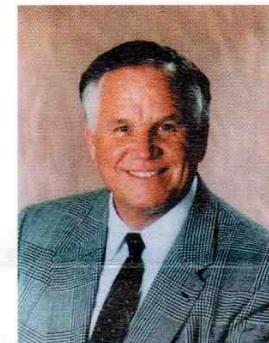


**F**or this our 30th Edition of *InTouch*, I felt it fitting that our lead article be given to the founder of Youth With A Mission. This is the third time for Loren to be with us in our ten years of publishing, and I believe this message, which shows the absolute importance of YWAM returning to its foundations, is also a message for each of us as individuals in our personal walk with God. We should take a look at some of the foundational building blocks of our lives. To go forward, we must look back. To re-examine our foundations from time to time, is critical. To keep building our lives or our ministries on foundations that may be faulty, is simply to invite a collapse. It takes humility to be willing to turn the magnifying glass on 'beginnings' that we may hold dear. Loren has led the way by showing that there have been cracks in YWAM's foundations and that there is need for repair. Are you open to reappraising *your* life and ministry? We are.



In the early '90s, our Lausanne, Switzerland base almost closed because of a broken-down building. God often speaks through the 'natural' to get our attention about the 'spiritual.' The foundations of the old five-story hotel were damaged and the whole building was close to being condemned and torn down. In order to rebuild the structure, the foundations had to be restored before renovation could begin above ground. As the physical renewal started, it also became a time of cleansing our hearts – our spiritual foundations – and asking God to show us where we had gone wrong; a time of asking God to show us where the spiritual foundations had been damaged, destroyed or moved; and a time of praying for God to re-anoint our foundations. Now, in 1998, the base is once again fully functioning.

But God is not only speaking to the Lausanne base – He is just speaking there first. In YWAM, the scope of our ministry is found in Mark 16:15, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." Our expressions of that scope are evangelism, training and mercy ministries. These are what we all do, and have been doing since the beginning; they are part of our foundation. First we

by Loren Cunningham

## Foundations

*Walk into the future backwards*  
– Island proverb

The Discipleship Training School is the foundational building block of Youth With A Mission, the cornerstone of the mission. It's our DNA, our genetic code. The DTS gives vision, it gives understanding, it gives people something to hang onto so that they will understand what YWAM is – and isn't.

DTS is also a bonding time, a time of impartation, of living and learning. It is not only formal but it's non-formal – planned informality. (Everyone's mother tongue is learned informally, never in an academic class.) Informal training is a most powerful way of learning. DTS is 'live/learn' 24 hours a day because of the principles God has given us.

In the beginning (of YWAM), God said, "Start a school." Foundations come at the beginning; they are laid at pioneering times, they are underground and they are not highly visible. Pioneers (foundation-builders), are 'unknowns' at the beginning and they are not understood.

They are like apostles and prophets in the Bible. No one really perceives what is in their hearts, what their vision from God is, or what they are living for. They appear to be just digging a hole in the ground and filling it with concrete and steel. The DTS was foundational for YWAM and it is foundational to each person who joins the mission. No exceptions.

After the foundations are secure, then come the floors (teaching), the walls (evangelism) and the roof (pastors). The sequence is of utmost importance. If the foundations that God has given are unstable or have been moved, the whole building becomes suspect, and in a worst-case scenario, comes tumbling down. To change the metaphor, "You shall not move the ancient walls, the boundaries that your fathers have set." (Prov 22:28)

The closer we come to our goal (for YWAM – evangelizing the whole world), the more we must go back and check up on our beginnings, our foundations. We must all ask questions like... 'Have they moved? Are they crumbling? Do they need repair, renewal or restoration?'

Foundations continued on page 4



In recent editions of *InTouch*, we have aired some painful letters and shared some distressing stories. Sometimes, a leader has been fingered for much of the blame. Here's a thoughtful letter that bids us look at the other side...

