

BEST FOR US & BEST FOR YOU!

Peggy and I are beginning our twenty-fifth year in YWAM. Our two boys - born and raised in the mission - are moving into the calling that God has for them. One of them served three years in YWAM; now both are seeking to know the will of God for their lives. The issue for Peggy and me as the boys grew up, was never, 'Would they be in YWAM?' The issue was always, 'Would they pursue the will of God?'

If there is one thing we have learned in our YWAM Quarter Century, it is that God's will is what is best for us.

When we joined the mission in 1971, we felt it was to be for a long time. After serving in Europe for three years, we moved to Kona until 1991; then quite unexpectedly the Lord directed us to Oregon to live on our own, though still in YWAM. He said it was what was best for us!

And it was. Sean, the younger of the two boys, then seventeen, had to get away from YWAM in order to appreciate it. After graduating from high school, he went on a King's Kids outreach and had the greatest revelation of his life

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while in France; God radically changed his worldview. Consequently, this 'YWAM kid' who planned never to be in YWAM, has just concluded a three-year stint, you guessed it - in YWAM! Now he and his brother Chad are moving on to the next things the Lord has for them; not YWAM, but definitely the

will of God. Best for them.

Perhaps like Peggy and me, you felt that when you came to YWAM, it was to be for a long time. Yet for some reason things didn't go as you had expected or hoped. What's *your* testimony since YWAM? Have you known you are in the will of God? Can you testify to God's faithfulness to you, or have you failed to walk in the things you learned and saw while in YWAM? Are you enjoying the best? Being in YWAM is only best when it's the will of God; otherwise it's a drag!

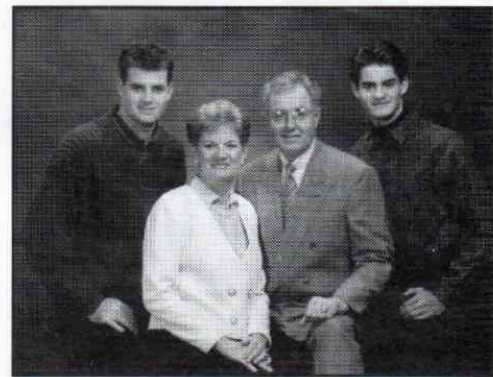
Or maybe like Sean, you shook the dust off your feet the day you left YWAM, saying, "Never again!" Never say never, especially to God. He may want to reveal Himself to you - not to get you back into YWAM necessarily - but because He loves you and wants you to live a life of fulfillment, with no regrets; simply the best! Remember, the Lord is the same yesterday, today and forever, wherever you are. Just the other day I read something Oswald Chambers said: "Wherever God puts you, He is amply sufficient."

Don't bemoan the past or wish for it back. Get on with the next thing the Lord asks you to do! If it's something at home, get on with it! If it's in missions, get ready to GO! If you don't know the will of God for your life, or aren't sure you're in it, ask Him! You're one of His children and He has the best for you, and won't keep it a secret. Go ahead, ask Him!

It's been best for us and it'll be best for you.

Paul and Peggy live in Eugene, Oregon, where they are pioneering a international

prayer center for the University of the Nations. Paul continues to teach and exhort worldwide, all the while establishing Schools of Intercession, Worship and Spiritual Warfare.



Peggy & Paul with Chad & Sean

DEAR ED...

"InTouch really does just that - brings back memories of people and places. It's powerful because of the 'depth of heart' sharing - not surface 'man-pleasing' stuff."
Reona Joli, England

"My address has changed and I don't want to lose track of you - or you of me... It has been a truly 'parched' time wandering around in my rebellion (it was in my heart along with a critical attitude and murmuring towards YWAM during my last year or so there)... and it feels so incredibly good to lay it all at the cross... funny how burnt-out I felt in YWAM and now those days seem like the best!"

Name withheld

Continued on next page...

DONNA'S CORNER

Blessing God

What is it that blesses God?

Reading the Bible through three times a year? Never missing a Sunday service with the church? Reaching out to the poor and needy? Going to the nations to evangelize? Fasting 40 days? Giving a tithe - or even more?

