

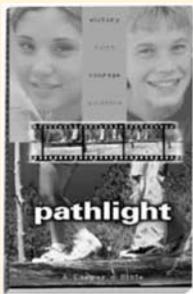
THE LifeLight

The Newsletter of Canadian LifeLight Ministries

September 2005

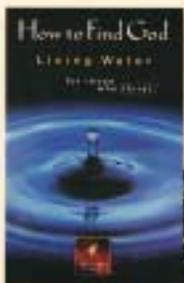
Bibles Ordered by Bible Camps (2005)

- Pathlight Bible - 1237
- Abundant Life NT - 300
- How to Find God - 231
- LifeLight NT - 206
- NIV Paperback Bible - 72
- Expanded Helps Bible - 60
- Others - 50



The Pathlight Bible was the most popular choice for Bible camps.

Inside this issue:
Camp reports

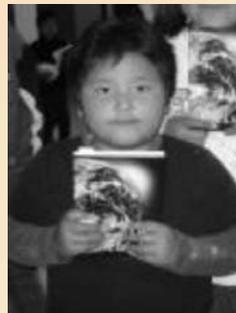


Beyond Borders

Tim Ripstein

The Nebraska Group" is what we became known as. We were a group of eight, all connected in some way to Concordia University in Seward, Nebraska.

It was decided recently that juniors of Concordia University would be expected to take a class which includes a servant leadership component. We decided to take these students to a village in Canada to lead a VBS program, and it was suggested to us that we take them to Grand Rapids, Manitoba.



I contacted Greg Armstrong of LifeLight Ministries to see if we could get some Bibles that we could leave in Grand Rapids. Greg was very positive and encouraging and invited our group to have lunch when we stopped in Winnipeg to pick up the Bibles.

We were delayed at the border and arrived over two hours late, hot and tired, for lunch. We enjoyed a delicious meal, and Greg blessed us with some gifts to remember our time in Manitoba and two cases of *The LifeLight* NTs. We appreciated Greg and Janet's hospitality, enthusiasm for the mission of God and their evangelistic spirit

Once we arrived in Grand Rapids, we met another group (high school students and adults) from Landmark, Man., led by Youth Pastor Nathan Plett. We had corresponded, but this was the first time we met. The two groups hit it off, and we were a team the rest of the week. Together our newly expanded team of 17 led VBS daily for a total of 110 kids.

Pastor Fred Neff was our connection and the person who invited us, and he was very involved in the daily activities. It was obvious that he has established relationships with the people there. We continue to pray that we may have enhanced his ministry among these beautiful people and that God will continue to give Fred strength as he serves amidst difficulties.

Fred had a desire to also reach out to the older kids, the teenagers, who felt they were too old to come to VBS. We planned a couple of "open gym" nights, with games and a devotional, and waited to see who would show up. Much to our surprise, it was the children, many of whom had been at VBS earlier that day. There were a few new faces—but no teenagers. What was God telling us?

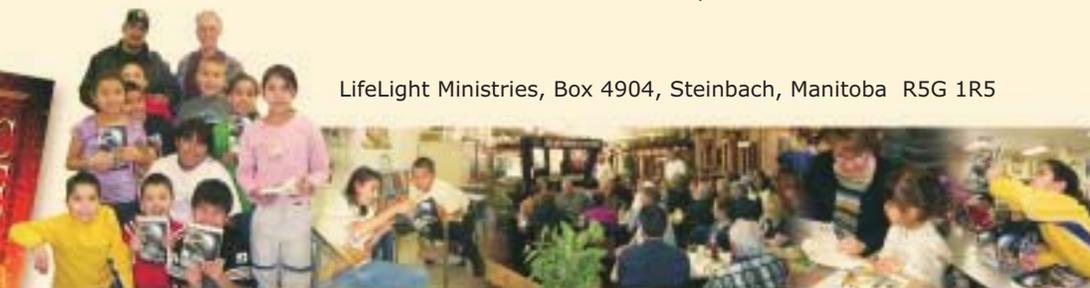


Fred met a couple of teens he knew outside and suggested that they come back the next night and bring some friends for a basketball game challenge. The next evening we had even more children—and also some teens. Nathan organized a basketball game and floor hockey. The teens enjoyed the games and even hung around later to talk.

