

Good News!

And a little child . . .

Fay Nelson

We were at Shoes' Church in the Bush village of Shoes near Senkobo, Zambia. It was our last Sunday in Africa and the combination of miles, flights and experiences were taking a toll. After my part at the beginning of the service, I slipped outside, walked around the church and sat down in the back, grateful that our hosts had provided us with camp chairs instead of the uneven log pews.

The service was typical African—different groups got up and sang and shared testimonies. The sun was hot on the straw roof and I was struggling to stay focused when something caught my eye. A little girl, perhaps three or four, was standing in the aisle and staring at me. She was filthy. She wore torn clothing. Her nose was running. Her eyes were yellow. Her stare was intense.



Sharing the Good News at Shoes'!



Shoes' Church

I smiled at and prayed for her as I focused on the speaker. My attention was distracted by movement. The little girl was inching down the aisle, staring at me. I smiled again and she stopped and hid herself behind an adult. I refocused on the speaker. A little hand touched my knee. She had made it down the aisle. Again I smiled and prayed.

She continued staring, kept her hand on my knee and worked around to the side of my chair. She was burning with fever. As I watched, she turned around with her back toward my leg and inched her way into my lap. Her eyes were big as she looked to see how I was responding. I smiled at and prayed for her.

She sat very still, staring. I sat very still, praying. She was wet. She sighed and cuddled against me. I hugged her close, put my hand on her head and prayed that God would heal her, reveal Himself to her, bring her to the point where she could choose to know Him personally. She burrowed deeper into my hug. And then she sat up, stared at me again, wriggled out of my lap and went outside to be with the other children. She returned a couple of times, stood staring at me for a moment, and then went back to her friends.

I didn't hear the sermon—I spent the time praying for that little girl. And I heard God remind me of His love for the little girl, her friends, her family, her neighbors. Most are just like her—dirty, diseased, hungry, soiled not just physically but with the excrement of sin, needing a Savior. While she touched and broke my heart, every single one in her condition touches and breaks His heart. The knowledge of His love and the need that all people have for it is what compels me to spend my life going everywhere in the world that I can, telling people that Jesus loves them, will save them and make them whole.

AFRICA CALLING!

If you would like to join a ministry/work team going to Africa in late June or early September, 2006, please contact us for an information kit. You'll never be the same!

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They Came, They Saw, They Were Conquered!

A mission trip is many things: it's people hearing and responding to God's call; it's hard work; it's stepping outside of your comfort zone to do what needs to be done; it's sharing, somehow, what God has done for you and what He means to you; it's learning to be part of a team and encouraging your team members who are having a difficult time; it's a struggle to understand a culture radically different from your own; it is change; it is a privilege; it is costly; it's an awesome investment! What did we do? How did it affect us?

Here's the answer!

A mission trip involves construction of ceilings, foundations, plumbing, lives!



**I realized how vast the need is to spread the Gospel.
Tim Koch**



**It was like being on a reality TV show seeing which missionary would crack first, American flesh being humbled by Zambian reality.
Matt Blake**

**God was showing me that He works in our weakness
Levi Burge**



**It was the most humbling, drop you to your knees, sobbing, then getting back on your feet and having the world lifted off your shoulders experience that I have ever had, and one that will never be forgotten. Thank you, God!
Mike Hutnan**



A mission trip involves teaching, preaching, sharing God’s love!



The Zambians’ culture is different from ours, but there’s just one human race. Church life there is so similar to ours. The devil is so unoriginal—he uses the same schemes to bring division. The principles in God’s word are true and powerful both here and there to bring harmony and love. Gwen Odum



For me there was great joy in seeing what God is doing in Africa and what we’re (Liberty Christian Fellowship and Creative Ministries) are supporting, seeing the fruit and knowing that we arrived at a critical time to support and encourage the ministries there. Wally Odum



The Bible begins, “In the beginning, God . . .” A mission trip begins, goes from minute to minute and ends with God as He helps, protects, sustains and teaches us about Himself as we go in His name. Fay Nelson



And always, a mission trip involves the children!



