

1957 - 2009

Child Evangelism Fellowship of Saskatchewan

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A Fruitful Ministry to Children!

Dear Friends,

June 2009

The other day I was thinking about what a **fruitful ministry to children** would look like. As I thought about it I came to believe a **fruitful ministry to children** would see the children of the children we reach regularly attending a Bible-believing church and growing up in a Christian home.

This also reminded me of a verse in Psalms where David and God were having a conversation. David was pleading with God not to turn away from him and then in Psalm 132:12, God said, "If thy children will keep my covenant and my testimony that I shall teach them, their children shall also sit upon thy throne for evermore." I believe that if we want our grandchildren, (which we don't have yet) 😊 to live for God then our children must obey God's Word, and that if our children do not live their life for God, then it will only be by the grace of God that our grandchildren would live their lives for Him. I believe that a **fruitful ministry to children** would see the grandchildren of these children living for God.

A few weeks ago my mom's brother, Al Buhler, passed away very suddenly from cancer. The conversation I had with him a couple of weeks earlier now seems that much more special as we discussed distributing the children's DVDs. As I reflected on the life he lived, devoted to reaching children with the gospel I found myself thinking about how my grandparents, his parents, had raised their children. All 5 of Grandpa and Grandma Buhler's children have devoted their lives to reaching people for Christ and discipling them to live for Him. As I thought about it, I realized that they did not just raise their children to be Christians but rather to also reach others for Christ themselves. I believe that a **fruitful ministry to children** would see these children reaching others for Christ.



Our theme this summer is 'Be a Champion' and includes stories on Rahab (Champions trust God), Gideon (Champions have faith), Job (Champions have joy), the Shunnamite Woman (Champions are diligent), and Nehemiah (Champions have hope). Our continued story this year will be on the life of Hudson Taylor. My prayer is that the children we reach would accept Jesus as their Saviour, grow up to have "Hearts ♥ That Desire to Please God", and when the time comes would raise their children in Christian homes of their own, teaching them the things of God.

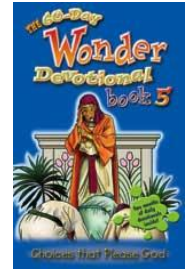
This summer we are seeking to reach **5,000 children** and preparations are going ahead. We have printed **5,200 Bible verse bookmarks**, and ordered **17,000 Pass-It-On' cards** which the children will receive as they memorize the verses being taught. We have ordered **5,500 DVDs** which are already in the process of being burned of the children's film, "Two Thieves" in memory of Uncle Al. The **2,000 faith silicone bracelets** have been ordered which the children will receive for each friend they bring to hear about Jesus.





We also ordered **5,500 CDs** for the '**Be A Champion**' music CD that all the children will receive just for attending. We hear many reports of these CD's being played all year long and we are excited that the message of the gospel is going right into the homes of the children through these CDs. As well, we have **60-Day Devotionals** ready to give the children as they complete their **Mailbox Club lessons**. In just a few short weeks the children will be invited to come and hear the gospel, many for the very first time!

Many new communities have already booked a 5-Day Club or a 5-Day Club/VBS. Some of the communities that are already booked for this summer that we were not in last summer are Cut Knife, Atton's Lake, Frontier, Assiniboia, Ormiston, Qu'Appelle, Southey, and Echo Lake. The number of churches we are working with around the province continues to grow as we seek to work together to reach the children in their communities with the gospel. The coordinators are busy all across this province seeking to find open doors for the gospel so that the children in communities all across Saskatchewan will have an opportunity to learn about God and their need for His forgiveness for their sins.



Please continue to pray for the coordinators as they seek to fill the itineraries in their areas. **We have included a 5-Day Club brochure with this letter and would be thrilled if you are able to host a 5-Day Club in your home or church so the children in your community and neighbourhood could hear the gospel this summer.**

The applications from young people who are willing to teach the 5-Day Clubs this summer continue to come in. To date we have **10 confirmed applications** and approximately **10 others who we are expecting to receive applications** from. We are trusting God for a total of 28 CYIA workers who would be willing to give their summer to reaching children for Christ. We would appreciate so much if you would pray **earnestly** for this need. As it says in Matthew 9:37,38: "**The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.**" I truly believe that our responsibility is to pray earnestly, as it is God's harvest and He is the one who will send out the laborers. The prayer band in Saskatoon has already begun meeting each week as well as 100's of other prayer partners across Saskatchewan to pray for this ministry would you be willing to join them?

We have been busy both in preparations for the summer as well as the fall. On May 21, I had an opportunity to do a radio interview on a Christian Radio station in Yorkton to promote the ministry of CEF and the 5-Day Clubs. Then, on May 25th, I presented **Club DJ** in Duck Lake as they are planning to start **Club DJ** on Beardys Reserve in September. On May 27th, I met with a church in Moose Jaw who were 'blown away', to use their words with both the 5-Day Club and **Club DJ** ministry and are planning to be a part of both ministries this summer and fall. It is so exciting to see God open up doors all across our province to reach the children in our province with the gospel.

We are truly encouraged in all God is doing and would like to thank you for your faithful prayers and financial support. Each summer I come to realize that we truly are in a battle for the salvation of these children as we are seeking to be **a fruitful ministry to children**. We would cherish your prayers in the days ahead for this ministry, including needed 5-Day Club locations, Summer Missionaries, as well as the coordinators and those of us here at the office as we prepare for the 5-Day Club ministry this summer. I want to thank you once again for your part in this ministry and trust you are encouraged in all God is doing. May God bless you for your part!

For the sake of the children,

Jerry Durston
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On a personal note, our son Shea was engaged to Sharlyn Dueck from Altona, Manitoba on May 31st. They are planning to be married this September!