We pray that many more children, as well as adults, in Grand Rapids will be introduced to Christ and that others would be encouraged in their faith.

Tim Ripstein is the Professor/Director of Christian Education at Concordia University.

LifeLight Ministries, Box 4904, Steinbach, Manitoba R5G 1R5



God's Word for this Generation

AROUND THE CAMPFIRE

CAMP CROSSROADS

Many came to celebrate the 25th anniversary and the way God has blessed the ministry of Camp Crossroads over the past 25 years. Many stories were told, many of God's blessings at Camp Crossroads were shared, and many memories were recounted.

One thing was evident – God has blessed us richly at this place of ministry. When this camp was purchased in the late 1970s, no one could have imagined the impact Camp Crossroads would have on so many people who would come as program participants or staff volunteers.

One of our desires for this year was to give an anniversary gift to each family who sent campers to us. We appreciate the many donors who helped fund this project.

When we saw a copy of *The Pathlight* Bible from LifeLight Ministries, we knew it would be the ideal gift for this celebration. The features about courage, fun, trust, victory, faith and celebration are examples of what happens at camp. The emphasis on finding the right path, choosing it, and then

following this path relates closely to the key verse of Camp Crossroads: *You have made known to me the path of life. In your presence is fullness of joy* (Psalm 11:16).

The youngest child in each family who attended one of the weeks of camp received a Bible. When older siblings came, we asked that the Bibles be sent with them. Cabin leaders used the Bibles for studies with their groups, and chapel leaders used them to help campers look up the text of what was being taught.

We trust that the campers, as well as their parents and older siblings, will have the opportunity to learn about the "path of life" as a result of having these Bibles in their homes. It is our prayer that the lessons learned at camp will have a positive spiritual impact far beyond the sunny days of summer.

Joyce Schimpky, Director

Camp Crossroads is located in the Muskokas near Torrance, Ontario.



Thank you for your ministry of providing camps with Bibles. We have used *The Pathlight* Bible for the past two summers and have given away almost 200 during that time.

It is neat to watch the surprise, and sometimes awe, of the campers as they realize that the Bible is for them to keep. Often, during cabin quiet times, the kids would lie on their bunks and read their new Bibles rather than books they had brought from home.

Thank you for giving us an affordable way to get God's Word into the lives of our campers; we have no way of knowing how these Bibles will touch the lives of the families.

Sig Seidel, Executive Director

Camp Nutimik is located in the Whiteshell Provincial Park in Manitoba, nestled in the heart of the majestic Canadian Shield. It overlooks Lake Nutimik and is the perfect retreat into God's creation.

Attention: Steinbach Readers

If you haven't done so yet, please let us know what your correct postal is. Thank you.

TURTLE MOUNTAIN BIBLE CAMP

We had the privilege of having many first-time campers this summer, many of whom had never held a Bible. It was wonderful to watch the children's expressions as they heard Bible stories for the first time and marvelled at our amazing God.

Many campers made commitments to Christ this summer, and we gave Bibles to those who did not have a Bible in their home, noting the date they accepted the Lord and some helpful verses.

Some campers showed such a hunger for God's Word and read after lights out in their sleeping bags with their flashlights. One camper beamed when her cabin leader gave her a Bible, and promised to read it for years.

Many of the Bibles we used had wonderful helps that the campers appreciated and found informative. We appreciate so much being able to share the Word of God with these precious children through LifeLight Ministries.

Howard and Kathy Weir, Directors

Turtle Mountain Bible Camp in Boissevain, Manitoba, is operated by Canadian Sunday School Mission (CSSM) Ministries.



