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CHANGE YOUR LIFE | CHANGE YOUR WORLD

WORKPLACE WORLD CHANGERS

This could be you

LOVE FINDS A WAY

Little is much when coupled
with God's love

ENDTIME INSIGHTS

Heavenly victory in the Great
Tribulation



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Imagine that there's a sure and simple cure for loneliness, anxiety, fear, depression, insecurity, anger, hatred, bitterness, or whatever else might ail you. Now imagine that the same cure could also help you live a healthier, more vibrant life. Imagine that it could, in fact, make it possible for you to live forever. Now imagine that same miracle cure was equally effective in combating social ills and every interpersonal conflict from sibling rivalry to war between nations. Sounds fantastic, doesn't it?

Next, if I were to tell you that such a cure not only existed but was freely available to anyone and everyone, wouldn't you want it for yourself and those dearest to you? Wouldn't you want it for *everyone*?

Well, such a cure *does* exist, because *God* exists and it's within His power to give us all these things and more. He has also made a way for anyone anywhere, regardless of race, color, creed, or social standing, to tap into that power. It all begins with a personal relationship with Him, which He has also made freely available through His Son, Jesus.

So if you have found Jesus, you have found it *all*—the key to happiness, better health, heavenly help with the problems of this life, and Heaven forever in the life to come! And if you *haven't* found Jesus yet, you can right now by simply saying a prayer in your own words, inviting Him into your life. Let Jesus prove to you how down-to-earth real He is, how much He loves you, how concerned He is about your happiness, and to what lengths He will go to help you be all you can be.

Once you've experienced God's cure-all, you won't be able to keep it to yourself. You'll want to share what you've found with others. When that happens, I hope that the personal accounts and other articles in this issue will give you the impetus to help change your part of the world with God's love!

KEITH PHILLIPS

FOR YOUR ACTIVATED FAMILY

Vol 8, Issue 8 August 2007
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IT WAS A TYPICAL MONDAY MORNING, and my husband and I were in town on business for the humanitarian aid project we operate in several Balkan nations. By 10 AM it was already getting quite hot. The afternoon was supposed to be even hotter and more uncomfortable, so we were trying to finish everything on our to-do list by noon.

As we parked our camper van, a beggar approached us—not at all uncommon here, since millions are still struggling to overcome the economic effects of the civil war of the early 1990s. We usually give beggars something—some humanitarian aid if we have any with us, or a little money—but this time we paid the man little attention and hurried on our way.

When we returned some time later, he was waiting for us, unperturbed by our previous rudeness. Since our vehicle has Italian license plates, he said a few words to us in Italian. When I told him that I wasn't Italian but from Scandinavia, he started to speak to me in Danish. My husband and I began looking in the van for something to give him, and when he heard us conversing in English, he switched

BY MIRA PILLAR

PRECIOUS MOMENTS

into nearly perfect English. This was no typical beggar.

He explained that he was a refugee from Croatia, having fled from the war years ago with nothing, and that he was homeless. He and some friends were living in the park across the street. A small gas cooking stove and three stray dogs by his bedroll testified to the veracity of his story. My husband and I felt terrible for the way we had treated this obviously decent and intelligent man who had fallen on hard times, or for having treated *anyone* that way, for that matter.

The tragedy of war had brought him and his friends to their present state, but the longer we

talked with him the more we realized that they had adapted admirably well to their extremely difficult circumstances, living in a makeshift home under the trees in a park and bathing and washing their clothes in the nearby Danube River.

We searched through our camper and gathered some supplies for him and his friends—food, soap and other toiletries, etc., as well as some inspirational reading material—and promised to bring them some clothing the next time we came to town.

How easy it is in our sometimes too-hurried lives to miss those precious moments when we can do something special for a fellow human being. We all have much to give others and they have so much to offer us, but too often our busyness keeps us from receiving that blessing. ⇐

Mira Pillar is a member of the Family International in Serbia.

“**F**AITH COMES BY HEARING, and hearing by the Word of God” (Romans 10:17)—and faith can even come from hearing *your* word, your testimony, your witness, your letter containing the Words of God to a friend, relative, or other interested party.

