



The G.E.M.

Edition 10

The Grace Electronic Magazine

October 2007

FOCUS ON WORK

In his book, *If Jesus Were Mayor*, Bob Moffitt tells about a young man who works as a stock clerk in a grocery store:

“He has a humble occupation, but his faithfulness makes him effective. Through his influence, store employees – with the approval and participation of the owner – meet together and pray to bless the people who come to the store. Further, the stock clerk asks the Holy Spirit to make him sensitive to customers who have needs that God wants to meet. Then the young man is faithful. He greets the customers, engages them in friendly conversation, and asks if they have needs for which he can pray. They are often surprised – but tell him their needs. He prays, asking God to help them. A number of people have been introduced to the Savior through this young man’s faithfulness.”

This month we focus on work and the living out of kingdom values where God has placed you.

Also, with Christmas just around the corner, we would like to help you prepare for the gift-giving season with some great Christian gifts. Visit the store to find that perfect gift for your family and friends, along with valuable resources to help strengthen their faith, or yours.

Until next time,
God bless.✝

I OWE, I OWE!

“Do you see a man skilled in his work? He will serve before kings; he will not serve before obscure men.” - Proverbs 22:29 (NIV)

The word “work” conjures up many different pictures in people’s minds. From the mundane and boring, to the exciting and challenging. But what kind of mental image does the word “work” conjure up for you?

If we think of work in a negative sense, we will find that more often than not, we will never work any harder than we need to in order to meet the minimum requirements. Our focus will be on the pay check at the end of the month, and we will work just hard enough to earn the money we need in order to buy something or go somewhere. We will see work as a necessary evil merely to be endured until we reach retirement age, and we will always try to get the most return for the least amount of effort.

If that is our opinion of work, we still have much growing to do.

The Bible presents work as a positive thing. Regardless of the pay, or whether there is any form of compensation at all, work is a good

thing all by itself. When we do our best at a job, whatever the job is, it does something good for us. But if we put in just enough effort to get by, we will never become the person God wants us to be.

But what about workaholics? They work too much, often neglecting their health and their families. Is this a good thing? No. One must remember there is a fine balance. It is not the amount of work that is important, it is the quality of work.

No matter what God calls us to do, we are to give it our best effort. We must never settle for mediocrity, and should establish excellence as our standard. We do not have to work all the time, but never settle for anything less than our absolute best. The Lord has called each of us to be excellent in what we do.

May we strive for excellence in all that we do for the Master of the universe.

“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.”

- Colossians 3:23-24.✝

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DIARY OF EVENTS

BE SURE TO DIARISE THE FOLLOWING EXCITING EVENTS

2nd Annual Christian Business Expo

19-20 October 2007 at Mosaiek Convention Centre
For more information visit: www.cbexpo.co.za

Michael W. Smith tour to South Africa

19-22 October 2007 at various venues around the country.
Book with Computicket.

Women's Conference

26-27 October 2007 at Rosebank Union Church.
For more information visit: www.womenconnect.co.za

Light up Your Life Women's Conference

1-3 November 2007 at Rivers Church, Sandton.
For more information visit: www.riverswomen.org.za



MISSIONS SPOTLIGHT

Federative Republic of Brazil (República Federativa do Brasil)

Capital:
Brasília



Official Language:
Portuguese

Largest City:
São Paulo



Motto:
Ordem e Progresso
"Order and Progress"

Currency:
Brazilian Real

Government:
Presidential Federal Republic

Brazil lies on the east coast of South America, and is cut through by the Equator and Tropic of Capricorn. It is home to various fauna and flora, as well as extensive natural resources. The Brazilian population is concentrated along the coastline in large urban centers. While Brazil has one of the largest populations in the world, population density is low due to the inner continental land having large areas of low population. The most popular religion in Brazil is Roman Catholicism and has the largest Roman Catholic population in the world.

The topography is diverse, including hills, mountains, plains, highlands, scrub lands, savannahs, rainforests, and a long coastline. The extensive low-lying Amazon Rainforest covers most of Brazil's terrain in the North, whereas small hills and low mountains occupy the South. Along the Atlantic coast there are several mountain ranges.

Though there are alternative theories, most scholars agree Brazil was first reached by Europeans on April 22, 1500 by Pedro Álvares Cabral. Today, poverty, urban violence, growing social security debts, inefficient public services, and the low value of the minimum wage are some of the main social issues that currently challenge the Brazilian government.

SA Mission in Brazil:

Living Ministries

Tel: 011-450-2350
Website: www.livmin.org

HOW CAN I CALL?

As I lie here on my bed at night,
I Think of my faith in Christ my Lord,
Am I living my life fully and right?
And am I living it according to His Word?