Erin Kowal, program director, wrote: *We have been distributing Bibles from LifeLight for four years now. We order 75 Bibles each summer, and this summer we ran out in mid-August, which is great. We offer Bibles to kids (for a donation) and also give them to new Christians, so it's exciting that we ran out.*

"That we may present everyone perfect in Christ" (Colossians 1:28) is the purpose of Dauphin Bible Camp, situated on the northern edge of Riding Mountain National Park in Manitoba.

September 2005

Dear Friends:

If you're like us there is nothing that brings you more delight than to hear of individuals who have heard God's Word and made a decision to follow and obey His truth.

Life had become hopeless for *Daniel, a young man I met in prison; his life of confusion, darkness, anger, violence, addiction, shame and abuse had taken its toll, stripping him of any hope or human dignity. I got to know him when he joined a group of us for a bi-weekly Bible study and fellowship at the Winnipeg Remand. What unfolded as time went on, as a result of friendship and the teaching in God's Word, was amazing.

We went around the circle and asked the men who had been attending the study faithfully for a number of weeks to share what they enjoyed most about this time, where we pray, sing, laugh, weep, talk, listen, learn through video/audio teaching, and become familiar with and study the Bible. When it came to Daniel, a strikingly captivating Aboriginal man with long, black, braided hair; deep-brown eyes; distinctively high cheekbones and weathered, tan-coloured skin, he gently picked up his "How To Find God" (HTFG) New Testament from his lap, held it up firmly in one hand and, pointing to the cover with his long slim finger, he said, weeping: "I don't know about these other things, but I love this Book," and placed it gently back on his lap.

I visited Daniel and got to know him better over time. One day he asked for forgiveness, with a humble heart, recognizing his sin. As a result of studying the Bible, he had come to know Jesus, what He had done for him, and that he could be forgiven. He wanted that for himself, as well as for others.

This is just one story of a life transformed by the Word of God. There are thousands more—stories of God's glory as people submit themselves to Him through the power of His Word. The availability and teaching of the Word from intentionally designed reader-friendly Scriptures result in positive responses.

God has been faithful in guiding us to people, places and organizations so desperately in need of hope and salvation, found only through the redemptive power and truth of His Word. It is evident that methods of Scripture distribution change, new innovations in science and technology bolster change, but God's Word stays the same. We have recognized and are responding to a famine—a hunger to hear and read the Scriptures in accurate translations that are relevant to this generation.

In order to continue the distribution of Scriptures to this generation, in an affordable, reader-friendly translation, we depend on God's continued grace, our obedience, fervent prayer, and the generosity of people who, recognizing the value of Scripture distribution, have become regular contributors.

In the last five years we have distributed about 37,000 copies of "The LifeLight" NT and 20,000 "HTFG." Thanks to God's grace and the generosity of donors, the finances for our daily operations are being met, but we need to re-order these New Testaments, at a cost of almost \$96,000, to replenish the supply, which will soon be depleted. We are appealing to you to consider how God might lead you in giving a generous gift toward this need. Your support has been and will continue to be crucial in the on-going distribution of easy-to-understand Scriptures—"God's Word to this generation," a ministry of truth and light resulting in changed lives. Your participation is vital if we are to continue to effectively distribute the truth found only in His Word. Thank you for your part in helping us meet this goal.

Greg Armstrong
On behalf of the Board and Staff
Canadian LifeLight Ministries Inc.
Box 4904
Steinbach, Manitoba R5G 1R5
1-866-447-9673

*not his real name

Reply Form

Enclosed is my donation:

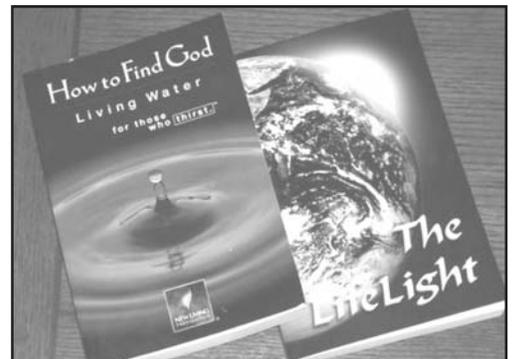
Reprinting HTFG and LifeLight NTs \$ _____ Other \$ _____

Staff support for _____ \$ _____ General Fund \$ _____

Name _____ Address _____

_____ PC _____ Phone _____

Credit card donations may be made at www.donatebibles.net.



