



## “I am doing a new thing”... Isaiah 43:18

A number of years ago I was challenged to write my own personal mission statement. The task was not difficult for me... and it proved to be very helpful. Written on the front page of my Bible is simply: **“Out of the overflow of my love for God, to multiply the character and priorities of Jesus in as many people as possible”.**

Recently the Lord has opened some doors that are causing me to be overwhelmed with His grace.

In two weeks I head to Orlando to have a second meeting with a leadership team of Campus Crusade for Christ. They want to discuss how the training I have written on Christ’s life and ministry... can be taught to their staff and the leaders they work with around the globe. Steve Douglas, the new president of Campus Crusade, has developed a new mission statement. It is to “multiply movements everywhere... connecting everyone to someone who truly follows Jesus”. A year ago last October, I was in Australia speaking on this subject. Over the last 20 years I have stated through Christ’s earthly ministry He created a movement of multiplying disciples... and then commanded us to do what He has done (John 14:12).

Several leaders within Crusade took note of this... and were personally challenged by what I have consistently called “Good Christology”. In short, they have asked me to meet with them about imparting these values within Crusade... restoring a new love for the Life of Christ... and helping their staff begin to use the Life of Christ as the measuring stick for “building movements everywhere...”.

Campus Crusade has 26,000 staff in 191 countries, with 225,000 trained volunteers. As the world’s largest Christian ministry, its passion has been the fulfillment of the Great Commission. On December 17, 1970 I came to Christ because of the influence of Campus Crusade. My roommate... who had just accepted Christ two weeks earlier at the first Crusade gathering in South Dakota... shared with me the Four Spiritual Laws and I too trusted Christ. Not knowing any better, we went up and down our fraternity house... read the Four Laws to all 35 of our fraternity brothers... and saw 10 trust Christ. Since we had been Christians two weeks longer than anyone else... we led the the Bible studies using the Crusade materials.

Through the years, Dr. Bright, as the Founder of Crusade has been used by God as one of five men who have greatly impacted my life and served as a distant mentor for me.

Now Crusade has asked me to help them multiply this “Life of Christ training”... into their new and existing staff. Specifically they have asked me to donate up to 50% of my time over the next 10 years to this task. They have also asked for permission to use the materials I have written... and to help them multiply it throughout their sphere of influence.

**Needless to say... this has caught me off guard...** creating a growing sense of excitement but also a sobering realization of the work this will take. **I ask for your prayers for wisdom and discernment on how the Lord would want me to proceed.**

At the same time, a second ministry (which is best if I don’t name because of their work in ‘closed countries’) has asked me to work with their staff in a similar way, but taking much less time.

I have run these opportunities by the leadership team of Global Youth Initiative... and they have been very encouraging in moving forward... since we all share similar values... and they believe these partnerships will only further the ongoing work of GYI.

**Will you pray with me?** I plan to meet in two weeks with Crusade to continue to discuss what this looks like... and I plan to make a decision by year’s end on their request. Already Crusade has given me seven locations that they would like me to consider visiting over the next year to conduct training. Each of these would be test-sites for the new materials.



**The Lord is doing a new thing...** and these are open doors for furthering the GYI mission statement of “ a movement of God among the youth of the globe”.

**Praise Reports**

**JV Staff Conference:** I just returned from the JV staff conference and was deeply encouraged by the work of God in Eastern Europe. Not only are they seeing a great impact through their camps, internships, and church ministries... but the Exit 316 TV program is being viewed by over 100,000 people every week in Czech... pretty impressive for a country that has only 45,000 believers. Several hundred youth groups are meeting weekly with non-Christians to discuss the programs.



**Elements:** I am also very excited about a cutting edge new resource called “Elements” the leadership council of JV is developing. This resource will be a tool to disciple new young believers in their faith. It is the best resource I have seen and I believe it has potential for use around the globe. I will tell you more as it continues to be field tested and refined.

**Israel GYI 2008:** We have signed papers for our larger gathering for GYI to be in Israel in 2008. A major praise is that because of the generous support of two of our donors... we have received almost 82% of the needed funds to develop the initial planning of this conference. We still lack about \$10,000 dollars to conduct our planning meetings in 2007. Please pray as I identify and write up a contract with the company which will help us run the meetings. I have two proposals in front of me now and need His wisdom.



**On the Lighter Side- Actual Church bulletins or signs**

Sermon for Sunday: What is Hell like? Just below: Come in and and hear our choir sing!

Bertha Belch, a missionary from Africa, will be speaking tonight at Calvary Methodist. Come hear Bertha Belch all the way from Africa.

The sermon this morning: "Jesus Walks on the Water." The sermon tonight: "Searching for Jesus."

Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Don't forget your husbands.

The peacemaking meeting scheduled for today has been canceled due to a conflict.

Miss Charlene Mason sang, "I will not pass this way again," giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.

For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.

Next Thursday there will be tryouts for the choir. They need all the help they can get.

Barbara remains in the hospital. She is also having trouble sleeping and requests tapes of Pastor Jack's sermons.



Support for Dann and Char Spader or the ministries of Global Youth Initiative can be sent to: Global Youth Initiative c/o Josiah Venture, P.O. Box 4317, Wheaton Illinois 60189-4317