I call Him Lord and show my faith to others,
I'm filled with His Holy Spirit and love,
But am I doing what is expected of me and
my brothers?
Am I doing it all for my God above?

I am always with my family and friends,
Telling them of God's precious Son,
But is that where my ministry ends,
Sitting there and having fun?

Jesus asked us how can we call Him Lord,
When we do not obey His commands?
And I ask myself now, do I call Him Lord,
And do I obey His commands?

I do the first, but not the latter,
I love to worship Him, but I don't do what
He asks,
I'm sitting in His Word and growing fatter,
But am I doing my assigned tasks.

I think I need to look again at my life,
And see what I can do to remove the masks,
If I have made Him Lord of my life,
I must do all that He asks.

How can I call Him Lord, Lord,
If I do not do what He says?

Glyn Williams
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WORD SUDOKU

This puzzle works in the same manner as normal Sudoku, except that the numbers have been replaced by the letters:
C D E G L N O P U

When the puzzle is complete, the name by which God referred to Babylon will be revealed in the shaded area. Answer will appear in next month's issue.

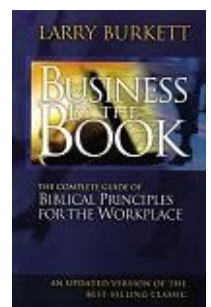
D	G			C	O		P
					L	U	
		C	N			D	
	D				G		E
E			L				D
		G			U	P	
		O	C	N			
	C		P				N O

Top 25 Must Reads

BUSINESS BY THE BOOK by Larry Burkett

For anybody who is involved in business, especially those that run their own, this book is an absolute must. By incorporating Larry's tried and true advice into their business world, readers can learn how to grow a business that is not only successful, but also meets God's standards. This best-selling classic contains some of the actual study material used in Larry's worldwide seminars.

R140.00



QUOTABLE QUOTES

"You had better be a poor man and a rich Christian, than a rich man and a poor Christian. You had better do anything, bear anything, and be anything rather than be a dwarf in grace." - Thomas Brooks



"There was a day when I died, utterly died – died to George Mueller, his opinions, preferences, tastes, and will; died to the world, its approval or censure; died to the approval or blame even of my brethren and friends – and since then I have only shown myself approved to God." - George Mueller



"Our attitude towards things is likely to be more important than the things themselves." - A.W. Tozer



BRAZIL

by Tracey Doyle

A couple of months prior to my trip to Brazil I had come across two books written by Matt Roper detailing his time as a missionary whilst in Brazil. Matt Roper's ministry dealt with the rehabilitation and reintegration of street children into the community. My heart was moved and began praying that God willing, whilst in Brazil I would be able to join an organisation who were being the hands and feet to children in need.



When I arrived in Brazil the Lord had opened the doors for me to work alongside a ministry called *Crianca Feliz*, directly translated as Happy Child. This ministry was founded approximately one year ago by a missionary from the United Kingdom who also had been called to work with the street children within Brazil, particularly in the city of Belo Horizonte who has a notorious problem and concern in regards to the growing number of street children.

Crianca Feliz operates from eight houses and one farm which are either owned by the ministry or rented from the state. The mission of the ministry is to either reintegrate the children back into the family environment if possible, alternatively, should the children not be able to return home due to abuse of any sort, foster care and if necessary adoption would be sourced for the children.

When I was in Brazil during June

2007 *Crianca Feliz* had over 120 children being taken care of within the ministry. Each house is manned by social parents and volunteers who take care of the children's needs including feeding, assistance with school work, care and concern and spiritual care.

The ministry works very closely with the municipality and this partnership has led to great success in reducing the number of street children within the area. When a child is found on the street they enter the first assessment house named Emmaus where their current situation is assessed by qualified social workers and psychologists. If reintegration to their families is possible then this process is conducted in conjunction with the social workers.

Should a child not be able to be reintegrated, then their stay at Emmaus house (picture above left) would be for approximately 3-4 months to allow for the child to become used to being off the streets and in a loving environment. It was whilst assisting at Emmaus that I met young Jonathan and his older sister Creasy. Both were living on the street after their mother's boyfriend (a trafficker) had killed her and started using the children as drug runners. Another young boy of nine who was addicted to drugs, Hugo, will always remain in my heart as he battles his lifelong addiction acquired before he has even become an adolescent.

The ministry has been blessed with a farm (picture above right) which hosts boys between the ages of twelve to eighteen and in some situations younger boys who require specialised care. It is here that I met David who has been on the street since the age of six, and now at the age of fourteen has only started his education in the second grade.

The youngest child I met within the ministry was a three year old girl

names Duda (short for Mary Edwardo) who has been in the ministry for eighteen months after being removed from her alcoholic parents. Each child brings their own story, sadly mostly tainted with abuse and neglect.

