

Las Vegas News

youth with a mission

April 2002

“Loving strangers and a desperate love for God”

Was the written response of just one of the youth leaders in answer to the question, “What was the most important thing that God taught you through this week of Mission Adventures Spring Break”?

That could quite easily sum up what we hope and pray that all of our “Mission Adventurers” will learn, and most of the approximately 100 that came over 2 weeks at Spring Break did just that!

At the end of one of these mission trip weeks, during our commitment service, we encourage everyone to write down a fresh response to what God has done in and through them as a result of that week. One such 19 year old male wrote:

“The life I once led disgusts me now and has no part in me. I will do whatever it takes, go wherever You send me. Anything You want, I am willing. If I do not have the skills or the resources I have faith that You, Abba Father and Provider will supply all I need.

My prayer is simply to fall more in love with You daily and to be whatever it is You want me to be and to do Your will for my life. Here I am, send me.”

Reading the commitments that these students make to God and the surveys that all of them fill in so that we can better serve future teams is often the icing on the cake of a week that is already filled with many blessings. This Spring Break these would include seeing at least 12 people make first time commitments to Christ, on the street, at the Street Café, and even in a new ministry that we are looking into developing amongst homeless youth.

To illustrate how just one of these happened, let me focus on the latter.

Homelessness amongst youth is a fast

growing problem here and in wanting to be part of the solution, we as YWAM Las Vegas were able to partner with a local run outreach that the County is developing to benefit these mostly abused teenagers. Consequently, we arranged and staffed a special “hang-out” time with these disenfranchised youth and after the 4th visit from one of our Mission Adventure teams one of these teens gave their life to Christ, and we were able to link him in with some local church contacts.

There were many more blessings in these 2 weeks – too many to put down on paper, but some may be summed up in another comment which said that God had taught them:

“That God does want to use me in spite of my mistakes;”
“Grace;” “the power of prayer;” “to be His hands and feet;” “that

His love is undying;” “how to be a missionary.”

The list goes on and on, and to be honest it is such a privilege for us to be in a place where we are able to serve others and lead them to Christ. And it doesn’t end there. We are also able to train and multiply others while doing this so that when they go home (or to the nations!) they will continue to tell others of God’s goodness, because they’ve been used by Him here in Las Vegas.

My prayer is simply to fall more in love with You daily and to be whatever it is You want me to be and to do Your will for my life.

Here I am, send me”

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staff and students from the discipleship training school

Discipleship Training School.



The Discipleship Training School is going great so far!

The lecture phase has officially ended, and we are now in outreach mode! It has been amazing to see God transform the lives of the students as they learned more about Him and His plans for their lives during the lecture phase. Many of them have expressed how God has used the lectures to change the way they think about God, themselves, and their ministry to others.

The first two weeks of 'outreach' the students have been helping to run the Mission Adventures program. They have been carrying out various leadership roles and helping to facilitate the outreaches for the teenagers. Through the outreaches 12 people come to Christ! It has been a stretching and challenging couple of weeks for the DTS students, but they have risen to the task and done an excellent job. They really stepped up and helped the base by working hard. All in all their first couple of weeks of outreach here in Las Vegas have been great!

By time you read this we will be in Thailand! We will be doing the rest of our outreach in three different Thai cities and villages. We eagerly await our departure for the Far East! Thailand is 95% Buddhist and they desperately need to hear the good news of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Our first few weeks of ministry will be spent in Taphraya, a small village on the Cambodian border. We will mostly be running an English camp for Cambodian Refugee children, which has proven to be an effective way to share the Gospel in the past. Moving on to Bangkok our focus will be reaching out to the university students. We will be doing a lot of dramas and friendship evangelism while in Bangkok, and building relationships with the college students in order to share the Gospel. The majority of our time will be spent in Chiang-Mai in the north. While there we will be doing a lot of work in orphanages, and also teaching English to the university students. We are also hoping to have a chance to minister to the many children who have been abused and forced into prostitution. Child prostitution is a huge problem in Thailand. (14% of Thailand's National Income is derived from prostitution!) We are going to have many opportunities to minister to the down-and-out!

Please pray that our time in Thailand will be effective. Our goal is that God would be glorified in all that we say and do, and that many people would come to know Him in a personal way! It is going to be a tough outreach; but we know that the harder the battle, the greater the victory. We are looking forward to all that God is going to do in us and through us.



contributed by Janet Butler, X-Alt volunteer

X-Alt Goes to the Juvenile Center!

