

# AEA Ministry Spotlight

Summer 2003

## International Prison Ministry

At the age of 19, a personal friend who was newly born again and was a three time loser visited Ray Hoekstra. Ray was working as a hand on the Frank Ringer Ranch in California when during that weekend visit he heard and responded to the Good News. Both of these young men immediately started to prepare themselves for ministry.

Chaplain Ray had a real burden for the forgotten, those in prison. With the Lord's direction and the assistance of many the Lord led to help Chaplain Ray, the International Prison Ministry became an effective outreach worldwide. Ray Hoekstra became a pioneer in Christian Radio and was heard on hundreds of radio markets in the United States. Everyone who came to know this great man of God, knew that that loving caring voice on the radio was genuine concern. Those tens of thousands who heard him in the correctional institutions around the world felt the love of Jesus in him and huge numbers responded. He led wardens and hardened guards to Christ as well as the most vicious criminals. Chaplain Ray published the testimonies of miraculous stories of conversion.

Those who ran with Charles Manson were led to the Lord. Books proclaiming the Lord as Savior by notorious characters like Jack Murf the Surf Murphy, Floyd Hamilton, Jerry Graham and Robert Van Buskirk, have been printed by the hundreds of thousands and distributed among the prison populations.

The Lord knew He could trust Chaplain with great vision. Through the Lord's leading Ray committed to place a Bible in the hands of every prisoner in the former Soviet Union. Thousands were moved by the Lord to assist

financially to see this vision realized. Over one million life changing books have been distributed by the International Prison Ministry.

In 1997, Chaplain Ray was called home. The International Prison Ministry continues to minister to prisoners globally under the leadership of Chaplain Ray's wife Leola, son, Pastor Bob Hoekstra and grandson, Pastor Matthew Hoekstra.



The ministry staff answer thousands of letters and emails from prisoners who are thirsty for the gospel and maturing in the faith. Hundreds of tons of materials are mailed to encourage inmates to pursue Godliness and reach out to their families and prison mates.

Seminars are conducted regionally to assist those of any denomination who wish to know how to effectively reach-out to those in prison. Contingencies of the faithful are organized to pray for prisoners and the ministry. IPM makes thousands of audio cassettes available that cover scripture studies.

AEA Founder, Dr. John E. Douglas and his wife Dr. Marjorie Douglas, Chaplain Ray and Leola maintained a close friendship through the years. The International Prison Ministry became affiliated as an AEA ministry in 1966. The International Prison Ministry is worthy of your support. Contact them at 1 (877) 600-LICM.

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# Life Changing Ministry *By Ted Wareing*



## Balloon animals and the gospel

An evangelist with Life Changing Ministries interacts with children from a village in Ecuador. LCM also shares the gospel with children through songs, puppet shows, and testimonies.

**L**ife Changing Ministry's purpose is to come alongside of national ministries and missionaries. The goal is to help them in any manner to reach their people with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We strongly believe that nationals can evangelize their people much more effectively than foreign nationals.

LCM assists them in the training of lay leaders and future ministers, education of their people, construction, evangelism, medical needs and business development. We are currently working solely in Ecuador in their northwest jungle region as well as with their evangelical prison ministry.

### **Education**

The village of Anchayacu, Ecuador housed all education of its children in the local evangelical church, a building of roughly 15x30 feet in size. The school had about 145 children, in very crowded conditions. Since the school is in the river region in dense jungle, all students come to school in a canoe bus.

A plan was drawn up to build a four building campus surrounding a courtyard in its middle.

The Lord has already provided funds to be able

to build two of the four new buildings allowing for each grade level to have its own classroom. We still have to build the library/science building as well as an administration building and finish and outfit the classrooms. The cost to finish the school is \$135,000. Can you help us in this effort?

The cost of running the school is funded by people's donations to be used towards all the associated costs. Another way that the school is funded is through the sponsorship of a child. For \$15 monthly you can cover all of the student's school costs. We pray for new sponsors





to take on the children that are still without this help.

Currently, there are 145 students registered at the school. This is the only school in the region that goes through high school and that each individual grade is taught as a separate unit. We were very excited this year as the school had its first graduation class. Praise the Lord for this!