**Leaders Get Hurt Too**

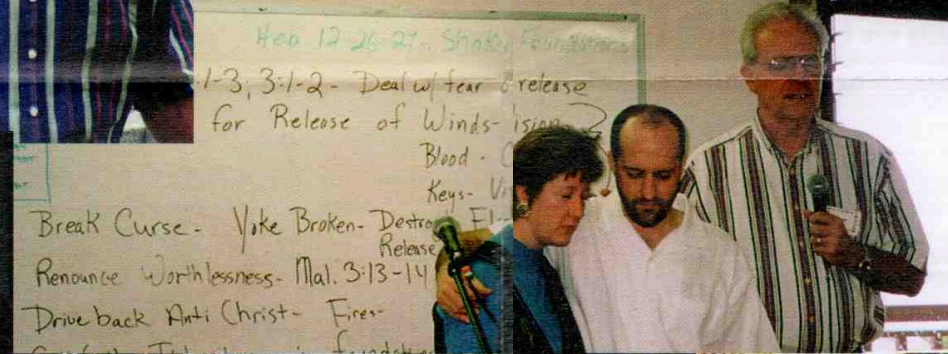
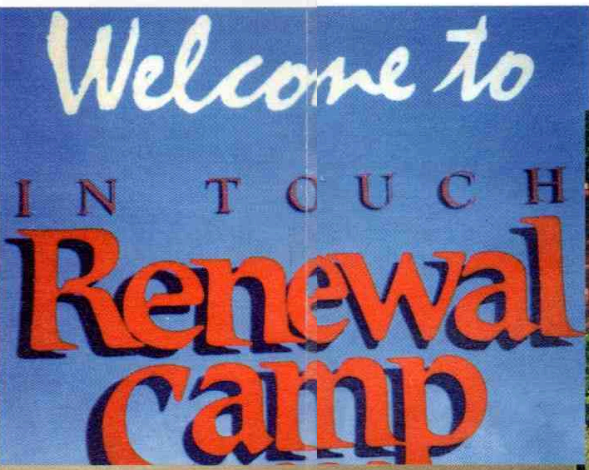
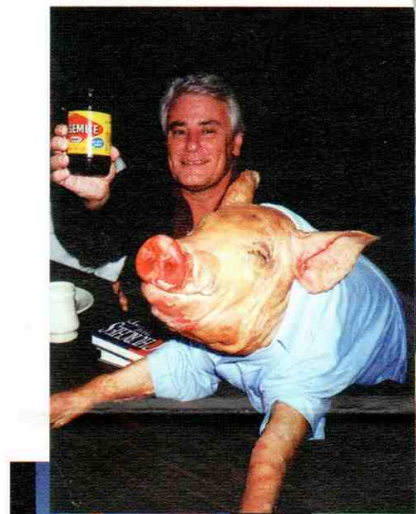
My view of leaders changed when I was put in leadership... I experienced the deepest hurts of my seven-year YWAM career, not from any leaders, but from those I led. Never would I have intentionally hurt anyone, though I know I made mistakes. I desperately wanted to do my best for the Lord in caring for His people, but I was not always prepared for the verbal and heart-breaking attacks from the very people I was trying to care for. It has taken many years for me to be able to step out in leadership again, because I know I will once more be vulnerable to hurt. It's all part of the price of leadership – the part that not many people talk about. Going to the ends of the earth is not the hardest part of serving the Lord; it is being willing to be vulnerable in the face of misunderstanding and betrayal. The issue is forgiveness, which doesn't come without true humility. When we see ourselves as truly needy people, it will be much easier to release forgiveness and accept it as well. And then it's time to move on. I don't want to waste one second bemoaning something that happened to me in the past. Life is too good for that!

