am serving a four-year sentence for robbing a gas station. I attended a service where I was given a copy of the "Hope for the Highway" NT. I have read it every night for more than a year. It is interesting to read the testimonies of each individual.*

I have been off drugs and alcohol for two years. I owe this to God because He gave me the power to overcome this problem.

I will be released on parole shortly and would like to meet people who are committed to the Word of God and are interested in riding motorcycles.



Light for Kids

The grass withers, and the flowers fade, but the word of God stands forever (Isaiah 40:6).

Spring Unscramble

Unscramble the words below and then use the letters to fill in the message!

YDSLARPESILP

1	2	3	4	5	5	1	8	9	9	11	12
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FDSLAFIOD

3	2	6	6	10	3	8	1	5
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NPSIRG

5	9	12	8	15	16
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UCRSCO

17	12	10	17	14	5
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ULLESBBLE

18	1	14	11	18	11	1	1	5
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The secret message:

2	9	12	8	1	5	H	10	W	11	12	5
18	12	8	15	16	5	M	2	4			
6	1	10	W	11	12	5					

THE LampLight

May 2004

The Newsletter of Canadian LifeLight Ministries

Praying for the Word

Dan Koop

Many people treat prayer like frequent fliers treat the pre-flight safety announcements when traveling by air. It's a yawning experience, hardly worth the time. I have never yet seen the oxygen mask dangling in front of my face! Sometimes we treat prayer in the same way. It's a lot easier to talk and even to preach about prayer than to actually pray.

One of the reasons we do not experience more power in our lives is the lack of quality and quantity in our prayers. *...It's the earnest, heartfelt, continued prayer of a righteous man that makes tremendous power available and dynamic in its working* (James 5:16).

So don't get tired of doing what is good. Don't be discouraged and give up, for we will reap a harvest of blessing at the appropriate time (Galatians 6:9).

Unfortunately, our prayers are often 911 prayers like that of Phil's son Jeffrey. Jeffrey was only four, but Phil removed him from the worship service. He was creating quite a stir, judging from the way everyone was looking at him. So Father picked him up and whisked him swiftly toward the back doors of the church. As he did, Jeffrey hollered, "Pray for me!"

How different were the prayers of students in Argentina! Dr. Edward Miller tells the story of how fifty students began to pray and experienced the power of God through prayer. The school had to suspend classes because of the heavy prayer burden they had for Argentina. Day after day, forty-nine days in a row, these students prayed and interceded for their land.

Dr. Miller says that he had never seen people weep so long and so hard. One man leaned his head against a brick wall and wept until, after four hours, a trail of tears had run down the wall. After

six hours had passed, he was standing in a puddle of his own tears.

These students weren't just repenting for something they had done; they were repenting on behalf of their country. On the fiftieth day of weeping, a prophetic Word came forth, "Weep no more, for the Lion of the Tribe of Judah has prevailed over the prince of Argentina." Eighteen months later, Argentines were flocking to evangelistic services in soccer stadiums that seated 180,000 people.

If God can get enough people to pray and intercede with brokenness and repentance, He will slap an eviction notice on the doorway of the ruling demonic power of that area. When He does, light and glory will come.



Take a Passion test; be honest with yourself and God. *How often and how fervently do I pray for the lost? How often does compassion rise in me to pray for the salvation of hard-core rebels? Do I ever find myself crying for the lost in my time of prayer? Do I share the gospel with those around me?*

Did you rate low in your compassion for the lost? Only God can restore that. But first you have to see it, repent of it, want it, and then ask for God's kind of compassion for the lost. *No one can come to the Father except the Father draws them...* Pray that the Father will draw many.

As many Scriptures are distributed all over Canada, let's bathe them in prayer, praying that the Holy Spirit will use the Word of God to bring people to Himself.

Dan Koop is the Executive Director of LifeLight Ministries. He and his wife, Norma, live in Morden, Man., where they attend the Evangelical Mennonite Mission Church.

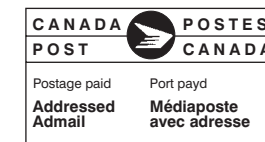


Opportunity to Bless

Thank you so much for your donations, which make the work of LifeLight Ministries possible. Many people are beginning their new journey with God as a result of reading *The LifeLight* and *How to Find God*. If you have not sent in a donation for a while, would you consider doing so? Many ministries would like more Scriptures, and we would like to honour those requests. Thank you for your support so we can support others. Donations can be made through CanadaHelps.org or by cheque.

