



REACHING ANGEL TREE DADS!

By Dr. David Schuringa, President



While a third of CBI's students come from referrals from other students, the rest are the result of referrals from many ministries with which CBI networks. We've been proud to partner with outstanding organizations like The Back to God Hour, Focus on the Family, RBC Ministries, The Zondervan Corporation, Prison Fellowship and many more listed in the 2003 President's Report.

Prison Fellowship is a long time affiliate of CBI, but three years ago our partnership really blossomed with Operation Starting Line. OSL is Chuck Colson's bold vision of a multi-ministry collaboration to reach every prison in America with the gospel, state by state, and to disciple to maturity all who respond. Elsewhere in this issue of *Crossroad News* you'll find a thrilling letter from an OSL student who signed up with CBI at one of our very first campaigns with PF in Arizona. Thousands of inmates are studying God's Word with CBI as a result of the OSL events that are scheduled to take place through 2010.

Now Prison Fellowship is taking our relationship to a new level. Undoubtedly you have heard of Project Angel Tree which equips the church to purchase gifts for the children of prisoners, on behalf of the inmates. For 25 years Angel Tree has been facilitating gift giving for hundreds of thousands of boys and girls. The program is a delight for the kids receiving the Christmas presents as well as for the inmates who are doing something special for their children.

Over the years, many involved in the program have been hoping to discover a way to follow up on the Angel Tree dads (and moms! though over 90% of inmates are male). It is great to help an inmate give his son a new basketball for Christmas. Still, what the Angel Tree kids really need is a dad with a new

life so that, upon release, he can make choices that will make his children proud.

Two years ago, Project Angel Tree invited Crossroad Bible Institute to join them in a pilot program in Florida in which CBI enrollment forms were given to prison chaplains to distribute to the Angel Tree dads. This year, Project Angel Tree has asked CBI to go national with the program, making CBI enrollment forms available to the tens of thousands of participating Angel Tree parents.

More Instructors will be needed. The financial pressures this summer and beyond will be enormous since resources for reaching the Angel Tree dads is not part of the 2004 budget.

Reaching the Angel Tree dads with God's truth and God's love is something so huge and so wonderful that God will have to be in it for it to succeed. And you need to be in this too!

As the Angel Tree enrollment forms flood the CBI offices, please pray: pray for a good response, pray for church members to become Instructors, and pray for an outpouring of financial

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"... PRAY FOR A GOOD RESPONSE..."

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OSL STILL SIZZLING IN ARIZONA

According to his Tier 2 application, Adam S. was born and raised in the Roman Catholic Church, but went his own way as he grew older. When on the streets, he confesses, he hurt people. Adam remembers bowing his head one day and pleading with God, "What's wrong with me?!"



Adam S.

A couple months after he was arrested and incarcerated, the young man felt he was at the lowest point in his life. He felt alone, frightened, as if he were in a bad dream. Adam began reading a Bible as best he could. When he was transferred to another facility in Arizona he "happened" to run into some Christians who led him to Christ. He was baptized.

The next time Adam was transferred, he continued to see himself as a Christian, but he strayed. "I found that prison can be just like the streets. It has all the party essentials (drugs, homemade brew, etc.)." He admits that he was trying "to play both sides of the field." Knowing down deep that he couldn't serve two masters, he was struggling to do just that. The battle raged hard and long—he just didn't want to let the "worldly stuff" go. What Adam didn't know was that the missing piece in his life was discipleship.

About three years ago he was transferred again to another facility, and he was determined to make a fresh start in his faith. At that time, Operation Starting Line blew through Arizona and, being a musician himself, he loved the show and was impressed by the testimonies. "I thought it was excellent!"

Adam filled out a response card at the event and signed up with Crossroad Bible Institute. "It has helped me in my spiritual growth in learning and understanding the Bible," he writes. "I'm truly thankful!" Through CBI, he's getting the discipleship he's always needed. One of his personal Instructor's latest evaluations observes, "He's doing excellent work and getting to be a strong Christian!"