I’m reminded of a true story I heard when I was young, about a crippled boy named Tommy who lived in poverty with his aunt in a small third-story apartment of a rundown tenement on a busy city street. He was so severely handicapped that all he could do was lie helplessly in bed.

One day Tommy asked a newsboy friend of his to bring him the book about “the Man who went about everywhere doing good.” The newsboy searched and searched for this unnamed book, until one book dealer finally realized that Tommy must have been talking about the Bible and the story of Jesus. The newsboy scraped together what little money he had, and the kindly bookseller gave him a copy of the New Testament, which he took back to Tommy.

The two boys began to read that book together, and after a time Tommy understood the message of salvation it contained. He received Jesus as his Savior and decided that he, too, wanted to do good like the wonderful Man in the book. But Tommy was crippled and could not even leave his little apartment, so he prayed and asked Jesus to show him what he could do, and the Lord gave him an idea.

Tommy began to copy helpful verses from the Bible onto little pieces of paper, which he would then drop from his window to flutter to the busy street below. Passers-by would see them drifting down and out of curiosity pick them up and read the words from the Man who went

Love finds a way

BY DAVID BRANDT BERG



around everywhere doing good—Jesus Christ. Many were helped, encouraged, and comforted, and some were even saved through the simple ministry of this boy and his New Testament.

One day a wealthy businessman found Jesus through reading the verse in one of Tommy’s little notes. He later returned to the spot where he had found the scrap of paper that had led him to the Lord, hoping to find some clue as to how it got there. Then he noticed another little bit of paper floating down to the sidewalk. He watched as a poor, tired old woman stooped painfully to pick it up, and noticed her countenance brighten as she read it. There seemed to be new strength in her step as she journeyed on.

The businessman, now fixed to the spot, kept his eyes glued upward, determined to find the source. He had to wait a long time, for it took poor Tommy many painful minutes to scrawl even one verse on one of those pieces of paper. Suddenly the businessman’s eyes were drawn to a certain window as he saw a scrawny arm reach out to drop another piece of paper, like the one that had brought a whole new life to him. He carefully noted the location of the window,

dashed up the stairs of the tenement, and finally found Tommy’s humble abode.

The businessman and Tommy soon became good friends, and the businessman brought Tommy all the help and medical attention that he could. Then one day he asked Tommy if he would like to come and live with him in his palatial mansion outside the city.

Much to his new friend’s surprise, Tommy answered, “I’ll have to ask my Friend about that”—meaning Jesus.

The next day the businessman returned, eagerly seeking Tommy’s reply. Instead, Tommy asked him some rather surprising questions.

“Where did you say your home is?”

“Oh,” said the businessman, “it’s in the country, on a large and beautiful estate. You’ll have a room of your own, servants to care for you, delicious meals, a good bed, every comfort and attention, anything your heart desires, and my wife and I will love you dearly and care for you as our own son.”

Hesitantly, Tommy queried again, “Are there any people that would pass under my window?”

Surprised and somewhat baffled, the businessman replied, “Why, no, only

Someone
passes under
the window
of your life
every day.



an occasional servant, or perhaps the gardener. You don’t understand, Tommy, this is a gorgeous country estate, far from the tumult of the city. You’ll have quiet there and be able to rest and read and do whatever else you want, away from all this filth and pollution and noise and the busy throngs.”

After a long and thoughtful silence, Tom’s face looked very sad, for he hated to hurt his friend. Finally he said quietly but firmly, with tears in his eyes, “I’m sorry, but you see, I could never live anywhere where people don’t pass under my window.”

Here is the story of someone so helpless and so isolated that you might have thought he could never have had any opportunity to help others, but love found a way!

Someone passes under the window of your life every day. Has your love found a way to help them? Has Jesus shown you how you can help them? He will if you want to, no matter what the conditions or your limitations.