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Spiritually Hungry Moms

Youth Unlimited is a branch of Youth for Christ in Toronto. Every week three groups of teen moms meet for our outreach program, "Time Out for Teen Moms." While the moms have their time of teaching and fun, the little ones enjoy a children's program.

These teen moms are spiritually hungry. Life is full of overwhelming challenges for them, and they struggle with the knowledge that they have made poor choices in the past. As they hear about the love of God for them and experience the care and guidance of our workers, many of them are drawn to the Saviour. As their spiritual interest awakens, we give them Bibles and teach them how to use the Bibles so they can read them on their own. These gifts are deeply appreciated.

What a thrill it was for our Teen Moms Director, Margie, to receive a call from Manda. Manda is a young mom whom Margie first met when she was holding her tiny baby, looking into the casket of her boyfriend, who had been shot in a drug-related conflict. After being in the Teen Moms group for a few months, Manda began to consider her need for God. When she called Margie, she said she had been reading her Bible and had finally come to the conclusion that she wanted to give her life to Christ.

Thank you, LifeLight, for the Bibles, which are so easy to read and understand for our teens who are completely unfamiliar with the Word of God.

A response from a client at a Crisis Pregnancy Centre after receiving a Bible:

I like this material because it has taught me how much God loves me, unconditionally, and died on the cross to forgive us of our sins. He is my best friend and also my Father and many other great things.

I have been attending an Alpha program, as well as Bible studies and church. I have given my life to God, and He is doing a lot of amazing work in my life, and I can also see changes in my son.

*Help us, Lord, to be a lifeline to a dying world today,
Bring hope to helpless people as we share salvation's way.*

Healing for the Wounded

Healing Hearts is a church plant in Regina, Sask., started in 1994 "to bring the healing touch of Jesus to wounded hearts." The leadership team provides teaching, counseling, support group opportunities, youth ministry, hospital and prison visitation and extensive one-on-one discipleship.

Betty (not her real name) walked into the community centre apprehensively. With four little girls in tow, she scanned the large room for a place to seat her active family. Her neighbour girl had told her about this church and invited her to come. "There's a barbecue after . . .," she was told.

Betty came back to Healing Hearts a couple more times but found her little ones too hard to handle in church. They were too shy to participate in Sunday school, so the harried mom would tug them back home partway through the service. Yet, she enjoyed the casual atmosphere, the coffee, and the welcome she experienced at this church in north-central Regina. Both aboriginal and non-

aboriginal people worshiped together, and she felt accepted.

Once again Betty brought her family through the community centre doors – desperate and needy. The pain of her abusive past, living in foster homes and turning to a life on the street had finally brought her to this point of decision. This time her children went willingly to Sunday school, and she was able to concentrate on what the preacher was saying. Her tears would not stop as the speaker gave an invitation to lay all her hurt and anger on Jesus. A couple of women gathered around her, listened to her and prayed for her.

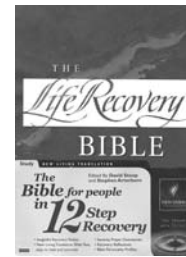
A few months later, Betty stood in front of the Healing Hearts church family, nervously sharing her conversion testimony before her baptism. In her shaking hand, she held a copy of *My City, My God* – a gift from the church for this special occasion. Her daughters smiled and clapped, along with everyone else, as they witnessed their mother rising victoriously from the baptismal waters.

Walter & Cindy Selke

The Bible as a Refuge

Thank you for sending us the *Life Recovery Bibles*. We really like these Bibles because they correlate with the 12-Step Program we run with many of the addicts, and it gives them a scriptural foundation for the twelve steps. We give Bibles to inmates when they leave jail so that they can work through the twelve steps themselves from a strong biblical point of view.

We gave one Bible prematurely to Candy, who was still serving her time. She told us that she loves the language of this Bible, which makes the gospel very clear to her. One time when she had a disagreement with one of the guards and couldn't sleep, she read the Bible for hours and found rest and peace for her mind.