Recently, Adam wrote to CBI to thank them again and to inform them that he's getting out soon. He plans to continue his studies with CBI upon release. Crossroad encourages him to hook up with a re-entry ministry and a church. One can't help but think that life on the outside will be different this time, thanks to the truth of God's Word and the love of God's people.



Dear Dr. David Schuringa,

My name is Adam and I have been a student since the summer of 2001. I first heard of the Bible study from Operation Starting Line, I believe. They had musicians and speakers giving their testimonies. I really enjoy the studies I am doing through Crossroad and they have helped me to get closer to God by reading His Word, prayer, encouragement from the staff at Crossroad and our personal Instructors.

I had recently appeared before the parole board this past February. I requested a letter of support from Crossroad for the Parole Board. I received it and included it along with my parole packet. It was well-written and very professional looking. It is my joy to tell you that by the grace of God I was granted early release on house arrest. It was a unanimous decision by all five members. God is good! I'll be with my family in July, and will continue my studies with Crossroad. I want to thank all of you at Crossroad for your encouragement, Sharon VanWieren for the letter, my Instructor Wendy and most of all the Almighty God through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Yours in Christ,
Adam

INSTRUCTOR RESOURCES ON THE WEB

Instructors and others may find several web sites useful in the study of God's Word. First, there's the Christian Classics Ethereal Library which contains numerous resources such as commentaries, study Bibles, Bible dictionaries and encyclopedias, as well as writings by the early church fathers and theologians throughout history. A similar site called E-Sword offers free downloads and organizers of Bible translations, commentaries and devotionals. Finally, there is the Christian Apologetics and Research Ministry where you will find helpful resources on the cults and world religions. If you go to www.crossroadbibleinstitute.org you can find links to all three sites by clicking on *Instructor Resources* in the *Instructors' Lounge*.

TRIBUTE TO CHURCH COORDINATORS

By Karen Loyd

Bill Carlson bounded into the CBI office with a smile on his face: "I trained three more Instructors this week with the video! Could I get a few more manuals? I'll be training more next week. Also, I would like church leader brochures to share with some pastors I know."

Enthusiasm for CBI oozes from him—he can't help but share CBI with everyone in his sphere of influence! Bill is the CBI Church Coordinator at the Evangelical Covenant Church in Grand Rapids, Michigan where there are 25 trained Instructors. God is raising up coordinators like Bill all over the country, and they are crucial for CBI's success.

We have thousands of Instructors, but in each church one is needed to take on the added responsibility of being the Church Coordinator. This month we want to recognize these special servants of Christ.

Church Coordinators distribute the Bible Study lessons to the Instructors in their churches each Sunday and also function as liaisons between their Instructors and the CBI headquarters. In churches where the CBI presence is especially strong, you're sure to find an enthusiastic Church Coordinator recruiting Instructors, promoting prison ministry among the membership, keeping other church leaders in the loop, and even drumming up financial support for CBI.

CBI has so many incredible leaders like Bill. Take Lori Schoolland in California, for example. She recently informed us that she will be hosting yet another Instructor Training Seminar this July. She pro-

vides the date and time, verifies that all has been cleared with her pastor, promotes it in the bulletin and contacts likely candidates.

Hildi De Vries has been coordinating at her church in Florida for less than a year but already has 23 Instructors. She's on a mission to get as many involved as possible! An effective communicator and recruiter, Hildi promotes CBI at her church ministry fairs and distributes CBI brochures. She has monthly meetings with her Instructors to encourage them, to review the Instructor Guidelines, to answer questions and to share testimonies. She even helped to organize a trip that President Schuringa made to her church last winter.

We can not say enough about the work of the Church Coordinators! The larger CBI becomes, the more important this position gets. It is our goal to have a Church Coordinator in every church where there are three or more Instructors.