### ***Medical***

Since the only medical assistance in the jungle region is an hour and a half away by canoe, we bring medical teams down with us to work. The Lord has allowed us to be associated



with a Christian Foundation that donates medicines for missionary use. This is a great blessing, but we still have to purchase medicine on the open market in order to meet

these people's specific needs. These teams also work with the Ecuadorian Evangelical Prison Ministry in Quito, Ecuador in the federal prisons as the government has few resources in the way of healthcare for its prisoners.

These teams are comprised of doctors, dentists, physician assistants and nurses. All these Godly people donate their time and talent to serve these people. If you ever want to join a medical team, please contact us as we would love to have you travel with us.

### ***Construction***

Our construction teams have built the school buildings, the septic tank system, a building that will be used by a Christian radio station in the future, a church among the Chachi people group and some minor work in the evangelical prison rehabilitation center. Very few of us really know construction, but the Lord always provides enough people who do know what they are doing to be able to finish the job at hand. So come with us and get dirty for Christ!

### ***Evangelism***

Every summer youth groups come with us to do evangelistic work in the river region as well as in the prisons. Even though most do not know Spanish, because of their love for the Lord, they take much time prior to going on the trip in learning what they wish to share with the children in Spanish. Songs are sung, puppet shows are put on, personal testimonies are shared and interaction with the children is all done with lim-

ited language knowledge. These youth create a wonderful atmosphere experiencing much personal spiritual growth.

### ***Business Development***

Since this region is extremely poor with no real way of being able to advance in life, we are doing things in order to help develop the people's skills. Initially, we have started a rice crop. Through this effort we have been able to give work to about 20 people who previously did not have it and are now able to better care for



their families. Any profits that the Lord blesses LCM with will be reinvested into the ministry on a local level. This will provide funding for future investments. Shortly, we will be planting black pepper for harvest in 2-3 years time, which will provide an added income stream. We have planted Teak and Mahogany trees as a long-term project (10-15 years) for future funds.

In the future we would like to be able to teach one or two people locally how to repair outboard engines. Outboards are the lifeblood of this region as most travel is done by canoe. We also have investigated the possibility of importing a portable sawmill to be able to finish wood products prior to sale. Over a period of years, again if the Lord

bleses, we would like to take a portion of the profits and be able to loan funds to the local people. Due to the economic condition that they are in, there are no banks that will loan them funds to start small businesses so they can improve their financial situation.

### ***Pastor & Lay Leader Training***

The Lord has blessed LCM in order to be able to assist Pastor Felix Valencia in his effort in training pastors and lay leaders. He is doing this so that they themselves will go into many villages along the various rivers evangelizing these people. Felix is an extremely talented teacher. We have purchased course work that is being taught to all the students. This program will take about 2-3 years to complete. The students spend 2-1/2 hours per

night for five nights a week studying. This is even more amazing since many have to travel by canoe to the village, do the course work and then return home in their canoes in the dark. May the Lord continue to bless them!

### ***Summary***

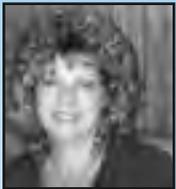
This is a brief summary of what we are attempting in various parts of Ecuador. Without the Lord ahead of us, nothing worthwhile would be accomplished. Without our loving and generous partners that He has allowed us to be in contact with, we would not be able to financially help anyone. So we ask each and every one of you to contact us and help us in His work. We need partners who will sponsor children at the school. We need funds to be able to finish the radio station. We need partners

who would like to help in the support of some of the lay leaders and pastors, some who at this time have no income but continue doing His work. We need funds to continue building small businesses so that people will be able to earn a living and care for their families. We need funds to help in the construction of the prison rehabilitation center. We need people who want to go down to Ecuador with us on some of our teams. We need medical people to come and help heal the sick.

So, if you are touched by what the Lord is doing and want to partner with Him and LCM in this work, you can reach us at:

Life Changing Ministry, P.O. Box 120542, West Melbourne, FL 32912. Phone (321) 723-1968.

E-mail: LCMINISTRY@aol.com.



## God's Perfect Plan for Pfc. Jessica Lynch

*By Rev. Virginia Bieber, BCC, MBC*

**Pfc. Jessica Lynch**, a 19-year old with broken bones and a spine injury, has returned from Iraq and is back home in the USA recuperating in a Washington, D.C. hospital. It was rough for Jessica, being a prisoner of war, but after being rescued, she had one of the best doctors in the world taking care of her.