God has windows too, and He has promised that if you obey Him and open the window of your life to others, He “will open for you the windows of Heaven, and pour out for you such a blessing that there will not be room enough to receive it” (Malachi 3:10). ↵



workplace WORLD CHANGERS

DJURDJICA AHAC;

RIJEKA, CROATIA

SINCE LEARNING ABOUT GOD'S LOVE from members of the Family International and seeing how they live it in their everyday lives, I try to do the same. I own a hair salon and work there myself, so I have contact with a lot of people. I have found that I can understand their needs, and I try to give them Jesus and His love to help them through their problems. My own life isn't problem free, but it is richer since I found Jesus and His love, and I want to help others find that same quality of life, and not only for themselves, but so they can improve the situation in their homes, families, and surroundings. It's not easy nowadays to find a place where you are not just a number, but where you really count as a person. We try to make our hair salon just that. It has become a beautiful atmosphere. We don't argue, gossip, or complain, and people notice. I always loved my job, but never imagined that I could find even greater fulfillment in it by also helping people in a spiritual way.

TAJANA BANDERA; RIJEKA, CROATIA

I'M A DENTIST, AND MANY PEOPLE COME TO MY OFFICE EVERY DAY. You would be surprised at how many of them are quick to tell me about their problems. They really need someone to talk to, someone who will listen. So I listen for as long as needed and then try to comfort and encourage them. Of course God can solve their problems a lot better than I can, so I always try to bring Him into the conversation.

If they tell me about sickness in their family, for example, I encourage them that God is the best doctor and give them a few examples I know of when He has helped and healed. I also tell them about situa-

tions where I have seen Him help others or change lives.

Sometimes the thought crosses my mind, *What if this person doesn't believe what I'm saying or won't accept it?* When that happens, I remind myself that I still should do my best to help and encourage others, no matter what they think. I believe that the gifts God gives us are not just for us alone but are meant to be used to help others, and that He has given me the gift of encouragement. I often don't know what results my efforts will have, but people keep coming and telling me their problems, so I'll keep doing my best to help them.

LET IT SHINE

By David Brandt Berg

SO MANY PEOPLE TODAY ARE LOST, lonely, downtrodden, weak and weary, poor and persecuted, victims of war and crime and exploitation. They are the ones nobody wants, the ones who have so little and seem to count so little in man's scheme of things.

Then there are those who are well off materially and appear to "have it together," but are lost and lonely prisoners of their own selfish desires and misplaced priorities. They are weary and heavy laden with problems, stress, fears, and phobias. They wear smiles but ache inside. They fear the future. They are engulfed in emptiness, pain, guilt, bitterness, condemnation, and remorse.

There are so many lost and desperate folks in the world today! It's like the question in that old Beatles' song, "Eleanor Rigby," "All the lonely people, where do they all come from?" Well, I'll tell you where they come from. They come from a world that has selfishly turned from the light of God's love and is being swallowed up by the darkness.

There is a great need for His love to shine through. Hold it up for all to see. Shine the light of God's love on people, and He will do the rest. He'll cause it to accomplish His purpose in their lives (John 12:32). Let others see Jesus in you! ↩



LILI BACEK; CAORLE, ITALY

WHEN I WENT THROUGH AN EXTENDED PERIOD OF ILLNESS and medical treatment, my husband began to view me as more of a problem than someone he loved who needed his help, and he found a way out of "the problem" through a relationship with another woman. We divorced after 22 years of marriage, sold the house we were building, and my two daughters and I moved into a borrowed apartment until I could get back on my feet. Some "friends" offered me a partnership in some boutiques they were opening, but in the space of 24 hours

they robbed me of the little money I had. I told God to either rescue me or take me from this world.

A few days earlier, two people from the Family International had come into my shop, and I had bought one of their CDs and prayed with them to receive Jesus into my heart. When my world collapsed, I phoned them and arranged to meet again because I felt they had something more than this world could offer. That is when my total transformation began. All my inner fears vanished as they taught me God's Word and I learned to

communicate with God through prayer.

I moved from Croatia to Caorle, a small fishing town on the coast of Italy, where I met a man who I led to receive God's love in Jesus, and he was also transformed. We have since opened a restaurant together. I've found that the neediest people are not those who have nothing materially, but rather those who outwardly appear successful but lack the things that make a truly meaningful life. Our restaurant is a place where they can come to be refreshed in body and spirit. ↩

“I Was
Here
First!”

