



VISION NEWSLETTER

A publication of

Vision Ministries Inc.

Mobilising Australians for Jesus

“Alive In Christ” Vol. 2 No 62 and Newsletter

From Bishop Harry Westcott & Rev Jeffrey Evans

FAITH TO DO MORE THAN MAINTAIN!

“Therefore I remind you to stir up the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands” 2 Timothy 1:6

All of us at sometime or another find ourselves running on empty – We go through the motions of our faith, yet we know that inside nothing is happening at all. We become disengaged somehow and even though to everyone else, we seem to be doing and saying the right things, we know that we have found ourselves in a revolving door that never seems to slow down long enough for us to get off. We attend church, we read our bibles, we pray, we fulfill our roles, but inside we know there is nothing! Many marriages also find that this sense of disengagement creeps into their relationship. When the spark is gone from a relationship – you have to choose whether you will maintain the status quo or rekindle the romance.

Paul reminds Timothy to “**stir up the gift**”! And if you just fell over the finish line of 2006 in neutral then I want to encourage you to: stir up the gift, fill up your tank, re-engage and get back in the race. Hebrew 12:1 says: “*Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us*”.

The first thing we must do if we want to escape the maintenance mentality is to lay our burdens down – lay aside the weight. Matthew 11:28-30 “*Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.*” Give Jesus your disappointments, heartaches, disillusionment and receive His yoke as your own. “**Burdens are lifted at Calvary**” – so let’s give them to Jesus and leave them at the foot of the cross - Hallelujah!

Secondly we have to realise that we can’t do it in our own strength – We need the empowerment of the Spirit of God. Acts 13:52 says: “*And the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.*” If you’re running on empty – you need to be **filled afresh with the Holy Spirit**. Jude 20 states “*But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit*” Ask Jesus to fill you afresh with His Holy Spirit so that you can, unshackled by your burdens, start to feel a sense of purpose and destiny in Christ once again, with the dynamo of God empowering us from the inside out.

Thirdly: Re-engage – It happens so quickly we just click out of gear and start to coast in neutral. We have to be diligent in staying connected to our Saviour, our church family, our destiny. The minute we allow other things to creep in we start to disengage. 2 Peter 1:10 says: “*Therefore, brethren, be even*

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more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things you will never stumble” Hebrews 11:6 says it so well: *“But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him”* Let’s be diligent to stay engaged in the life that Christ has for us – Not to wander off the track and find ourselves shipwrecked.

Dear friends – Stir up the gift within you. Don’t let circumstances, burdens, sin, friends and family, heartache or disappointment stop you from actively participating in the fullness of this abundant life that God has gifted to each one of us. May 2007 be a year in which we move forward and not simply maintain some form of the status quo! – *“But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, **add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love. For if these things are yours and abound, you will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.”*** 2 Peter 1:5-8

Go for it precious friends!

Jeff

PLAN NOW TO ATTEND

Camp Meeting 2007

29 September - 4 October 2007



Bishop Margaret Benson Idahosa: Dr TL Osborne often refers to Bishop Margaret as “The Queen of Africa” and when we observe her life and leadership of over 3500 churches, Bible Schools, Hospitals, Day Schools, and University and the influence she exerts through them to change her nation of Nigeria into a God honoring nation, one can only admire her amazing spiritual leadership and wisdom. Her late husband (Archbishop Benson Idahosa) who pioneered the growth of the Gospel in Revival power throughout West Africa before his sudden death in 1998 said of his wife Margaret, “My shoes are too small for my wife”. With those words the great Archbishop effectively anointed Margaret as

his successor. The College of Bishops then consecrated Margaret a Bishop following his funeral. Bishop Margaret is our special guest for Camp Meeting 2007.

Along with Bishop Margaret we are also delighted to have **Lawson & Lesley Spiller** with us once again. Lawson brought a real gift of joy to the Camp last year and we are looking forward to having them both with us at Camp 2007. Lawson & Lesley reside in the UK with their 3 children. Lawson has just completed a new CD of anointed songs called “Masterpiece”.