Does your church have a coordinator? Do you naturally share CBI with others? Do you have a desire to do more? Please contact me if you are interested in information on becoming a coordinator at your church. And thank you, Church Coordinators, for *all* you do!



Karen Loyd is CBI's Instructor Coordinator.

Lois Aalderks	David Dare	Joseph Heinz	Michael Meyers	Ronald Schuitema	David Vander Ploeg
Bill Adams, Sr.	Madelyn De Groot	William Hekman	Esther Middlewood	Nellie Schuurman	Marcia VanderPol
Matilda Alons	Roger De Haan	Julie Hengeveld	Wayne Miedema	John Scripps	Jay Veldhouse
Rev. Phil Apoll	Jean De Jong	Norma Herder	Carol Miller	Larry Senti	Lois Veldkamp
Krista Arendsen	Jake De Lange	Tim Hubers	Barbara Mimmer	Richard Shannon	Donald Verduin
Virgil & Esther Baker	Ted De Rose	Janel & Norman Huisman	Jane Misner	Evelyn Sikma	Margaret Ver Meer
Delores Bazzett	John De Troye	Priscilla Huizenga	Arnie Mulder	Cheryl Sjaardema	John Verdouw
Larry Beck	Alma De Vries	Fred Hulst	Marvin Mulder	Phyllis Stenk	Terry Ver Hage
Anita Beem	Hildi De Vries	Rev. Brian Hurley	Barbara Murgatroyd	Glenn Smits	Helen Vermeulen
Harriet Bierling	Judith De Vries	Jan Johnson	Iris Myaard	Truman Smothers	Al Veurink
Anne Bil	Lee Dekker	Rick Johnson	Lucille Nederhoff	Warren Snieder	Shirley Vink
Rev. Bonnie Bizzanelli	Tom Diephouse	Sarah Johnson	Mary Lou Nederhood	Donna Start	Julie Visscher
Roger Boer	Norma Dole	Delia Jonker	Dan Nieuwsma	Harry Stone	Hermine Visser
Treesa Boerema	Jim Dornbush	Eunice Jonkman	Jackie Niewenhuis	Charles Strabbing	Larry Vredevoogd
Nancy Boerman	Morris Driesenga	Janette Kamp	Lynnette Nolan	Joe Stravers	Rev. Mylion Waite
Julie Bolt	Gilbert & Marilyn Dykstra	Rev. Daryl Kats	Virginia Oordt	Beverly Sullivan	Clara Waldner
Rev. Scott Bonestroo	Bernice Ebels	Delores Keizer	Elizabeth Oosterheert	Karla Sybesma	Mary Beth Waller
Denise Booth	James Essenburg	Herm Kelderman	Robert Otte	Rev. Jack Taylor	Linda Wehrle
Marlene Bouwokamp	Agnes Euwema	Ioa Marie Kelley	Dennis Palombo	Barb Ten Elshof	Mary Dana White
Maxine Brink	Fran Faber	Moses Hodgson Kelly	Alice Parker	Mary Ter Haar	Sandi White
Bill Brouwer	Kevin Fagerburg	Judy Knap	LaDelle Parker	Tom Teune	Bill Wilder
William Brouwers	Eileen Fedders	Ruth Knap	Mary Ann Peters	Arla Thomasma	Abe Willems
Edward Brower	Nell Feddes	John Kuiper	Rev. Elton Piersma	Mary Thompson	Richard Williams
Bob & Anne Bruinsma	Lois Fisher	Douglas Larson	Rev. Bob Pohler	Patricia Tijerina	Carolyn Wolbrink
Jane Buiten	Eveline Franje	Delroy Ledeboer	Denise Postma	Nancy Timmer	Dan R. Woldhuis
Robert Bulten	Rev. George Frazier	Harold Leep	Hildred Remtema	Francis Van Dusseldorp	Thelma Wolffis
Carl Burgess	Sharon Gardner	Mike Leep	Debra Richie	Lois Van Dyken	Robert Wolfswinkel
Mark Bussis	Seni Gliwa	La Roy Lefers	Gert Rotman	Marcia Van Gorp	Arie Zekveld
Albert Bytwork	Don Godeke	Rev. Wayne Leigh	Phil Rottman	Marvin Van Haaften	Esther Zonderoan
Jim Carberry	Judy Goodwin	John Lobbes	Gertrude Rozeboom	Betty Van Maanen	Bonnie Zuidema
Sandra Carey-Sheaffer	Betsy Groendyk	Russell Maatman	Virginia Rubingh	Valerie Van Unen	Claude Zylstra
Bill Carlson	June Halma	Eileen Machiela	Dolores Rylaarsdam	Muriel Van Vuren	Nancy Zylstra
Marianela Chacon	Ruth Hambrick	Michael Martin	Lorri Scholten	Henrietta Vanden Bosch	
Jenelle Charles	Judy Harlan	Brian McDaniel	Lori Schoolland	Mac & Louise Vanden Brink	
John Cook	Kathy Hartman	Raymond Mellema	Diane Schreur	Howard Vander Griend	
Flora Crater	Elsie Heidbuurt	Herm Meyer	Juliana Schuiling	Bill Vander Kooi	