PARENTING
FROM THE
HEART



Alondra and Manuel having fun on the farm

M

By Jorge Solá

Y THREE-YEAR-OLD

SON MANUEL was playing an educational game on the computer when his six-year-old sister Alondra demanded that he let her have a turn. Manuel's response was typical. "I was here first!"

I don't know where Manuel picked that up, but it got me thinking. It's a generally accepted principle of human society that those who "get there first" have more rights than those who get there after them. The first one to set foot on virgin land is entitled to take possession of it. The first one to find a pearl in the sea, or strike gold or oil may claim it as his own. The first one to make a scientific discovery or invention may patent his find and claim any profits that may result. The first one to sit at a restaurant table has more right to it than the fellow who arrives later. The first one to settle in on a particular

spot on the beach becomes the owner of that spot for the day.

In my children's case, if one of them has been playing for half an hour at the computer, I tell him or her that it's time to let the other one have a turn. Most other parents probably do something similar. But if we applied that principle to every aspect of society, there would be absolute chaos. Can you imagine a landowner saying, "I've had this plot of land for quite a while, so it's time to let someone else enjoy it"? Or can you imagine a man who has a good job giving it to someone else who is out of work and short of money?

Those examples are rather extreme, but

what about little acts of selflessness? How often do you see people who have a seat on the bus or subway offering it to able-bodied others who have just boarded, simply because they look like they'd appreciate a chance to rest their weary feet? Are little sacrifices like that too much to expect?—Or do we fail to make them simply because we don't see anyone else making them and no one really expects us to do so either?

It's a matter of selfishness, when you get right down to it, and selfishness is part of our sinful human nature. But the love of Jesus can help us break out of that mold, overcome our selfish first



FEEDING READING

LOVE ONE ANOTHER

GOD LOVES US, SO WE SHOULD LOVE ONE ANOTHER.

John 13:34
Ephesians 5:2a
1 John 4:7a
1 John 4:11
1 John 5:1b

Ephesians 3:17,19
Colossians 3:14

LOVE ONE ANOTHER FERVENTLY.

1 Thessalonians 3:12
1 Peter 1:22b
1 Peter 4:8

GOD GIVES US LOVE TO LOVE OTHERS.

Romans 5:5
Galatians 5:22
1 Thessalonians 4:9
2 Thessalonians 3:5
2 Timothy 1:7

LOVE SINCERELY AND GENUINELY.

Judges 16:15a
Romans 12:9
1 Peter 1:22a
Philippians 1:9-10

TO LOVE IS THE GREATEST LAW OF GOD.

Matthew 22:37-39
Mark 12:33
Luke 10:25,27-28
Galatians 5:14

THE BENEFITS THAT LOVING OTHERS BRINGS US:

John 13:35
Ephesians 3:17-19
1 John 2:10
1 John 3:14
1 John 4:7b
1 John 4:12
1 John 4:16

LOVE IS THE MOST IMPORTANT VIRTUE.

1 Corinthians 13:2,13
Galatians 5:6

reactions, swim against the tide, and do the loving thing. Jesus said, “Give to him who asks you, and from him who wants to borrow from you do not turn away” (Matthew 5:42), and “Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you” (Luke 6:38). Those are certainly revolutionary concepts in this day and age. How we cling to our selfish rights! But that giving, selfless kind of love is actually what God wanted for us all from the beginning—and His love can help us achieve it. If we would practice this kind of love, so many problems would disappear. The world would be a different place. So why not try it? Give what you can, then get ready for God to flood you with more! ⇐

Jorge Solá is a member of the Family International in Chile.

CHEERFUL GIVERS

God likes cheerful givers—those who give voluntarily because they know it pleases Him and they’re helping others, expecting nothing in return. That kind of giving can be the greatest of all pleasures, because as the purse is emptied, the heart is filled. “The generous soul will be made rich, and he who waters will also be watered himself” (Proverbs 11:25). “It is more blessed to give than to receive” (Acts 20:35). The richest people in God’s kingdom are going to be those who shared the most. ⇐

—David Brandt Berg

By Angelina Leigh



How far does a little love go?

