



Your Missionaries David & Debbie Goodrum

24th Year - 3rd Qtr



Our sailboat, Faith

Fruit To Your Account

In his personal letters to the churches he founded and loved, the Apostle Paul showed a tender side at times,



how endeared he felt to those who were his "enablers". After all, if not for those who stood behind him, praying for him, supporting him, Paul could never have done the great mission work, church planting, and defending of the Gospel! Today we hear about him. But soon, in heaven, we will hear also about all those who made it possible for him. And so he wrote to the Church at Philippi, "*Not because I desire a gift: but I desire fruit that may abound to your account."* (Phil 4:17)



We just closed out a ten month Caribbean mission trip in which many important, spiritually dynamic things were accomplished. Thirty-one children came to know Jesus as their



personal savior during Children's Crusades in churches across Grand Bahama!! Many boaters cruising those waters got a personal blessing as the Lord allowed us into their lives. But, topping it all, we were given the opportunity to create and launch a brand new scouting-like ministry called Lifebuilder Boys. Today it is involving many churches, church men, and up to a couple hundred boys in the Bahamas, with invitations to introduce it into other Caribbean nations soon.



It is a milestone achievement for us (perhaps our 'legacy' after 41 years in the ministry) but in our hearts there is that most

important satisfaction that we pursued, persisted, and prevailed against the many "*wiles of the devil*" (Eph 6:11), standing up to all the ways he tried to bring our missionary work to a premature end. Yet, without your help - the many prayers and financial gifts - these things would not have been possible and the 'trees' might be 'barren'. Fruit 'abounds' because the kindness of God's people abounds as well!!

Introducing **LIFEBUILDER BOYS**



A new, exciting, discipling ministry for boys has arrived in the Bahamas and will soon be reaching other Caribbean nations. The inspiration of Bishop John Humes, enthusiasm of national men's leaders, and some creative hard work on my part has given us a pleasing launch this past Spring with steady growth going into summer. It is, for me, a milestone of my ministry. (continue on back)



Two Questions - Same Answer

People pray a lot of ways: some stand, some sit, many kneel, some do it on the run (or during a drive), and some 'sneak it in' with the hope that others might not notice (like in the workplace cafeteria.) Maybe it's not how they pray but what they say that should really be noticed!

From my observations I conclude that most praying is summed up in these two questions: 'What are you going to do for me?' and (most certainly better) 'What can I do for you?' But the essential answer that Jesus should respond to either is - "I died for you...now, what's on your mind?"

Our experiences as missionaries (in and out of different cultures and worship environments) has allowed us a rare opportunity to appraise and appreciate all the ways that God is spoken to and interacted with ['good' and, well, not so good.] I know He is far more understanding (and patient) than I could ever be, but I find myself regretting that, in my own spiritual journey, I had not nurtured sooner a simpler and more appreciative approach to the Almighty's throne.

The 'preacher' (in Ecclesiastes) cautioned, "*Be not rash with thy mouth, and let not thine heart be hasty to utter any thing before God; for God is in heaven, and thou upon earth: therefore let thy words be few.*" [Ecc. 5:2] Jesus, during his Sermon on the Mount, addressed a prayer practice in his time where "*vain repetitions*" and "*much speaking*" were used in hopes of impressing, when getting to the point, instead, would be getting the job done! Then our Lord proceeded to give us a model (the Lord's Prayer) by which (when truly from the heart and not just passing through the lips) real honor, obedient submission, and remedy is achieved [see Mat 6:6-15]

Maybe, rather than ask either of those two prayer questions I mentioned earlier, we should instead ask ourselves first (before prayer) "Why haven't I done more?" It would seem likely that any conversation with God that follows will have the right tone and intent.

...David A. Goodrum

WOW! Online Personal Evangelism Course

On our website is my "Making Personal Evangelism *Personal*" lessons on how to share your faith with family and friends. The eight pages of illustrated notes are great for personal study or to be used by Sunday schools and small groups. Visit www.SailingServant.org and find it on the homepage.



LIFEBUILDER BOYS ... continued from front page

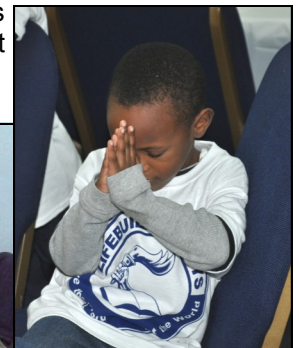
From our first arrival in the Caribbean in '93 I recognized a need for a scouting-like program that would challenge, instruct and (most importantly) disciple the young boys here. But there was also a burden for ways to get men in the churches involved in 'meaningful ministry', not just attending to 'menial chores'. With my son Jeremy's help we introduced an American program but, in time, it faltered (due, in part, to its own changes.)



A couple years ago we gave another program a chance but once again found its focus, and the logistical difficulties of getting required resources from the States, unsuitable.

Our boys needed a program that would meet their needs, satisfy their interests, utilize their resources. Hence, **Lifebuilder**

Boys whose motto is "**Live the Word - Light the World**". Keep Debbie and me, as well as the national leadership, in prayer as we labor faithfully in this great task. We have only taken the earliest steps, yet this has the appearance of becoming a most wonderful journey!!



SPECIAL PRAYER NEEDED: In keeping with our 'tradition' we have once again returned from the field with all engines in need of 'doctoring'. Please keep us on your lips and in your hearts at prayer time. Other repairs are pressing as well, but as opportunity and finances enable we will get 'fit and flowing' again!

Lend A Hand?

We have been serving the Caribbean and Central America as full-time missionaries for the past twenty-four years: training pastors and teachers, reaching young people through Children's Crusades, ministering to boating families from around the world, and using our sailboat to carry Bibles, literature, and medical /relief supplies to needy nations. Offerings and personal gifts support our work. Thank you for any help you can give us and, most of all, thank you for your prayers!! - *David & Debbie Goodrum*

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