Remember the words to the Beatles song "the long and winding road that leads to your door," well they must have been talking about the ride to Caliente, Nevada! This was one exciting ride!!! As you may or may not know, many of the children of X-alt have not been out of their neighborhood so the ride alone was an adventure.

A few weeks ago the Christian Motorcycle Group invited X-alt to join them in ministering to the teens housed

at the Caliente juvenile facility. The kids were excited and some a little nervous because we were going out of town and because they weren't quite sure what to expect. The ride was longer than we had planned and at one point we were separated from our convoy. I fully expected the girls to start complaining and doing that "teen mumble-thing." However, to my surprise they prayed for me - really good prayers! This is just another example that God is at work and these babies are growing in His grace.

Upon arrival at the center we gathered to pray and were pleased that our girls stepped out and prayed for the outreach. Some of these girls had only been with us a short time and were bold enough to pray without any prompting. The team danced, did drama and a lot of

observing. Even though some of our kids come from troubled backgrounds themselves they were surprised to see kids their own age living like this. On the way back home one of our girls said, "I don't ever want to go there."





New Staff

In April of 2001 we had an article introducing the Veloso Family and let all of you know that we had accepted them on staff. It has taken a time, patience and most importantly prayer, but they are finally here! Rex, Malou, and their boys Daniel (13) and Jesse (5) have moved from the tropical climate of the Philippines to join us on staff in the desert. Rex and Malou both have administrative gifts and Rex was a pastor for many years. Thank you for keeping their transition into this culture in your prayers. They have many days of leg work ahead of them getting situated to life in Las Vegas, from Social Security cards & Driver's Licenses to all the necessary paperwork to put the boys in school. This is our first family and we pray they adjust quickly so their family will feel at home with us.

Street Cafe... We've moved!

That's right, we are now up and running in our new location at City Mission and it's a wonderful provision from God!

The new location affords us a lot more space to seat and serve the guests and we've been open now at the new venue for 8 weeks! Many of our former guests have found their way over to us as we're just one block away, but we've also been introduced to many newcomers. Fremont Street has a very different feel to it and it's a busier location, with a lot more hustle and bustle on the street. Serving alongside City Mission who are already well-established has helped us communicate a framework for ministry ethos, and build together to serve the many individuals who come in from the streets in need of food, a place to sit and a listening ear.

In the last couple of weeks we've had some incredible opportunities to share the gospel and lead guests to the Lord. As one of my volunteers shared, "I have never met a man who, on a spiritual

search, knew so much about the Bible, and yet had never met Jesus." He was able to lead the man to Christ and invite him to church.

Another man, having reached the end of himself, had planned his suicide that night, and yet by no accident God led him to Street Cafe that afternoon and had three teenagers here on a mission trip tell him about Jesus. They were able to pray with him to receive the Lord and invite him to another street outreach later that night. In their simple act of service and obedience, this man's eternal direction was changed. Praise God.

We thank you so much for your prayers for the ministry. We can do nothing of eternal effectiveness without our God.

We're blessed also by those of you who have made donations and helped us practically in this time. Friends at Canyon Ridge Church have donated kitchen cabinets and tiled the Cafe floor - what a blessing.

Keep us in your prayers and if it's on your heart to join us in serving these precious individuals on Tuesdays and Saturdays, do call us, we'd love to have you!

Engagement Announcement!

Our very own David Mansfield asked Miss Stacey Nannini to be his wife on February 14, 2002. Stacey is a native of the San Francisco Bay area and teacher here in the valley. They met while attending South Hills Church Community in Henderson and we have been delighted to watch their relationship grow. Dave scoured Egypt while on outreach there, his own archeological dig if you will, to find a ring to give Stacey as an expression of his love. Join with us as we pray God's richest blessing on their union this August and as we look forward to what the future holds for them. **Congratulations!**



Dave and Stacey



Check out
our NEW
website
we 'GO LIVE'
on 1 June 2002
Don't miss it!!!

Interchange South Asia

Our missionaries in South Asia to spend five weeks in Nepal.

This will be their first time back there in twenty years! They are holding a week long Income Generation Workshop in Pokhara, the place they lived in the early 80's.

Then they visit church planting teams and have other meetings around the country for several weeks. The pictured rice thresher is one they installed last year in a nearby village. It paid for 1/3 of the invested price in just 47 days of harvest! The church planting team is benefiting as well as the villagers who now have access near their fields. Please continue to pray for this couple's safety and health on



rice thresher in Nar Singh

their travels. Should you desire more details about ISA and the missionary couple there please contact our offices, we withhold their names for security reasons.

"Ask of me, and I will make the nations your inheritance, the ends of the earth your possession."

Psalm 2:8

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address correction requested

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