HARRY'S WORD

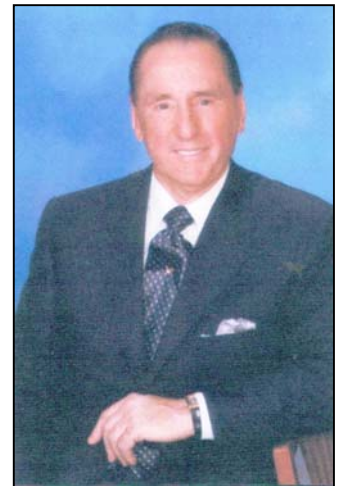
THE ROAD TO RECOVERY IS POSSIBLE

“SO DAVID RECOVERED ALL THAT THE AMALEKITES HAD CARRIED AWAY,-----AND NOTHING OF THEIRS WAS LACKING, EITHER SMALL OR GREAT, SONS OR DAUGHTERS, SPOIL OR ANYTHING WHICH THEY HAD TAKEN FROM THEM; DAVID RECOVERED ALL”. (1 Samuel 30: 18-19).

To experience wonderful encouragement following a time of hardship and disappointment is an amazing ministry of refreshment and hope. Just prior to Christmas last year two compassionate Christian ministries in Sydney, **“Christian City Church- Oxford Falls”** and **“Sydney Care - Chatswood”**, provided literally hundreds of “Hampers” to needy rural families that are suffering the effects of the worst drought in our history. To be given the honour along with other churches to distribute these gifts often just reduced us to tears. Thank you Sydney Christians, for such tangible love to predominately farming families out west even though you yourselves are hurting through serious water restrictions. Please receive our love and gratitude on behalf of all the families blessed through your generosity.

The scripture above should bring much encouragement to you if you are one that is enduring hardship due to the very circumstances of life that we are all challenged to live through at this amazing time in our nation’s history. David recovered all he lost after he **“strengthened himself in the Lord his God”(vs 6)**. Here at Vision Ministries we believe our whole ministry this year must be given over to equipping people to be strong in their personal relationship with the Saviour and stand against all the devil’s depressing tricks and be committed (like David) into a vital period of **“Recovering All”** that has been lost!

I have been greatly encouraged in reading autobiographies of people who triumph over hardship, and none have blessed me more than **“Living on the Edge” the story of Peter Daniels life**. From very humble beginnings he was determined to succeed in whatever task he had before him. Peter Daniels is a genius for creating simple business formulas to solve difficult problems. It has been reported of him that he has spoken to more live audiences throughout the world than any other Australian. Given the present struggle of life for so many, I have invited Peter Daniels to come and spend the weekend **13 – 15 July** with all who are able to come to **“Mamre Farm”** and through Peter’s ministry be strengthened and inspired to “recover all” like David and live in defeat no longer. Peter Daniels has graciously accepted our invitation! Inform us now that you will be at “Mamre Farm” for this important weekend.



Peter Daniels

In His Grip + Harry

- **Camp Meeting South Australia – 21st to 25th April 2007**

Rev. Graham & Julie Amber are throwing open the gates of “Cherith Brook” at Morgan SA. “Cherith Brook” is beautiful river frontage along the Murray River and an ideal place to hold this Inaugural South Australian Camp Meeting. The “Amber Shack” (Right) is where the meetings will be held and there is plenty of room for Caravans and tents. Mark the date in your Diary Now!



FINANCIAL:

“For God is not unjust to forget your work and labor of love which you have shown toward His name, in that you have ministered to the saints, and do minister.” Hebrews 6:10

I pray the above scripture brings you much hope and encouragement for your faithfulness in supporting the work of Vision Ministries as we continue to “Mobilise Believers for Jesus”. God has seen your labour of love as you have ministered to us, and He is not unjust or forgetful. May 2007 see you prosper because of the faithfulness of the Lord towards you.

The ministry received some gifts towards **boring for water** after the last newsletter, but unfortunately not enough to make this happen yet. So if you feel led to support this particular endeavour I would encourage you to mark your seed “Water” and send your gift. We will set aside the monies given already until we are in a position to begin boring for water.

We would also like to ask you as we do at the beginning of each year **to help cover the costs of the Vision Newsletter by giving a gift of at least \$30**. Many of you are faithful in doing this and we so appreciate your support. This gift helps us cover printing and postage which adds up to many thousands of dollars over a year. The Newsletter is a vital communication tool between the ministry and our friends across Australia and the nations – and we would love to see it continue to grow and be effective.

With much thankfulness for your amazing support of all of us here at Vision Ministries.

Jeff



A wonderful evening was had by all as nearly 200 people gathered in the “Go Forth Faith Arena” from across the community for Christmas dinner & “A not so Silent Night” pageant.

Three ways you can give regularly into Vision Ministries Inc.

1. Use the return envelope provided and send it to our office.
2. Have your credit card debited on the first day of each month
The offering slip enclosed will help you in this regard
3. Use the automatic banking facility - details as follows

**Vision Ministries Inc. BSB & Account No: 032-022 / 930926
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