No! What blesses and pleases our Heavenly Father is that we love Him with all our heart, soul and mind - and that we love each other (Mt 22:37-39). Those other things are good, but without loving God and each other, they're worthless.

Obedience without intimacy is simply rule-keeping. Jesus is looking for His bride (that's us!) A true bride loves and trusts her bridegroom, surrenders all to him and is secure in his love.

It's out of our love for Him that we'll want to listen to Him and be obedient to Him, because we know He wants only the best for us.

It's our day-to-day journey that matters, not the things we may do for God. All those things - good though they may be - are not eternal. What's eternal is our love for Him and each other.



We're to take one day at a time, loving God and wanting the best for each other. That way we'll be blessing God.

MULTIPLIERS FOR MISSIONS

It's with sadness that we report the passing last August of Bob O'Connor, who along with his wife Genevieve, must hold the record for giving the most to missions. All nine of their children served in YWAM for varying periods, and they themselves were in the 79 Crossroads DTS in Kona, prior to being on staff in Salem, Oregon.



Bob &
Genevieve
(above)

Clan
O'Connor
(right)



In addition, all the spouses of their six married children have served in missions (five in YWAM), with one still in - she's working with Dean Sherman. If you add up the time of service from this one family, it is more than 100 adult YWAM years! Anyone top that?

And now it's the turn of the next generation - Bob & Genevieve's 25 grandchildren, ages 0 to 15. (By the time you read this there may be more!) What a rich heritage they enjoy. May they all follow the path first walked by the two generations ahead of them. In God's will, of course!

Bless you, Genevieve. Be seeing you, Bob.

Dear Ed continued...

"... I was blessed by Donna's Corner. Yesterday wasn't a great day and when I arrived home there was InTouch and her message leaped out like it was meant just for me!"

Debbie Matthews, USA

"Here's a donation for the cost of printing and circulating InTouch... I am always blessed to read the inspiring articles... I am very grateful that you care enough to get it all together and then send it out to the YWAM family."

Mary Crook, Australia

"It's six years since I left, but I still feel part of YWAM... so thanks for keeping in touch... here's my new address... once a YWAMer always a YWAMer!"

Cliff Hurst, Philippines

"I want to say thanks for the precious ministry you are doing. Your love and your heart for former YWAMers shines right off the pages and into my soul... thanks Ed, for helping me put to rest the question 'Should I have left YWAM?'... it allowed me to come to grips with the past and get on with the future."

Robyn Redpath, an Aussie in America

HOW NOT TO WRITE A SUPPORT LETTER

Dear Brother or Sister, as the case may be,

Please excuse the faint print and poor quality of this paper, ~~but~~ but an unsharpened pencil stub and toilet paper (which is free), are all I can manage. Funds are low at our mission, even though we have just paid our staff fees, in some cases giving our life savings. But it is so gratifying to see letters come in, almost monthly, with \$5 here and \$10 there.

We are so encouraged when living by faith, to see how all our needs are met. We eat regularly, taking turns to go without when there is not enough to go around. It helps of course, that it's fast one day a week. And no matter what time of day, there is always a little trickle of water to take a shower.

It always amazes me how many games and other fun activities can be successfully organized in the dark. There is neither time for them during the day, nor can we afford lamps by night.

Last night I was encouraged as I lay down in the staff lounge (some even have bedrooms), and I started thinking how noble it is that our policy is to never ask for financial assistance. It's what separates us from those organizations that seem constantly to be begging.

The way we have to put in extra hours of work to fix this place up, suggests that the fulfillment of our vision has fallen short of its target. We believe this is due to a spirit of stinginess on the part of some individuals who are on the outside. Last night we prayed for them, as by candlelight we read the story of Ananias and Sapphira.

Do you know the story of Ananias and Sapphira?

Your humble servant,

Ev R. Needy

PROFOUND & PITHY

"To be wounded in the fight is a great honor." Rick Joyner

For leaders: "Instead of using people to fulfill your vision, use your vision to fulfill people." Dean Sherman

Some people find fault as though there's a reward for it!

People need loving the most when they deserve it the least.

Don't dig up in doubt what you planted in faith.