I N NOVEMBER 2003

I was in Finland, fundraising door to door for a youth camp I was to co-host a few months later, when I met Tino in an old dingy bar. Past middle age, with a long scraggly beard and a bit overweight, Tino looked up from his newspaper when the door banged closed behind me as I entered.


He owned the bar, as it turned out, and he had no customers at the time. *Perfect*, I thought, as I began to present my volunteer

work. But by the time I had turned a couple of pages in my presentation album, Tino politely said that if I was there to sell anything, he was very low on money and wasn't interested.

"I'm going through heavy depression. My doctor says that sitting in the glow from this thing is supposed to help," he said, pointing to a neon light behind the bar. "Several of my friends have died recently, all from alcohol. No one seemed to

care when they passed on. Now I feel like I could be next, and I fear that it will be the same for me. Will anyone really care?"

He went on to tell me at length about his problems—his excessive drinking and not being able to sleep at night without drinking a bottle of hard liquor first, his massive debts, and worst of all, his depression. When I asked him if he believed in Jesus, he answered, "I'm not sure."



Jesus, make me a channel of Your love and answers to this lost and weary soul, I silently prayed. Then I told Tino how Jesus could light up his life. “He is the answer to *all* of your problems,” I said. “The Bible says that He is a very present help in time of trouble—any trouble.” We talked for over an hour. My heart ached and my eyes filled with tears as I put myself in the position of this poor, desperate man and considered what it was like for him, not knowing Jesus’ unconditional love or the peace He brings.

“Do you say these things to everyone you meet?” he asked at one point.

“No,” I answered, “but I do pray every time I talk deeply with someone. I pray that the words that come out of my mouth will be Jesus’ words—what He has to say to that person.”

By now Tino’s eyes were brimming with tears

too, and I knew that Jesus was speaking to his heart, bringing a ray of light into his dark, gloomy world.

I told him that Jesus answers prayer, and about some of the miracles He had done for me, including how He had recently healed my foot. I had been in excruciating pain after an accident, but had needed to take a train to Finland in two days, with lots of luggage. At the time I couldn’t even put my shoe on, but I had prayed desperately for the Lord to heal my foot, and within minutes I could walk almost normally. I had made it to Finland on schedule, and here I was!