How to Find God, in the New Living Translation, contains 40 topical Bible studies, new believer study notes, and an up-front salvation tract.

The LifeLight is a NT for kids of all ages, in the easy-to-read New International Readers Version. Especially appropriate for children's ministries and for people for whom English is not their first language.

God's Light in the Darkness

Tom Campbell

Once a year the Zion Apostolic Church in Winnipeg hosts a team of young people, Youth Missions International, through the Mennonite Collegiate Institute in Gretna, Manitoba. The North End, where our church is located, has long been considered a barren wasteland, spiritually dark, and is on many people's list of undesirable places to be. This perception is slowly changing, thanks to the faithful commitment of these young people, as well as many others who are not "hiding their light under a bowl."

Twenty-five geared-up and fired-up youth hit the streets again during Spring Break. We went door to door with the message of God's love, sharing our testimonies of God's power to change lives, in a park, on street corners and at bus stops. Thanks to a large anonymous donation of Bibles through LifeLight Ministries, we were able to give Bibles to those who needed and wanted one.

Three young boys, all children of single moms, were playing outside their apartment block. They hadn't clearly heard the Gospel before and were very inquisitive and open to listen. All three of them accepted the Lord! This, in turn, sparked lots of curiosity in the moms, and they wanted to know more. They were

open to the Gospel and thanked the team for the Bibles the kids had received.

A family in our church recently received Bibles as well. The father, who had been separated from his wife, called me to say that he had



received Jesus Christ into his life at a drug treatment and rehabilitation centre. He said he wanted to be baptized and start coming to church. Two weeks later he and his eight-year-old daughter were baptized. Since then his wife has also given her heart to the Lord, has received a Bible, and wants to be baptized as well.

Jesus said, *You are the light of the world. A*

city on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house (Matt. 5:14-16).

Letting our light shine has very little to do with sitting in church on Sunday morning but everything to do with how we live and give witness to the Gospel outside the four walls of our churches. If we are faithful to do our part, God's glory and light will shine through the darkness and bring deliverance, salvation, healing to souls and restoration to families.

Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD rises upon you. See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the people, but the LORD rises upon you and his glory appears over you. Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn (Isaiah 60:1-3). We see darkness all around us, yet His light and glory, when reflected through His people, overcomes the darkness.

Tom Campbell is the Associate Pastor of the Zion Apostolic Church. The church is located at 305 Machray Ave. in Winnipeg.

From the Mailbox



• Sometime ago you provided me with a "LifeLight" NT. I was recently given the opportunity to give it to an international student who expressed a real interest in knowing about Jesus. My prayer is that it will help her to discover a life-changing relationship with Him. As an Alpha coordinator in our church, I anticipate being presented with many similar opportunities, and

in most cases "The LifeLight" is the ideal version to give. How can I obtain more copies? – Roger

• Our youth group held a barbecue lunch in order to raise funds for your ministry, as well as a few others. Our prayer is that God would bless this gift in order to further His kingdom. – Youth Group

• I would like to be enrolled in a Bible course. I'm sitting in jail right now, and I need some time to think about my life. – David

• I have lost so much through someone's death, and I need some information or Scriptures on how to cope. I am a believer looking for the truth. I just started reading the Book of John. – Delphine

• In less than two weeks I have studied through this New Testament, which my cousin gave me. At times I just sit and read, and I keep it where I can pick it up anytime of the day. It is easy to understand, and the "Cornerstones" are very helpful for me. Keep up the good work! God bless you all! – Sylvia

Hurricane Katrina Response

International Bible Society

Hundreds of thousands of people have lost homes and livelihoods from the devastation of Hurricane Katrina. Many lives have been lost. Families have been displaced, and in some cases torn apart, indefinitely.

Somehow, life must go on in the face of such horror and hardship. God's healing Word can give Katrina survivors the strength, hope and faith they need to carry on in the face of so many obstacles, so much heartbreak.