"Discipleship starts before conversion; it's called friendship." David Boyd

"What you think about most is lord of your life." Donna Jordan

"The well-fought fields within."
C.S. Lewis describing areas over which the Christian has had victory

LUNAR DTS

YWAM THE NEXT GENERATION - MAKING GOD KNOWN INTO THE 23RD CENTURY

TOPICS INCLUDE:

THE RAPTURE - WILL WE BE BEAMED UP!
MEASURING THE SPEED OF DARKNESS
CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE WORST KIND
KLINGON BIBLE STUDIES
IS HELL IN A BLACK HOLE!
QUIET TIMES ON THE SEA OF TRANQUILITY
SPIRITUAL WARFARE
THE DIVINE PLUMBLINE IN ZERO GRAVITY

TEXTBOOKS

DARING TO LIVE ON THE GALAXY'S EDGE: FAITH & FINANCES FOR SPACE TRAVEL
RE-ENTRY: AFTER FLYING WITH EAGLES - LEARNING TO LIVE WITH TURKEYS
TRACKING YOUR SPACEWALK: ORBITAL JOURNALING

PREREQUISITES

ONE WEEK OF TRAVEL WITH LOREN CUNNINGHAM
OR: A TWO-WEEK SOC (SCHOOL OF CELIBACY)

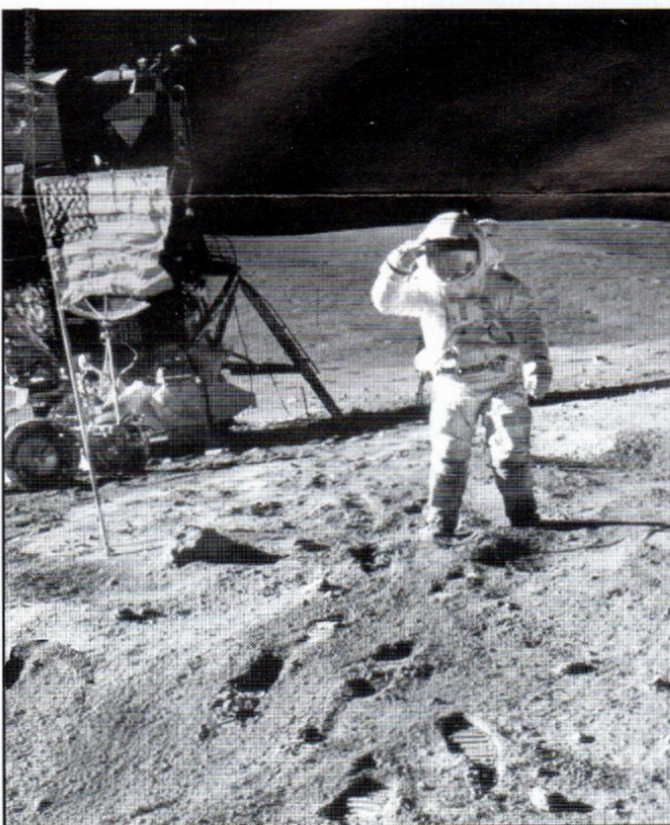
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OUT OF THIS WORLD

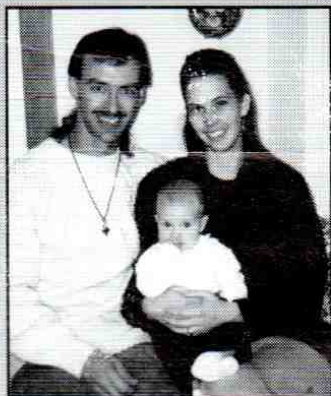
DATES

COUNTDOWN AT T MINUS 20 AND HOLDING

(Thanks to Roxanne Olson,
U of N Kona for the idea.
She even designed a full-on
brochure! If you'd like a copy
- it's really well done
- fill in the Order Form on
the enclosed Insert and
send it to Ed. It's free).



Dan & Diane Dyck, along with their young son Judah, have joined YWAM Associates and will be living close to the House of Peace in Richmond, BC. Their hearts are toward evangelism and we expect to be challenged by them in that area. Dan is also an accomplished carpenter, mechanic and Mr Fixit, ministries that have been sadly lacking amongst the permanent residents of the house!