Another time her room was tossed, and some of her craft supplies were ruined. Because of her growth and the Bible as a ready resource, she was able to forgive the guard, rather than being hampered by unforgiveness, bitterness and anger – possibly not a big deal for you and me, but a really big deal in a place where one's life is completely controlled by others. The Bible has become a refuge for her, as well as for many others who are on the "outside," trying to figure out, with God, how it all fits.

Julie Kissick

Streets Alive works with the addicted population in the inner city of Lethbridge, Alberta.

Frightened, Fragile, Mistrusting

I am privileged to visit women, mostly native, in the Remand Centre. Native women are remanded at a higher ratio and may not have means to get bail.

They are the most hopeless, abused and hurt sector of society. From the day they are born, they have no rights over their bodies or anything else. They are frightened, fragile and mistrusting. They do not expect to be loved and feel jail is their destiny, and despair is their constant companion. They would love to believe that Jesus really cares about them.

I take *Indian Life* newspapers and Gideon New Testaments when I visit. I have received a generous donation of the booklet *Prisoners of Hope* so I can give every woman a copy. They are well received, and many of the women tell me these booklets have been a help to them.

Once they are sentenced, they move on to other jails, and I don't get

to see them often. I get the Word of God into their hands, underline a passage to get them started, answer any questions they have, and then prayerfully leave them with the Lord. It so wonderful to know that salvation is of the Lord and not of us, and I know the Holy Spirit can continue to draw them to Him.

Many young faces are seared into my mind. I remember the eyes that belied little to explain the slashes down the fronts of their arms, scars so wide the forearms are like striped fabric. God knows all, and in the end He is the Judge and will set things right.

Bunny Goertzen

"Prisoners of Hope" is designed for outreach to women in prison. It features stories of four women from the Gospels whose lives were changed by Jesus. This booklet is available from LifeLight Ministries for a suggested donation of \$1.50.



Furniture for Newcomers



God has been using us as a link in His chain to assist poor Canadian families in Edmonton, as well as newly arrived immigrants from Mexico, Central and South America. We pick up unwanted basic household items such as furniture, bedding and kitchenware and deliver them to people in desperate need.

We are also able to share the message of Jesus by providing people with booklets and Bibles in their own language. We are hosting a picnic for newcomers on May 30 and will be giving out Bibles to those who come. Thank you, LifeLight Ministries, for making foreign-language Scriptures available to us.

Jon Wynn

LifeLight Ministries Golf Tournament

Thursday, September 16

Minnewasta Golf and

Country Club, Morden, MB

(Watch for more information)



The Man in the Picture

A group of men from our church went out on a community service project at Hands of Hope. It is a grassroots used furniture, appliances, and other essentials mission. We were sent out with a chesterfield, coffee table and an old torn mattress. On arrival at the home, we were warmly welcomed by a mother and her 9-year-old son, Dallas. They were so happy and overflowing with joy upon receiving the used stuff.

Before we left, the mother told us that her son had asked about a man in a picture in the *Winnipeg Sun*. After some probing, we found out that she was referring to an ad for the movie "The Passion of the Christ." Dallas had asked who the man was in the picture. I hurried to my truck, got a New Testament and opened its pages, as the mother and her son listened, hungry and thirsty. The mother asked, "If I read this book to my son at bedtime, would it help him know the man in the picture in the newspaper?" We assured her that it would. Please pray for Dallas and his mother. God loves them and wants them to get to know Him. "Lord, water the seed!"

Greg Armstrong

The Passion of the Christ

LifeLight Ministries has resources available to help you reach out to people who have seen the movie "The Passion of the Christ": The Servant King New Testament, The Servant King (the story told by Luke), The Passion of the Christ--True or False. Call us for more information.

Serenity House Has Moved!



After many attempts to finance staying at their home in Winnipeg, Serenity House was forced to sell. However, the new location at the Hacienda in Anola has been a happy solution and has allowed continuity in programming for the residents.

Serenity House shares the facilities of the Hacienda, a rural mission house, with existing programs and buildings. A character house was donated in the last few years and, with some remodeling, will become the new Serenity House.

Serenity House provides a home for those who need recovery from abuse and freedom from addictions. Recovering individuals also benefit by receiving help during their transition period. The ministry encourages its residents to gradually integrate positively into the church and community.

The LifeLight of God's Word for this Generation