Some years ago, when Fred Marciano, also known as Rocky Marciano, was in medical school, he joined an Army Reserve unit to help pay for some of his tuition. He later studied at the Barrow Neurological Institute (BNI) in Phoenix, Arizona to become a neurosurgeon.

Dr. Marciano remained in the Reserves. Because the Unit wanted his expertise as a medical doctor, he did not go on weekend drills or do any military training, and though over the years, he was promoted to Major, he was never issued a military uniform.

On March 4, 2003, he was activated for 90 days. He was scheduled for Hawaii, but was sent to Ramstein Air Base in Germany. The Landstuhl hospital is located there and

he was assigned for 90 days. Upon arrival, he was called into a meeting. Wounded soldiers were being flown in from Iraq, and one of those soldiers was Pfc. Lynch.

People from all over America were praying for our POW's. Today you can see banners and signs in Palestine, WV (Jessica's hometown), that read: God Answers Prayers. We cannot help but notice that God was in control in the lives of Pfc. Lynch and Dr. Marciano. We can rely on God's Word even when we don't know what's happening. Jessica's family and friends prayed and waited for God to do what He was going to do. Joshua 1:9: Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.

We need to keep God in our Country. We need to keep the words "One Nation Under God" in our Pledge of Allegiance, and we need to continue to pray for our Country, our leaders, and those who go to war to fight for freedom.

Praise the Lord that the remainder of our POW's are now free.



## United Prayer Partners

By Bishop Elisha A. Duncan, AEA Prayer Committee Chairman

Prayer invigorates the members of the body of Christ with renewed strength and power in accord with the might of the glory of God. Prayer brings us into close communion with God. There is no limit to how many times we can go to God in prayer. Prayer can be offered anywhere and any time.

Jesus tells of God's readiness to answer when we pray in one accord. Matthew 18:19,20. *Again I say unto you, that if two of you shall agree on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of My Father which is in heaven. For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.*

It's not always the many, but also the few. In a meeting where two or three are gathered in the Lord's name to worship and pray, God will answer the prayer of such an assembly. Where the two's and three's meet in the Lord's name becomes His Sanctuary. And He promised that His Holy presence would be there to bless, strengthen and comfort. If two or three meet together, Christ is among them, which is an encouragement to the assembly of a few. Therefore, it is not the multitude but the faith and dedication of the few who worship and pray in unity.

Zacharias the Priest, heard from God that his prayer had been heard. The answer came while the congregation prayed in one accord (united prayer). Luke 1:10-14.

God's people must be a praying people. Prayer is the

great and principal weapon by which we give glory, honor and praise to God, while we seek His favors. Prayer ascends and becomes a memorial before the Lord of glory.

The body of Christ has a heritage which is prayer, our defensive weapon. Therefore, the weapons of our warfare are mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds. 2 Cor. 10:4. In the early church they continued in one accord in prayer and supplication. Acts 1:14. They prayed in one accord for direction in choosing one to fill a vacant place in the body of believers. Acts 1:24-26.

When the apostles were threatened, they prayed in one accord and their prayer was answered. Acts 4:23-25. Prayer is a powerful weapon. Peter was miraculously delivered from prison because the church prayed in one accord in a house. Acts 12:5-12.

Prayer can be offered anywhere, even on the seashore. Acts 21:5.

A Special Prayer for AEA Ministry, Medi-Share Ministry and all the Ministries of the body of Christ

*Almighty God, Father of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, we earnestly pray for your preserving care in the work that You have called us to do here on earth. Bless and prosper every endeavor, watch over AEA ministry, Medi-Share Ministry and all the ministries that have been given to Your servants. Give us power to minister in Your name, empower us with Your Holy Spirit. Let Your light shine through us, destroy every weapon that is formed against the church which is the body of Christ. Give us victory in the Mighty name of Jesus. Amen.*

## Spotlight on R. Gaylord Briley

Founder/Christian Motivational Ministry of AEA

For his first job after college, Gaylord Briley drove 1200 miles to Colorado to be the editor of a religious newspaper on the staff of a fast-growing church. In time, he moved on to similar work in Denver and later Texas. Then a ministry to foreign students in America invited him to run their publications in Washington, DC.