International Bible Society, through their alliances with relief organizations and churches, is putting God's Word into the hands of those who desperately need it:

When Your Whole World Changes – a month-long daily devotional.

Deeper Still – for those who grieve.

Beside Quiet Waters – for those who suffer fear and anxiety.

All of these booklets are also available from LifeLight Ministries. Share them with those who have experienced a disaster or other crisis in their lives. Call us for more information.



KENOSEE LAKE BIBLE CAMP

We received this request from the Kenosee Lake Bible Camp in April:

We are running a First Nations weekend camp for the native children from Whitebear and possibly a few other reserves that are close to Kenosee. We expect around forty children to attend this camp, and we would like to give them each a Bible to take home with them. Would there be any possibility of getting forty Bibles donated for that purpose? Thanks to a generous donation (designated for Bible camps) from the International Christian Fellowship in Piney, Manitoba, we were able to provide the camp with free Bibles.

* * * * *

I was excited to receive a number of New Testaments from LifeLight Ministries before camp started. The one we ordered, *How to Find God: living water for those who thirst*, went particularly well with our summer camp theme: "Thirsty."

MANITOU LAKE BIBLE CAMP

So many kids are blown away by the fact that we give them free Bibles. Here are comments from some of the kids about their camp experiences:

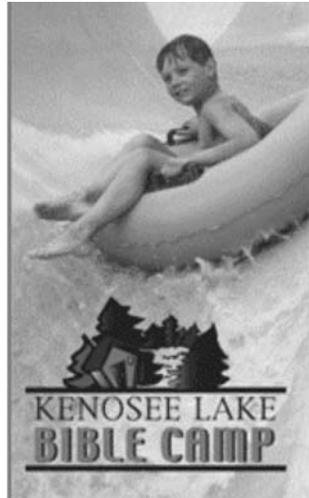
- *It really made me consider becoming a Christian and changing the way I look at God.*
- *When I came here I wasn't a strong believer. You guys changed that.*
- *The highlights of my week at camp were learning more about God and meeting new friends.*
- *The highlight of my week was praising the Lord for getting me closer to God.*
- *I felt that I definitely grew closer to God this week and learned so much. I really enjoyed the speaker and how he hung out with us.*

Barry Peters, Director



Manitou Lake Bible Camp, owned and operated by CSSM, is situated on a beautiful lakeshore in a valley close to Neilburg, Sask.

We like to give Bibles to campers who don't have one and to those who have one in a translation that is difficult for them to understand. We feel it is important for campers to be able to continue to read from God's Word after camp.



How to Find God has many interesting helps and comments throughout, which I felt would be beneficial to campers as they went home and needed continued help to grow, understand and stay interested in God's Word. The commentary and insights are like a devotional book. I kept a copy for my own use and added it to my library of Bibles. The ones we didn't use this summer can be used next summer or will be excellent to give out at Bible clubs in the winter months.

May God continue to bless the distribution of His Word through LifeLight Ministries!

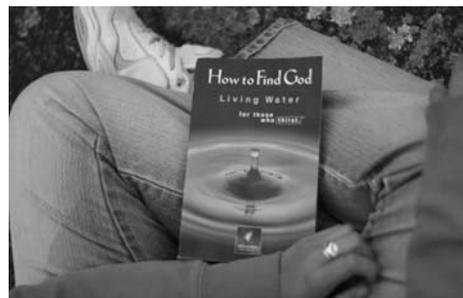
Lincoln Vellacott, Director

Kenosee Lake Bible Camp is located in the beautiful Moose Mountain Provincial Park in southeast Saskatchewan.



Calvary Temple Camp gave the *How to Find God* New Testaments to children who did not have a Bible. This proved to be a valuable tool in their spiritual discovery. One of the exceptional features that was very helpful was the first forty pages, which helped the campers find answers to their multiple questions about God. It also provided them with the Scripture references that backed up those answers. The Gospel of Jesus Christ was sent forth this summer. Thank you, LifeLight Ministries, for your part in this. We appreciate you!

