



ICLD NEWSLETTER

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Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God. - Romans 10:17

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SEEING ICLD AFRESH -- A LOOK at VISION

A week ago my wife and I had supper with a couple whose ministry includes church consulting. The husband said that *“the church grows from its ‘vision’”*. This has kept me wondering all week about **“ICLD’s Vision”**. This morning I happened to read Matthew 27, and the place where the Jews cried out, *“May the blood of Jesus be upon us and our children”* lingered in my thoughts. A little while later at the computer I looked up **“what the Bible has to say about vision”** and wrote down some verses. Next, for some reason, I picked up a Messianic Jewish magazine from last year and read about a Jewish man who had had a vision of Jesus, went to a Messianic Jewish ministry he had awareness of, entered, gave a testimony, and then went home with the group leaders who baptized him in his own bathtub! In his testimony he said that he had experienced anti-Semitism and figured it grew out of how Jews are held responsible for the death of Christ. Somehow today’s ‘thread of continuity’ reminds me of God’s ongoing involvement in all of our lives and all of our ministries. *“The Son is always sustaining all things”* (Hebrews 1:3)

In looking through **biblical thoughts on the subject of “vision,”** one passage particularly struck me, *“Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, now I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the desert.”* (Isaiah 43:18-19) I don’t think any of us will totally forget the people of **the last 55 years of ICLD** (two in their 90s are still with us), but there is no time to dwell on the past either. **Has ICLD seen God doing a new thing? Indeed! The five newest volunteers “3 just showed up; 2 were invited”;**

– and they are filling crucial needs in ICLD’s work force. **The upgrades with CDs, DVDs, web site, spread sheet** and in a few other operations have been a sort of “way in the wilderness” of technology, and **sufficient funds** to operate another year or two has been *“a stream in the desert”*.

Vision implies looking ahead and implies seeing things unusual and signifies seeing things heretofore unseen – casually glance at Isaiah seeing the throne room of God (ch. 6) or the *αποκάλυψη* of the **Apostle John** on the Island of Patmos or **Peter’s** harbinger of Gentile salvation (Acts 10) or **Stephen** about to become the first martyr seeing Jesus at the right hand of God (Acts 7) or **Paul’s** Damascus Road experience or his Macedonian call. Some of you who are Bible readers have surely by now thought of Proverbs 29:18, where it says *“Without vision the people perish, but happy is he who keeps God’s law.”*

The sustaining thread God has woven through ICLD’s 55-year history, plus God’s love for Bible-centered ministry, plus God’s overall faithfulness in sustaining those who are His – all these give ICLD’s volunteer family confidence that our best days are still before us. As past President Mike Ondov often said, “God keeps sending ICLD materials, volunteers, and funds.” **Consider your role with ICLD** as you read this Newsletter, **fold your hands, close your eyes, and ask God** to whisper in your heart **how you can participate in ICLD’s “Regifting Gospel Literature to the World.”** The ICLD volunteer family thanks you for being part of this Vision.

John Stacknik, ICLD President

VISION 2016

Vision for Materials

Bibles and Christian books are still very much in demand in developing countries of the English-speaking world – no letting up any time soon, as far as we can determine. One seismic shift worth noting: **NO MORE VHS or Cassettes, please** (with few exceptions). Even overseas these machines are less obtainable, from what we are told. Our web site upgrades will inform everyone about “specifics” as to materials sought and sent – e.g., please NO novels,

hymn books, frivolous or North American topics, etc. (www.icld.org)

(cont. on back)

*ICLD - Regifting
Gospel Literature to
the World since 1961*

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WORLD SNAPSHOTS

I am a senior pastor for Envision Outreach Ministry. I have been a senior pastor for ten years. We, as a church, do donate books and Christian literatures to different hospitals, prisons, orphanages and schools within the country. We are therefore in need of these materials to help our work. Therefore, if you can donate we will be grateful. **Zambia**



Kenya

This is also to acknowledge that this Nov. 2015 we received a donation from the International Christian Literature Distributors (ICLD). This donation will be a very useful tool in our “Pastoral Leadership Training Institute” and for Family Enrichment. Peace and Grace to you all. **Burundi**

VISION 2016

Vision for Volunteers

Those loving **Scripture** and envisioning **worldwide evangelism** and having an aptitude for **detail work** while staying **close to home** may enjoy becoming part of ICLD. Keeping **computer records** of hundreds of far-flung requests, **sorting & shelving & packing** Christian reference books, and pioneering **media-oriented paths** for ICLD are strategic volunteer opportunities at present.

(Call John Stacknik – 612-272-9863)

Vision for Funds

Since 2007 ICLD has scaled back to less than **one-fourth** the number of individual boxes of Bible literature formerly sent to pastors and ministry leaders overseas due to a quintupling of cost of shipping when ‘surface mail’ ended. **The prayer, the vision, is to regain that former sending level.** Jewish captives in Babylonian exile rebuilt the Temple at Jerusalem. Penniless immigrants have built gorgeous churches all through North America. To quadruple ICLD’s current shipping levels would yearly take about as much money as four super-duty SUVs, which are manifest by the thousands on our nation’s roads and in our Sunday morning church parking lots each week. This is a perspective. I keep wondering what God’s true “vision” for sending Bibles and Bible reference literature overseas really is? **May God whisper His vision to many of us.**

Greetings to you in His Holy Name! I am very glad to submit my evangelical report for your perusal.

I have been continuing our Gospel work by the grace of God Almighty, going to remote villages and thickly populated centers and wherever I find it suitable to spread the Word of God. I conducted open-air meetings by using our megaphone. At the end of every meeting I distribute our pamphlets.

We visit primary schools on every Friday last period with permission of the concerned Headmaster. We have preached the Gospel through our flannel board and pictures. At the end of the preaching we have distributed Gospel literature. **India**

Calvary greetings in the precious Name of our Lord Jesus Christ. We hereby acknowledge the receipt of the Gospel materials you recently sent to us which we received in Dec. 2015, notably the New King James Version (NKJV) and the New International Version (NIV) of the Bible which are most relevant to our congregation and potential souls.

Also of particular reference are the *Decision Magazines* you sent to us of the October 2015 copy which carries the “DECISION AMERICA TOUR 2016 with Franklin Graham” devoid of superiority, indirect, silent work of denominationalism as is common in Nigeria. How we wish and pray the Church in Nigeria will get to this level of spirituality even as the Lord prayed for this as recorded in John 17. **Nigeria**



Ghana

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Receipts will be sent for all donations.