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Tehillah News

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Training Pastors - That's What It's All About!

People have asked me what I regard as the highlight of our latest voyage to Bougainville - Is it the ten days at sea? And do you ever get scared out there? Or is it spending time with the people? What keeps you going back?

I can easily put a finger on the highlight. No, it's not the voyage over, that's to teach me patience and endurance. (I must be a slow learner!) And no, I've never been scared at sea either. Sometimes though, when the wind is screaming through the rigging and the waves look ready to climb aboard with us, it gives pause for thought, but usually at those times we really are too busy to get frightened.

The thing I love the most, the one thing that's enough to keep me going back, is the look in the eyes of the pastors as they grasp something new from the Scriptures, or gain a new perspective on an old truth. It's an amazing experience to be the one whom God has chosen to bring His message.

.. It was wonderful to hear an old pastor exclaim, "I never understood before that the Old Testament is one story!"

.. It's a privilege to see the wives discovering that the significance of being "one flesh" with their husbands isn't just a physical union, but a binding together into one "image of God" by the Spirit of God. That they are equal to and complementary to their husbands. That they have a legitimate and needful role in their husband's ministry.



Ernie training the Pastors at Kekesu - 2007

That's what I love. People of influence - Pastors - discovering who they are in Christ, then going back to their own people to help in bringing them into new relationships with Him.

Yes, we're going back again, and again ...

Ernie Gunders

Praise & Prayer Points

- *Prayer for wisdom as preparations are made for the 2008 season in Bougainville.*
 - *Praise for the many supporters and volunteers who help Tehillah.*
 - *Prayer for increased financial support for Tehillah Ministries.*
 - *Continued prayer for the Work Permit/Visa Applications.*

MEMBER



*March 7- 9
International
Outlook
Conference
Mt Tambourine
Convention Centre
Don't miss our
display!*

*.. It was wonderful to
hear an old pastor
exclaim, "I never
understood before that
the Old Testament
is one story!"*

*Show me
Your ways,
O Lord,
Teach me
Your paths*

Psalm 25:4

Update on the Annual General Meeting

What an encouraging time the AGM was for the 28 people present – our very important supporters, our missionaries Ernie & Marilyn Gunders and Shane & Karen Cavies, and the Board of Tehillah Ministries.

We heard of the difficulties experienced once again with communication between Bougainville and Australia; we were entertained by the story of the initial voyage of Tehillah Too in the Coomera river, Gold Coast; the Financial Statement & Report presented challenges; the Reports received from Ernie & Marilyn, Shane & Karen, and the two volunteer sailors who sacrificially left home to help with the outward and inward voyages were most enlightening. Of particular concern is the lack of Work Permits for our missionaries which would enable them to spend an extended period in Bougainville.

Motions to change the Constitution involved the change of date for the end of the Financial year; rewording of our Objects and the Statement of Beliefs, and the reformatting of the document. All of these changes were passed and will now be forwarded to the Qld Office of Fair Trading for approval.

Roy and Margaret Vickers highlighted just how much you have contributed over the years towards helping the people of Bougainville, besides your prayers and donations – 156 Bibles, 220 Baby Bundles and 1900 School Bags, as well as solar lights and many other very useful items. Roy and Margaret also process the used stamps that you send in, so keep them coming! So far they have amounted to a \$400 saving in postage costs for us.



New Board Member

Tehillah Ministries was happy to welcome George Dean as a new Board Member at the recent Annual General Meeting on 8 December.



George and Lynette have been married for almost 42 years and they have two grown up children - Andrew and Louise.

George writes

“After serving 15 years in the RAAF as a maintenance engineer, I took up the challenge in civilian life to learn to fly. Lynette and I met Ernie & Marilyn when we were in Longreach when I was the ‘flying padre’ with Outback Aerial Mission, for 8 years. That would be around 20 years ago now, so we have a practical interest in missions. We are aware of the pressures of being on the front line, and feel it a God-given privilege to support the work and vision of Tehillah.



From the Chairman

During the devotions at our recent Board meeting, we discussed the statement from ‘Perspectives on the World Christian Movement’ that working with God “always leads to a crisis of belief that requires faith and action.” Looking back over the history of Tehillah Ministries we found evidences of this eg Ernie and Marilyn sitting on Special Effects in USA , arranging delivery of her to Australia, learning that funds were desperately low, and knowing that immediate action needed to be taken. While praying about this the answer came. God had gone before. The financial situation was suddenly much healthier so enabling her to be shipped to Australia.

And what a blessing she has been. Through her we have been led to Bougainville. But again we have ‘hit a wall’ – the lack of Work Permits. The 50 Pastors, who have completed at least Module 1, can be taken on through Modules 2 and 3 & 4 in 2008 within the 60 days time limit that the Visitors’ Visa allows, but the 150 + waiting and wanting to do Module 1 simply can’t be fitted in. How we long for and pray for an avenue to open so the Work permits can be obtained. An option we are exploring is via the Autonomous Bougainville Government, so please pray with us that, if this is the way God wants us to go then we will see progress, but if it isn’t then we will be patient and wait on Him to guide us in His time.

Our desire is to follow Jesus example when He said, as recorded in John 5:30, “...I seek not to please Myself but Him who sent Me.”

Dot Vincent.



A big thank you to our prayer and financial supporters and for those anonymous gifts deposited into Tehillah Ministries bank account -much appreciated.

Would you like to know more details or to advise us of any changes?

Please return to: Tehillah Ministries, P O Box 1614, Sunshine Plaza, QLD 4558.

or email us at info@tehillah.org.au

.. *Please send me more information on*

.. *My circumstances have changed and I wish to be removed from your mailing list.*

.. *Please note that my personal details have changed.*

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