Lois Thiessen



My first Bible!

Calvary Temple Camp is located on Red Rock Lake in the Whiteshell Provincial Park. It is owned by Calvary Temple in Winnipeg.

TEEN RANCH

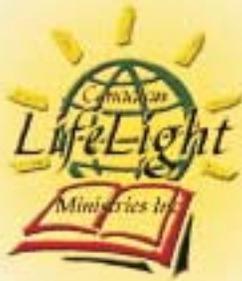
Campers at Teen Ranch were impacted by God this summer through the staff—their words, works and dedication to the Lord. Many campers received a Bible—the gift of life. Leaders wrote personal notes inside the Bibles to encourage the campers in their walk with God and to assure them that there are people out there who care about them.

One of our leaders gave Bibles to the guys in his cabin. One of the guys made a commitment to the Lord, and a few days later the leader made contact with him. The camper was excited about God and told his counselor what he had read recently and began asking questions.

It's exciting to see the power of God's Word in campers' lives. It's a privilege to show them God's love, teach them about Him, and equip them to walk into their daily lives again, with God's Word in their hands and hearts.

Ashley Goldsmith

Teen Ranch is a Christian sports camp in the beautiful Caledon (Ontario) countryside.



Canadian Thanksgiving Day October 10

It must be an odd feeling to be thankful to nobody in particular. Christians in public institutions often see this odd thing happening on Thanksgiving Day. Everyone in the institution seems to be thankful "in general." It's very strange. It's a little like being married in general.

God gave you a gift of 86,400 seconds today. Have you used one to say "thank you"?

Have a blessed Thanksgiving!

www.thelifelight.com

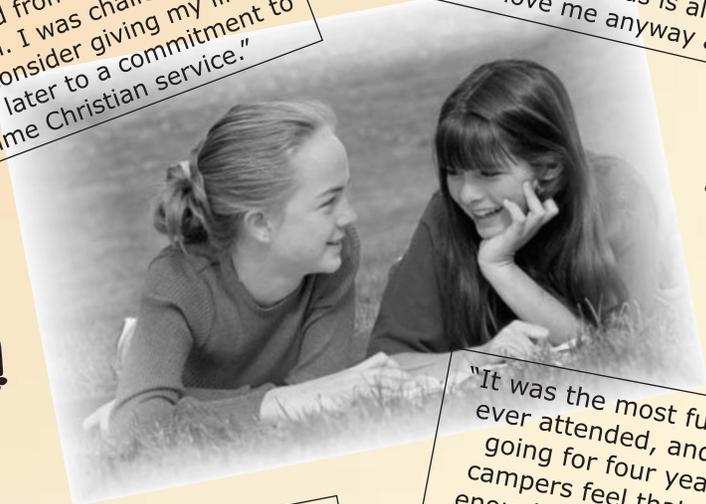
Phone/Fax: 204-320-9676 • Toll Free: 866-447-9673 • Email: bibles@thelifelight.com



CAMPER COMMENTS

"I came to know the Word of God better from counselors and teachers who shared from their lives and their faith. I was challenged to seriously consider giving my life to Christ and later to a commitment to full-time Christian service."

"I realized that Jesus is always with me and will love me anyway and always."



FRIENDS!

FAITH!

"Camp was the greatest experience ever. It gave us all a chance to meet new people, eat good food, play awesome games, have an extraordinary staff and, most importantly, grow closer to God."

"It was the most fun camp I have ever attended, and I have been going for four years. All of us campers feel that six days isn't enough for camp. When you get there, it takes most people a few days to get comfortable, and once you do and you're having so much fun, you don't want to leave."

"I came to camp trying to impress everyone and be popular, but God changed my life forever."

FUN!

WE HAVE MOVED!

The office of LifeLight Ministries has moved to 362 Main Street (next to Solomon's Furniture) in Steinbach, Manitoba. Our mailing address and phone number remain the same. We look forward to serving you from this new location and invite you to drop in.



x 4904, Steinbach, Manitoba R5G 1R5