*Beth Neale, Oregon*

**For YWAMers Too**

Thank you for *InTouch* and its 'little nuggets' of experience. I am active in YWAM leadership here and shared the Blessings & Curses column (*InTouch* #28) with our staff... we realized we have to work harder at our exiting process for those who move on. This last *InTouch*, you did it again – your thoughts on control hit home with an issue that the Lord has been speaking to us as an entire base. Even though *InTouch* is for former YWAMers, I have found it to be a place to learn from – and thereby encourage others.

*Jeff Henkel, Mexico*



**Cold Turkey**

Since my DTS I came home and jumped straight back into work... I've struggled going through the 'cold-turkey-out-of-YWAM' bit... from all day with Jesus, to just an hour, to less! It was not nice. I neglected God a whole lot, though I didn't mean to... Now I've started serving seriously in my church, and I've also settled into a cell group, both of which are godsend to me. Yet I still haven't been in my element, until a recent missions trip to Thailand, where I know God did something in my heart. I'm encouraged.

*Li Huan Quek, Singapore*

**Excited and Scared**

I was in YWAM for a couple of years in the 80s, and I always feel a surge in my heart when I see *InTouch* in the mail. I have two small boys, and always wait

until they're tucked in before retreating to my bedroom. The letters and articles on healing have touched me, given me hope and made me feel a little less alone. A long time ago, I too was hurt, but have since moved on with my life. Thank you for all the encouraging words that have brought me to a place of forgiveness and allowed me to see God once again. Living in shame tends to darken one's vision of God and it's only in the last two years that my vision has started clearing, and God once again has become my heart. My spirit soared when I read about the Minneapolis DayCamp... I am excited, yet fearful of being with YWAMers again; but I know that God will continue the healing and restoration.

*Name withheld*

**UPCOMING RENEWAL CAMPS**

- Minneapolis DayCamp - October 24 with Dean Sherman
  - Kona, Hawaii - November 15-21 with a variety of speakers
  - Crystal Springs, Matamata, New Zealand - January 10-16, with Dean Sherman
  - Merroo Conference Center, near Sydney, Australia - January 17-23 with Dean Sherman
  - Kona, Hawaii - February 21-27, with Dan Sneed
  - Singapore/Malaysia - Spring 1999 (details available by November 1)
  - Restenas, Sweden - June 27-July 3, with Bruce & Barbara Thompson
  - Winfield, BC, Canada - July 25-31
  - Riggins, Idaho - August 15-21 (to be confirmed)
- All Camps directed by Peter & Donna Jordan

**PROFOUND & PITHY**

Joy is not the absence of sorrow; it is the presence of God.

Yesterday is history; tomorrow is a mystery; today is a gift - that's why we call it the present.

Overheard & Scary: "It seems predictable, that since the parents of today's young people solved the problem of inconvenient pregnancy by killing their unborn sisters and brothers... that their children in turn, will apply the lesson they've learned on their aging parents."

When asked by a reporter where God is when a baby dies in a Calcutta alley, Mother Teresa responded, "God is there, suffering with the baby. The question really is, where are you?"

Favorite hymn of some Christians: "Jesus Loves Me, This I Hope."

**Another of YWAM's FOUNDATIONAL VALUES** (but really appropriate for any Christian)

YWAM is committed to doing, then teaching, according to Jesus' example. We affirm the importance of living a concept, theory or belief in personal experience as essential to passing it on to others. We believe that godly character and the fruit of the Spirit are more important than an individual's gifts, abilities and expertise. (Ezra 7:10; Acts 1:1; Philippians 4:8-9; Colossians 3:1-17; 2 Peter 1:5-10; Micah 6:8)

This, the 30th Edition of *InTouch*, also marks the 10th Anniversary of YWAM Associates International. For this special edition, Glenmore Printing Ltd, has generously offered to provide us with full color at no extra charge above the normal one-color price.

only did evangelism, but then the Lord showed us the need for training. Jesus Himself first studied the word, then He began to do and to teach.