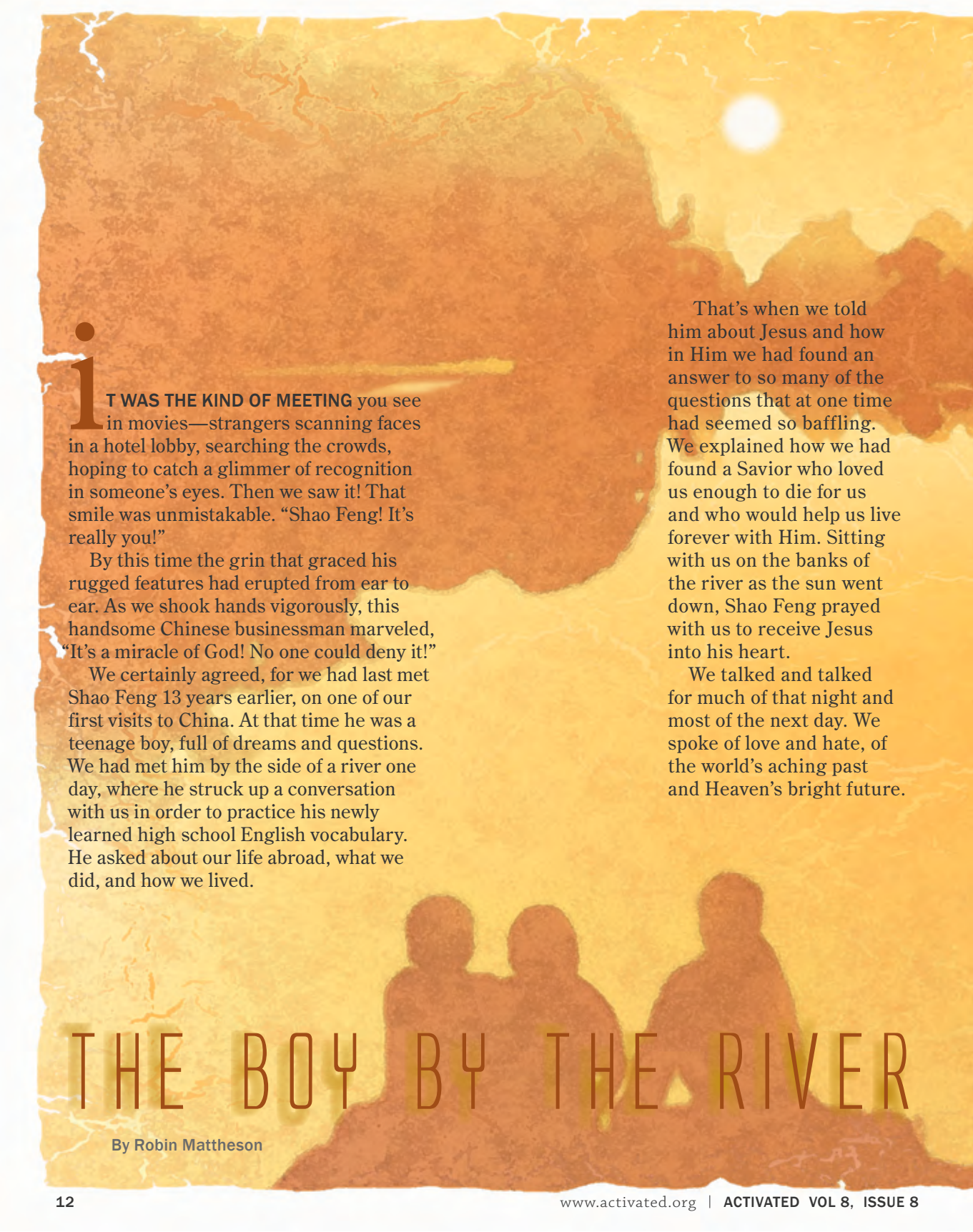
Tino showed me his hands, which I hadn’t noticed before. They were dry and scaly—an allergic reaction to the coins he handled day after day, he explained. I held his hands and prayed for Jesus to heal them, for his bank

loan to come through so he wouldn’t lose his bar, and that he would come to accept Jesus into his heart. When I finished praying and we opened our eyes, he was in tears again and couldn’t speak for a while. He tremblingly wrote out his address for me, and I gave him some *Activated* mags that I knew would boost his faith. As I got up to leave and he asked if he could give me a hug, I knew I hadn’t wasted the last hour and a half.

Two years later I went to Finland again, and I made sure to visit Tino. The Lord had worked things out wonderfully, but differently than either of us had expected. He had lost his bar, so had taken a job as a bartender in someone else’s. “It was for the best,” he said, and it was clear that he really meant it. He was happy and talkative and looked like a new man. “Now I have so much less to worry about and so much more time to enjoy life and spend with my wife and children,” he said, all smiles. His hands weren’t completely healed, but his spirit had been healed, and that had been what he needed most. He certainly wasn’t the same depressed, sullen man I’d met two years earlier. A little love—God’s love—had changed his life. ↩

A PRAYER FOR THE DAY

Thank You, Jesus, that You can work even through me. Although many people feel they don’t need Your love or don’t want to accept Your existence, You’ve called me out of that darkness and given me not only the opportunity to know Your love in a very real and amazing way, but also the privilege of sharing that love with others who need You. Help me to not selfishly keep Your light and love to myself, but to give it freely, as You have freely given it to me. Amen.



iT WAS THE KIND OF MEETING you see in movies—strangers scanning faces in a hotel lobby, searching the crowds, hoping to catch a glimmer of recognition in someone’s eyes. Then we saw it! That smile was unmistakable. “Shao Feng! It’s really you!”