But there was a problem. They rarely managed to pay him. Having a wife and toddler by this time, he was not happy. One day, trapped in traffic as he went to pick up

his wife from a job she took to pay their unpaid bills, he got mad. So he prayed. It didn't sound like a typical prayer, yet it proved to be one God was to answer in a big way. God, he yelled with car windows closed, if you expect me to keep working for these Christian organizations, You'll have to show ME how to raise money – for they sure don't know how to do it!

He quit and quickly had a new job created for him at a Christian political action organization where he stayed eight years. Here God began to answer his angry prayer.

He found how to write letters that raised large sums of money. It took time and extensive testing to learn. It cost his employers about \$20 million in current dollars for him to become a self-taught expert. But they did not mind. He boosted their membership rolls from under 20,000 to over 150,000. Since then he has raised over two billion dollars for good causes.

After he launched out on his own, he started new charities and created a series of overseas congresses including the largest Christian conclave in Jerusalem since Apostolic times (The Jerusalem Conference on Biblical Prophecy, with delegates from 38 nations.) He organized the 1500-delegate First World Congress on Religious Liberty, in Amsterdam, Holland, among other major events.

For the public good, he started the National Cancer Research Foundation. It supports research labs in 16 countries. Earlier, he created the American Kidney Fund, which funds research and gave free dialysis treatment to the needy long before any Federal program did.

In one life-changing period when he first met AEA's chairman, John Reinhold (who was with Campus Crusade at the time) Gaylord worked with the genius billionaire Christian marketer Arthur S. DeMoss, running an ad agency for him and serving as his personal assistant for religious and charitable projects. Art's untimely death affected many innovative soul-winning efforts. Gaylord went on to help many Christian groups surpass their financial goals, working with Teen Challenge, Inc., American Bible Society, Campus Crusade, and others.

Then John Reinhold reentered his life. The Lord had laid a vision on Brother John's heart to form the Christian Care Ministry. Gaylord became involved in this project and with Dr. John E. Douglas, whose work he had followed for years.

Until then Gaylord always took the role of a Joshua — an enabling assistant working in the background to help God's man fulfill God's plan. In 1993 he took on a Moses' role, establishing his Christian Motivational Ministry within the American Evangelistic Association. Its purposes are three:

(1) To motivate those in whose heart the Holy Spirit is at work to find salvation (and service) in Jesus Christ. (2) To stir up God's gifts within godly believers to motivate them to seize the opportunities for wealth and growth

that He puts before them, so Christians do not make themselves a poor and powerless remnant in our secular society. (This is why Gaylord says he started writing books.) (3) To motivate Christian charities to claim and use the new wealth God has made available for ministry in our day. Gaylord says, I have seen many missions deliberately choose unnecessary poverty (and failure) by despising to tap the abundance God surrounds us with here in America.

In support of these purposes Gaylord preaches and teaches on radio, TV, tapes and in churches; writes books and articles, personally counsels hundreds face-to-face, by phone, letters and Email; conducts seminars; creates new projects to show how to use wealth without losing one's soul; and to a limited degree underwrites small projects. He's taking on no new projects for two years, prepared to launch a new aspect of his AEA ministry.



He's mailing 6 million prospecting letters to find faithful donors to underwrite his new Godparents Project — which needs to raise a million dollars each year to run. The central appeal of Godparents Project is that it gives missionaries and Christian workers extra goods and serv-

ices to improve their outreach and the lives of the children they reach with the Gospel. Among these goods can be books, Bibles, vitamins, teaching materials, medical supplies, educational videos and CDs, garden seeds, fuel to heat classrooms or to run a van, clothing, shoes, dental care, even tools to build a school whatever the unmet need is — supplied by godparents. No costly new bureaucracy will eat away Godparents Project funds since all services and products will only be channeled through existing mission staff and Christian workers, and at their request.

Dr. Briley welcomes the thoughts of AEA brethren on what special needs the Godparents Project can help meet when the time is ripe. Needs are already being assessed in Russia, the Bahamas, Papua New Guinea and other places.