I will never forget when Meshack, one of the kids from the orphanage said my name at the end of the trip. He said, “Hello, Max.” I was teaching him my name through the whole trip and he finally said it. It made my day. Max Sonnino



A shedding of my worldly skins, revealing the Lord and all He has done in my life! Crating a hunger in me to do all that I can for Him! Stacey Blake



I love to see the change a mission trip can bring . . . change on faces as they receive Jesus, change in the members of the team as they allow Jesus to use them, change in the physical buildings that will be used to help others. CliffAnn Perry

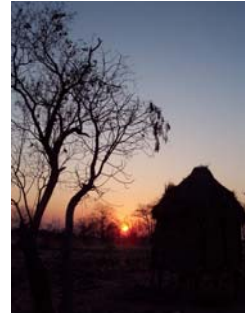
The Fly That Loves You!

CliffAnn Perry

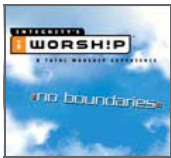
We were sitting in the church at Shoes, a little village in Zambia. I love going there because I remember the day when every member of the village came to Jesus and the Church there began. The translator was interpreting for us what a very old lady was sharing. She was full of the joy of the Lord and when the translator hesitated to translate, she insisted that we be told what she had said. What she had said was, "God is like the fly that loves you."

What a Zambian twist on the "Hound of Heaven"! The fly that loves you in Zambia is the one that will not leave, follows relentlessly and can't be gotten away from. It's so wonderful to see how God reveals Himself in every culture. He is the same God, revealing the same Characteristics, the same Truth, but with a different image to relate to.

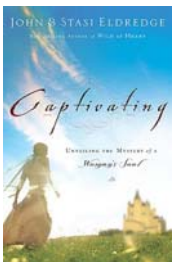
Now when I see a fly I'm reminded that God is that persistent toward us. He is trying to get our attention. But unlike the fly, God is wanting to remind us that He is faithful. He is forever with us. He will never leave or forsake us. What an amazing God!



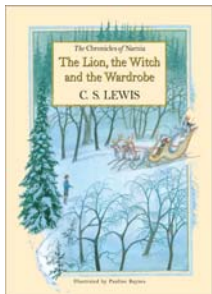
We Recommend!



I WORSHIP NO BOUNDARIES is a collection of 33 worship songs on 2 CDs from the last 15 years. The songs, by their original artists, are refreshing. The bonus DVD is worth the price alone—3 songs with incredible video backgrounds!



Captivating, by John and Stasi Eldredge, does for women what **Wild at Heart** did for men—it explains so much about how we are wired, our heart's deepest longings, and why we react and respond as we do to many situations. Everyone we know is intrigued by this book (and it seems that every woman or teen we meet has read it or is reading it) has felt ministered to, healed, better able to understand herself and refreshed!



The book, the movie, the music, all the CDs about the making of the movie and music inspired by the movie are on our list of most recommended products. The story is one of the most awesome explanations of redemption and salvation ever written. We're excited about the quality of the movie and hoping that the next 6 books will follow in quick succession! The website for the movie is also excellent and has free resources for teachers and parents. You can

access it at <http://disney.go.com/disneypictures/narnia/>.

Schedule and Prayer Requests

October 30—November 4: **Missions Conference** at Liberty Christian Fellowship, Kill Devil Hills, NC

November 18-20: **Maranatha Ministries Unlimited Annual Conference**, Kill Devil Hills, NC

December 2-3: Teach World Missions I at **Outer Banks School of Ministry**, Kill Devil Hills, NC

December 9-10: Volunteer, junior staff and staff celebration, premier of *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*.

December 14-15: Puppetry workshops at **First United Methodist Church**, Cape May Court House, NJ

December 17: **Children of the City**, Brooklyn, NY

Please Pray with us . . .

- 🌐 For creativity as we prepare for ministry and create materials.
- 🌐 For God's anointing as we minister.
- 🌐 For finances as prices escalate and we still struggle to meet our monthly bills. **We thank you for your prayers and support—we could never do what God has called us to do without you. We appreciate you!**



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