By this time the grin that graced his rugged features had erupted from ear to ear. As we shook hands vigorously, this handsome Chinese businessman marveled, “It’s a miracle of God! No one could deny it!”

We certainly agreed, for we had last met Shao Feng 13 years earlier, on one of our first visits to China. At that time he was a teenage boy, full of dreams and questions. We had met him by the side of a river one day, where he struck up a conversation with us in order to practice his newly learned high school English vocabulary. He asked about our life abroad, what we did, and how we lived.

That’s when we told him about Jesus and how in Him we had found an answer to so many of the questions that at one time had seemed so baffling. We explained how we had found a Savior who loved us enough to die for us and who would help us live forever with Him. Sitting with us on the banks of the river as the sun went down, Shao Feng prayed with us to receive Jesus into his heart.

We talked and talked for much of that night and most of the next day. We spoke of love and hate, of the world’s aching past and Heaven’s bright future.

THE BOY BY THE RIVER

By Robin Mattheson

We talked about sadness and happiness, and how one day Jesus would wipe away all tears from our eyes. We saw hope born that evening in his young heart, and we knew that even though we would have to leave Shao Feng, God's presence would remain with him forever.

We didn't see him again until that wonderful day in the hotel lobby 13 years later. We had written him a number of times, though, sending encouraging little cards or notes of greeting. Oddly, we had received no replies. We weren't sure if it was the censorship of the mail or problems with the address, but finally, after receiving no response to our many letters, we stopped writing. Years passed and we moved. We moved again and yet again.

Then one day it came. A fat envelope arrived in our post office box, covered back and front with forwarding addresses and stamps. We opened it to find a 10-page letter! The eager young boy we had known had matured into a successful businessman. Since we had last seen

Shao Feng, he had finished his studies, traveled abroad, and experienced many changes in his life. He'd known happiness and sadness, love and loneliness. China had passed through nearly as many changes as had our friend—from Tiananmen Square to economic reforms and the current open-door policy to the outside world.

Shao Feng wrote that he'd found a measure of success in his work and adventure in his life, yet the yearning for something more remained deep in his heart. He realized after several years of futile attempts that such emptiness could only be filled by God's love.

"Can you help me regain that peace I had found by the river so long ago?" he asked.

It would be several more years and a number of

letters and phone calls before we would actually meet face to face again. Searching the crowds that happy day in the hotel lobby, we found those same bright eyes. We thought we would burst from happiness, thanking the Lord over and over for bringing us back together again.

As we sat at a table in a quiet restaurant, filling each other in on the details of all that had transpired since we'd last seen each other, Shao Feng pulled a crumpled packet from his suit jacket. Gingerly unfolding the worn paper which had been carefully reinforced with tape along the creases, we saw a dog-eared poster proclaiming "What Everybody Needs Is Love!"

"Over the years, whenever I was discouraged I'd read that and think of you. It gave me peace. I carry it with me wherever I go." He also pulled from the packet the many letters and notes we had written him, and told us how much each one had meant to him.

Shao Feng is now studying God's Word and learning more about the Man he met by the river as a boy.

Every hungry heart shall be filled, and they that seek shall find (Luke 1:53; Matthew 7:8). Almost everywhere we look, we see other young people who remind us of the boy we met many years ago. They also search for hope, truth, and a purpose in life. The Man of Love is waiting to come into their lives too. We pray we'll be able to lead many of them to Him. ⇐

of love AMBASSADORS



THROUGH HIS CHILDREN, God is trying to show the world what He is like. Jesus said, “As the Father has sent Me, I also send you” (John 20:21). Jesus came to love the world and He calls us to do likewise in every facet of life, in every way—to give God’s love to others. The only way that others will ever find His joy and peace and love and happiness and Heaven is through us. No matter where we are from, if we have Jesus, we are now His ambassadors and represent the King of kings, the One who runs the universe.

What was Jesus’ last message to His disciples at the Last Supper, just before He was arrested, taken to jail, beaten, and killed? “By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another” (John 13:35). He talked

about love, that love was the most important thing.