#### Limited Free Book Offer

While supplies last, active AEA members may request a free copy of a book by Dr. Gaylord Briley: **PRAY AND GROW RICH!** (If you wish to send \$2 for cost of postage and padded envelope, he will thank you.) Sells widely on the Internet and in stores for \$12.99. Write to Christian Motivational Ministry, Box 190, Glen, New Hampshire 03838.

# They Met From House to House *by Tom Snyder*



**I**n 1967 when Nina and I began meeting in a home with 10-20 friends whose lives were, like ours, experiencing a deep renewal led by God's Spirit, we had no idea that our growth would be so extensive and wonderful. I had a chance to lead and teach occasionally, developing a gift I didn't know God

had given me. It was during one meeting while praying for a sister in Christ that as the Spirit manifested a sudden healing in her that I became aware that I had been called by Him to press in more to ministry in addition to my work as a laser technician. This awareness was confirmed by friends who knew me, something I really needed to give confidence to press on.

As we have moved to new locations over the subsequent years, the caring and concern that group members have given to us and our four daughters of being committed to several such groups has been better than natural family in many ways. So many of our friends in our groups have had terrible family backgrounds (including me), but our time of investing in our house fellowship group has shown us what spirit-led family, God's family, can be like. It has been wonderful to see so many lives transformed, one by one, through the acceptance and the accountability and correction that we have received and given. It has been said that one must not try to deliver 1000 lbs. of truth over a bridge capable of holding only 10 lbs. Indeed, loving people close in and personally is a great way the Spirit teaches us to love unconditionally, God's way. But when there has been Spirit-created acceptance of my failures, weaknesses, character defects and the like, I have come to know God's love by having it given to me through members of His Body.

Many times it has felt to us like we are enjoying the very best that Jesus intended when He said, where two or three are gathered together in my name there is where I will be also.

## *Distinctives of the House Church*

- ¥ Follows the pattern found in the New Testament scriptures
- ¥ Gives Jesus his rightful place as Lord by obedience to the Holy Spirit's leading

- ¥ Defines church correctly according to the scriptures
- ¥ Creates an environment for the lost or wandering to come home
- ¥ Illustrated in real lives walking with God become renewed
- ¥ It allows for large gatherings and elder leaders to function without producing an organization that replaces God's pattern method
- ¥ Everyone will become a minister (giving to others from the resource of the Holy Spirit) in this context as God has desired
- ¥ Women may function as equal partners in Christ, as God desires
- ¥ Leaders are servants, not generally paid, are experienced, know the Word well, have fruitful lives
- ¥ Eph. 4:11 lists five gifts (not offices) Christ gave to the Body
- ¥ Growth is organic, love motivated, and not as the result of programs
- ¥ The church is seen as one, in the neighborhood, city, state, nation and the world. It is not fragmented and separated
- ¥ Children are a vital part of our fellowship, praise and teaching times. They are trained in the Word and practice by their father or by one of the brothers who is a surrogate dad
- ¥ Finances are managed by each individual with the Spirit's input. The family of God cares for itself and for the poor. If someone provides shepherding (pastoral) care to a believer, that brother is provided for by the proper use of the tithe, especially if much time is given to solve life's problems (as in the case where extensive counseling is needed)
- ¥ The Body exercises discipline within the smallest unit, the house church. It is immediate and lovingly given
- ¥ All house churches realize they are not following a particular pattern or model but are open to being led by the Spirit in all things rather than by religious flesh
- ¥ Infinitely expandable growth system. People may be added without financial burden on anyone for buildings and staff
- ¥ Relationally safe places where healing may occur



# Chairman s Corner

with Dr. E. John Reinhold

The Board of Directors of the American Evangelistic Association announce the election of two board members, Drs. Bishop Charles and Judy Farmer of Washington, D.C. The Drs. Farmer are long time members of AEA and founders of Oasis of Hope and allied ministries in urban Washington, D.C.

The home office staff, pictured at right, handle over 70,000 calls a year from all over the world. When you call the AEA number, **1 (888) JAMES 5:14**, you will reach the Melbourne, Florida AEA headquarters. The various departments are there to serve you. Member Relations, Information Technology, Legal Assistance, Pastoral Counseling and Health Coaching are just 5 of an ever expanding list of ways that AEA offers back-up to the members.



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