IN REMEMBRANCE

Gifts "In Memory Of" and "In Honor Of" are appropriate and meaningful ways to remember a special person in your life and to support the ministry of Crossroad Bible Institute.

IN MEMORY OF:

MILDRED MAAS
Jeanette Bergakker
Ted & Aletha Maas
Marguerite Hubers
John & Delores Keizer

DEAN LEFERS
Bruce & Gloria Beukelman
Ted & Aletha Maas

MARION DE JONG
Heiman & Marie Bosman

DON VAN WYNGARDEN
John & Sharon Van Wyngarden

THERESA FOLKERTS
William & Harriet Bierling

RAY VISSER
Gerard & Gertrude Borst

WILHELMINA SHOEMAKER
Lila Kempers

THOMAS MC LELLAN
Chrystobel Mc Lellan

GERARD MEYERINK
Merle & Joyce Meyerink

LAURA HESSING
Arnold & Joan Mulder

GERRY HEILMAN
Ken & Dorothy Vanden Brink

LORRAINE VAN DE BRAKE
Grant & Bonnie Van De Brake

IN HONOR OF:

BONNIE DE JONG
Birthday
Henry De Jong

CAL & FLOSS SALL
50th Wedding Anniversary
Bern & Ila Kunnen

DARRYL & LORRAIN ALWIN
50th Wedding Anniversary
Heiman & Marie Bosman

It's Been a Long Time Coming ...

CBI is pleased to announce
the arrival of the new
Instructor Training DVD*

*Also available in VHS video tape format

CELEBRATE!

CBI's 20th Anniversary Events!



Featuring: Host Pastors: *Revs. Tom Groelsema & Carl Kloumpien*, Worship Leader: *Dr. Greg Schuringa*, Operation Starting Line Platform Guests: *Don Grier & Leslie Kent*, Speakers: *The Back to God Hour's Rev. David Feddes and CBI President, Dr. David Schuringa*

Great Lakes Celebration
September 10, 2004 at 7:00 pm
First Christian Reformed Church,
Byron Center, Michigan

Great Plains Celebration
September 17, 2004 at 7:00 pm
New Life Reformed Church,
Sioux Center, Iowa

Mark your calendars now, and plan to
attend—discount lodging available!

Go to www.crossroadbibleinstitute.org/celebration.htm for
the most current Anniversary Celebration information

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resources so that no Angel Tree dad or mom who wants to study God's Word will be left behind.

An unprecedented opportunity like this to reach many more for Jesus thrills me. If it also thrills you, please pray about what you can do to help. Help reach the Angel Tree dads! Do it for the Angel Tree kids who need most of all the gift of a disciplined parent this Christmas.



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