The ministry has also been very effective in facilitating a holiday Bible club which is run in the Favella's (extremely poor housing) which allows the children to be off the streets and to be exposed to the good news of Jesus Christ who died for their sins. Reports are heard where families have come to the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ through the testimonies of the young children who have been changed as a result of their relationship with Jesus Christ.

The ministry is run by Pastor Amoree and his team of permanent employees and several volunteers. Whilst I was hosted at the ministry I met Rogerio, a Mozambican missionary who is serving as a volunteer for a year.

The vision for the ministry is to be expanded to all cities within Brazil, and a further vision to take *Crianca Feliz* into Africa. Pray that the Lord raises the person to join with the team in Brazil to partner and launch the Africa leg of this critical ministry.

Hillsong United Song: *The Solution* sums up the experience:

"We will be your hands, we will be your feet, we will run this race for the least of these."

If Christians were not prepared to be the hands and feet of Jesus to these children, hundreds each year would be left to the streets to survive by resorting to prostitution, trafficking and ultimately resulting in the continued cycle of abuse. Pray for the strength of each individual involved in this ministry that is building a Christ centred future.

Should you wish to obtain any further information regarding the ministry at *Crianca Feliz* visit: www.criancafeliz.net or contact me via email at revolutionary@vodamail.co.za.✝

Inspirational Music

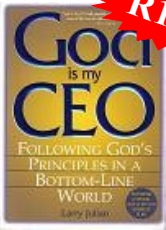
We Lift Our Hands
by the Oslo Gospel Choir

Gentle enough to reflect, lively enough to keep a rhythm.

R100.00

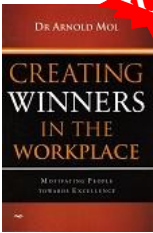


WORK RELATED TITLES



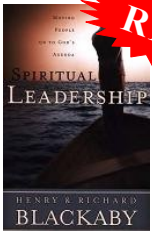
R110

God is my CEO
by Larry Julian



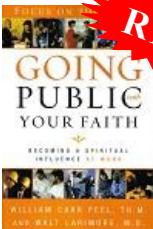
R110

Creating Winners in the Workplace
by Dr Arnold Mol



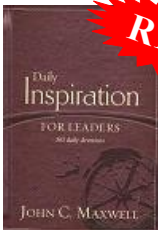
R110

Spiritual Leadership
by Henry & Richard Blackaby



R140

Going Public with your Faith
by William Carr Peel
& Walt Larimore



R100

Daily Inspiration for Leaders
365 daily devotions
by John C. Maxwell

EXECUTIVE GIFT IDEAS



R31.50

Flip-Flop Calculator



From R30

Assorted Mugs



From R15

Assorted Keyrings



R60

Screen-Printed Chrome Pen in Box



R90

Slimline LuxLeather Deluxe Notepad
(includes Pen)

ENTERTAINMENT



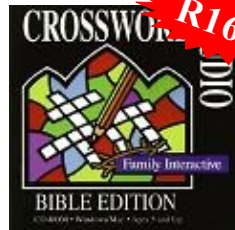
R250

Bibleopoly Board Game



R100

Ungame Pocket Size
(5 versions to choose from)



R165

Crossword Studio Bible Edition
CD-ROM



R110

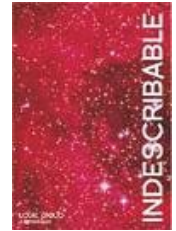
Stand CD
by Michael W. Smith



R60

Roach Approach Children's DVD
Also Available:
CD - R35
Story Book - R30

COMING SOON



Indescribable DVD



One Night with the King DVD
[Expected December]

Order before the release dates and receive a **10% discount**.

TRADING HOURS:

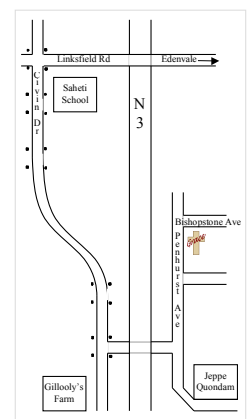
Monday – Friday:
9am – 5pm

Saturday:
9am – 2pm

Closed Sundays and some Public Holidays

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From the N3, take the Linksfield Rd off ramp. Turn right up hill. Stay in left lane. Turn left into Civin Dr. At 4th set of lights, turn left under bridge. At t-junction turn left. Through the boom. We are ± 200m on the right hand side. Entrance is in Penhurst Ave.



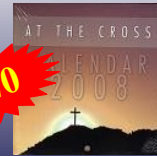
R40



R80



R30



R20



R100