1996 IN TOUCH RENEWAL CAMPS

- Malaysia/Singapore May 24-28
- Heidebeek, Holland July 7-13
- Richmond, VA USA July 28-Aug 3
- Riggins, ID USA Aug 11-17
- Winfield, BC Canada Aug 25-31
- Taiwan, R.O.C. Oct 9-13
- Kona, HI USA Nov 17-23
- Sydney, Australia, Dec 29-Jan 4
- Camp Borderline - a special camp for former Mercy Ministries workers. Thailand, Oct 27-Nov 2

For more details on all camps see Insert.

YWAM Associates International



A Ministry of Youth With A Mission

YWAM Associates International
Box 94187, Richmond, BC Canada, V6Y 2A3
tel: 604 274-9926 fax: 604 271-5000
e-mail: 103005.3043@compuserve.com

INTOUCH

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Feel free to use anything from this publication to glorify God and advance His Kingdom.

...AND FINALLY, A FEW WORDS FROM ED

No Agenda

Recently I attended a gathering in a venue that could handle 1600 people. In order to accommodate the 2200 who showed up, almost half the chairs had to be removed. Hundreds sat on the floor for the twice-a-day sessions, one of which lasted almost six hours. Even then, very few left early.

People came from all over the world, knowing that there was no agenda. That's right, no published program, no invited guest speakers, no big names. Just a letter that said the meetings would be morning and evening.

Oh yes! There was one invited guest. Jesus.

We gathered from the nations simply to wait upon the Lord. No agenda, just to wait. We worshiped, we repented, we reconciled. The meetings flew by. It was not our program; it was His. His agenda. And for most of us, Jesus was there.

I've been thinking a lot about agendas recently. Most of us have personal agendas, and generally they're not out there in the sunshine for all to see. We secretly plan the way we want things to go, then we make sure they do, usually through manipulation or coercion. Bending people's wills to ours. Hidden motives. Yuck!

Agendas have been one of the 'strong men' in my life. Several years ago the Lord showed me my heart in this area and it wasn't pretty. In all of my relationships I had my own agenda for how things were to go. Interestingly, those agendas were always to my advantage. This of course is known as selfishness, also known as sin.

This is not to suggest that all planning is wrong or unnecessary. Perhaps though, some of our Christian functions might please God if we made more room for Him. And definitely, let us hold up our own personal agendas to the searchlight of the Holy Spirit; for that which passes unchallenged through the loving inspection of His righteous gaze, surely is not sin. (II Chron 6:30 b)

For Men Only

Want to know a way to really love your wife? (If you're single, read on... I wish I'd learned this before marriage!) In Ephesians 5:25-33 husbands are told four times in nine verses to *love their wives... just as Christ also loved the church and as we love our own bodies*. Challenges that make most husbands cringe with a sense of inadequacy.

A wife feels loved when you give her flowers (not potted plants, but cut flowers - she knows they'll die and there'll be more coming!); she loves help around the house... and a thousand other things; but there's one surefire way to love your wife.

Pray with her. Pray for her. Let her pray for you. Every day. As your equal (or fellow-heir). Not just bless-me, bless-the-kids-type prayers. But honest, humble, before-God-and-each-other-type prayers. A time where little (and big) problems and attitudes get taken care of in a safe and secure place. If you do this, I guarantee your wife will know that you love her. You do want her to feel loved, don't you? She's probably longed to be prayed with all along, and may even have tried to help the Holy Spirit to convict you of her need of it!

How do I know this works? Apart from personal experience (after many years of sporadic attempts), I listen to what other men's wives have to say. Ask any wife if it's important to her. When I counsel a couple, I ask the husband if he prays daily with his wife. The answer is invariably, "No." And this phenomenon is also common among Christian leaders.

Recently a major Christian magazine wanted to run an article on "The Importance of Husbands Praying with Their Wives." Letters were sent to 30 well-known spiritual leaders asking each one to write a short piece on the subject. Not one response was received, the inference being that a) leaders felt it was not important, or b) the leaders had no authority to speak to the issue.

Husbands love your wives. Pray with them.