Little by little YWAM's foundations were laid. Yet we didn't discover until recently, how important the role of training is – specifically in the DTS – for the laying of those foundations; not only for YWAM, but for every staff member. Each staffer needs to carry that DNA, that genetic code, and it only comes through impartation like Elisha's anointing did from Elijah; and that impartation, only

'attaches' itself in a DTS. Bonding to the mission and its vision comes through the DTS. It is through the DTS that one truly becomes a member of YWAM.

Leaders from other major organizations of the world, seeing that there is an anointing on our DTSSs, ask, "What is it that you do in them that we can do?" Whatever it is, it's because God said to do them, and He said to do them in a particular way. When we stray from that way, our foundations will crumble.

Likewise, in all of our lives and ministries, when we deviate from what God has said to us, we stand in danger of toppling down. In YWAM's case, we

have learned that we cannot shortcut the DTS. It is absolutely foundational.

What has God given to you that is foundational for your life, for your ministry? This may be a good time for you to check that your foundations are secure – just as we are checking ours.

### Outreach to Mexico



April 1999  
Building & Evangelism  
For details contact Dan Dyck at the YWAM Associates address below.

### Donna's Corner

#### God Cares

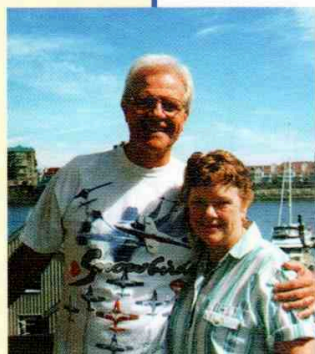
God cares about you as an individual. You are His child – His prince or His princess.

He knows the number of hairs on your head (Matthew 10:30); He knows your every thought before a word even comes out of your mouth (Psalm 139:1-4); He knows the good plans He has for you as an unique person (Jer 29:11-13).

But will you trust Him with every corner of your life?

Lots of folks say they love God; yet they put their trust in people. Jesus wants you to love Him **and** trust Him. Will you love God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and with all your strength? Will you trust Him?

What He has said about you is true. What He says He will do, He will do. His promises are true! After all, He **is** Truth (John 14:6).



### and finally... a word from your editor



#### Conflict

Back in the dark ages of jet flight (about 40 years ago), I lusted after airplanes and the opportunity to fly them. The only way to learn this skill without it costing me a great deal of money, was to let my government pay me to do it. So I joined the Royal Canadian Air Force and commenced flight training. Today it costs millions of dollars to train a military pilot, but back then we were a bargain for the taxpayers; for just a few hundred thousand bucks, a trained and combat-ready pilot could be all set to defend his country from the enemy. (Social Note: In those far-off days, there were no 'hers' flying combat aircraft.)

Our enemy in those days was the Soviet Union (how times have changed!). And the supposed threat was that Russian bombers would come winging over the North Pole across the frozen reaches of icy tundra, to obliterate Canadian and American cities. We were to be the valiant first line of defence, roaring across the frigid northland to intercept and shoot the enemy down. Loaded up with rockets, we each had ample firepower to turn their huge flying machines – and their crews – into enormous, incinerating fireballs.

To my shame, I never once thought about the possibility of *real* conflict; I never considered the potential within me for actually killing another human being. I have to believe this was a measure of my immaturity. I was in it for the thrill of flying and the glory of recognition, pure and simple.

Conflicts start with two people in bad relationship, and there are two kinds of conflict – cold and hot. Cold conflict is anger and bitterness and unforgiveness and hate, and it's using the tongue as a weapon of war (James 3:1-12). And pride is the motivator. Hot conflict is physical and leads to death.

Conflict is part of life, and how we handle it, determines – to a very large extent – how successful we are at this challenging gift from God called 'life.' Maybe I'm simple, but to me, true success in life boils down to this: respect for and intimacy with God; and humility and forgiveness toward others.

Now, the great challenge is to live that out.