And those first Christians turned the world upside down with the love of God. The way they lived convinced others that their faith was real. Even their Roman persecutors marveled. “Look at how these Christians love one another!” “Who is this Christ?” they asked. “And how does He make you so happy? Even though you have nothing, you’ve got everything! How can I find this kind of happiness too?” And within 200 years, one out of five people in the Western world were professing Christians.

Today, about 2,000 years later, the heart of man is still the same. So many

people are searching for love, but seldom, if ever, finding it. People everywhere are looking around for some little ray of hope, some salvation, some bright spot somewhere, a little love, a little mercy, someplace where they can find some relief. We who have found God and His love have what others have been searching for all their lives and need desperately, and if we can show them that love exists, then they can believe that God exists, because God is love.

Even the little things you do can mean a lot. The light of your smile, the kindness of your face, the influence of your life can shed light on many and have an amazing effect on some of the people you think might be the least likely to be impressed. When they feel your love and you tell them it’s God’s love, they think, *Maybe Somebody up there does love me!* It can change their whole outlook on life and give them a new start.

May we always be known by our love! ⇐

By David Brandt Berg

THE MOST IMPORTANT PRAYER...
...that you or anyone else can ever pray:

Dear Jesus, thank You for dying for me so that all my wrongs can be forgiven. I now open the door to my heart and ask You to please come into my life, forgive me, and give me Your free gift of eternal life. Amen.



Heavenly Victory in the Great Tribulation

THE BIBLE WARNS US that a powerful world government will arise in the final days of man's dominion on Earth, led by a demonic dictator—the Antichrist—who will be possessed by Satan. The last three and a half years of his rule will be a time that the Bible calls the “Great Tribulation” (Matthew 24:21; Revelation 7:14). This Antichrist government will use a universal electronic monetary system to try to cause everybody to come under the control of the Antichrist, because no one will be able to buy or sell without a personal account number, which the Bible calls the “mark of the Beast” (Revelation 13:16–18), on his hand or forehead. An image (idol) of the Antichrist will also be set up, and those who refuse to worship the image will be killed (Revelation 13:14–15).

But God's people will refuse to worship the Antichrist or receive his mark, and God will take care of them! (Revelation 12:6,14). Although some Christians will die as martyrs, the Antichrist will not be able to overcome them spiritually. The Lord says, “And they”—the Christians—“overcame him [the Antichrist] by the blood of the Lamb [Jesus] and by the word of their testimony; and they did not love their lives to the death” (Revelation 12:11).

God's Word also promises that during this time “the people who know their God shall be strong, and carry out great exploits,” and that “those of the people who

understand shall instruct many” (Daniel 11:32–33). In those days many will be seeking the truth and a way out of their desperate situations, and those who know the Lord and understand His Word will be able to explain to them what's happening. Those in the know will lead others to God till the very end.

The Lord has also promised to come to His people's defense. Revelation chapters 8 and 9 talk about horrific plagues that God will send to punish the wicked and thwart most of their attempts to hurt His people. The Lord is also going to give many of those who believe in Him miraculous powers to defend themselves, survive, proclaim the truth, and lead others to Him right up till His return (Revelation 11:3–6).

So don't worry about the Great Tribulation! It's not going to be some kind of a lopsided, rampaging victory for the Devil. God's people are going to win supernatural victories over the Antichrist and all of his powers. ⇐



LET ME LOVE OTHERS THROUGH YOU

FROM JESUS WITH LOVE

Let Me use your eyes to see the needs of others. Let Me use your ears to hear the heartcries of the lost. Let Me use your tongue to pour forth My Words of love and encouragement to one who is downcast. Let Me break your heart for the multitudes of people who have not yet heard of My love. Let Me use your hands to dry the tears of those who cry, to give a pat on the back to those who are discouraged, to be a helping hand to someone who is falling by the way.

Let My Word fill you to overflowing, so that you exude its warmth, its cheerfulness, its love, and its positiveness. As you let it fill your heart and mind and spirit, it will provide an aura of love around you that others will want to partake of.

Give and it shall be given to you. I will pour My love upon you as you go forth to preach My Gospel, My Word, My love. Thus you will heal their hearts.