

LIGHT BEARERS MINISTRY

MISSION

UPDATE

July 2003

**19th Annual
Convocation in
Malo, Washington**

July 1-6, 2003

**With guest speakers
Leo Schreven, Dr. Philip
Samaan and Dr. Sang Lee**

Opening Previously Closed Doors

by Herb Montgomery

Day is dawning in the hearts of sincere seekers who live in the countries of Guyana and Venezuela. Combined, these two countries make up a population of over twenty-five million people ranging in religious beliefs from Atheism to Christianity, Buddhism, Hinduism, and Muslim. Economic mainstays of Guyana are sugar, rice, forest products, and minerals. But although Venezuela is one of the largest oil producers in the world, both Guyana and Venezuela are extremely depressed economically. Venezuela is not the Catholic bastion that it seems. The majority of Catholics there are nominal, with only 20% attending mass. Eighty-five percent of Venezuela's total population is involved in varying degrees with some form of spiritualist practice, with New Age spirituality increasing. In Guyana, evangelical influence is growing, with Evangelicals found in every level of society. Pentecostal, charismatic and evangelical denominations are multiplying. Within this environment, the silent seeds of truth are doing their work. The Light is quietly growing amidst the shadows.

In 2001 Light Bearers Ministry had the privilege of meeting David Gates at the Adventist-Laymen's Services and Industries (ASI) Annual Convention. He desired printed materials to share throughout the countries of Venezuela and Guyana in connection with his television ministry. Materials were needed in French, English, Dutch, and Spanish languages.

We immediately set about seeing what we could do. By 2002 we were able to publish and send to the Guyana Conference 17,450 books, 2,379,460 tracts, and 392,360 Bible studies, in each of the four languages needed, to be used in David's ministries.

Recently I received an email from David with the subject heading, *Our Testimony from South America*. Here is an exciting sampling of what the printed page in the hands of the human instrument is accomplishing in these two countries.

The English materials were utilized largely in Guyana for evangelistic endeavors coordinated by the Guyana Conference, as well as for free distribution through David's television station at Georgetown. The Dutch and French materials were trucked to the

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neighboring mission in Suriname where the Dutch materials were distributed in the country. The French materials were shipped on to the border of French Guyana where they were used among the French-speaking populations in Suriname and French Guyana. The Spanish materials were flown across to Venezuela a few boxes at a time, whenever there was empty space in the twin-engine mission plane.

This is what David shared, “We have been very pleased with the results of the literature in that our team of volunteer Bible workers in Guyana and Venezuela have been able to carry along the literature from village to village. The materials on health have been a real door opener among the Hindu population of Guyana, while the Bible studies have been of special interest to Christians of all denominations. Our offerings on TV

have been very popular as well, and thousands of books and pamphlets have been distributed to interested viewers. One man in particular kept coming back for more. When asked what he was doing with the literature, he told me that he was distributing it to his friends.”

David shared that the Dutch and French materials have not only been used by the Suriname Mission in their evangelistic campaigns, but for free distribution by their colporteurs as well. David added, “The general impact of the literature has been to open doors to homes in which there had previously been no interest in our messages. Once exposed to the message, many of our readers (and viewers) show continued interest in further Bible studies and have begun attending church regularly. Baptisms are naturally following.”

In closing, David made a brief statement that I believe encapsulates the vision of what Light Bearers Ministry is seeking to accomplish through its literature. “From my experience, the materials given to us by LBM has broken down prejudice, opened doors for further Bible study, and has given the church tremendous visibility and credibility. The literature makes a perfect partner with the television, medical, and educational work the church carries out in South America.” He finished by saying, “We are about to receive another container in Spanish in Bolivia as well. We feel privileged to have *Light Bearers Ministry* select us as a partner in the ministry of distributing God’s Word. Thank you **SO** much.”

Surely we are seeing the confirmation in these two countries of words that were written over a hundred years ago: “Again, many read these papers and tracts, and their combativeness is aroused, and they throw the silent messengers from them in a passion. But ideas all new to them have, although unwelcome, made their impression. Again the hand takes up the neglected paper or tract, and the eye is tracing the truthful lines, and again in passion it is thrown from them as their path is crossed. But the mind is not at rest; the abused paper is at last perused, and thus point after point of truth begins its convicting work; step by step the reformation is wrought, self dies, and the warfare against the truth is ended. The despised paper or tract is henceforth honored as the means of converting the stubborn heart and subduing the perverse will, bringing it into subjection to Christ. Had the living preacher spoken as pointedly, these persons might have turned from him, and refused to entertain the new and strange ideas brought before them. The papers and tracts can go where the living preacher cannot, and where, if he could go, he would have no access to the people, because of their prejudice against the truth.

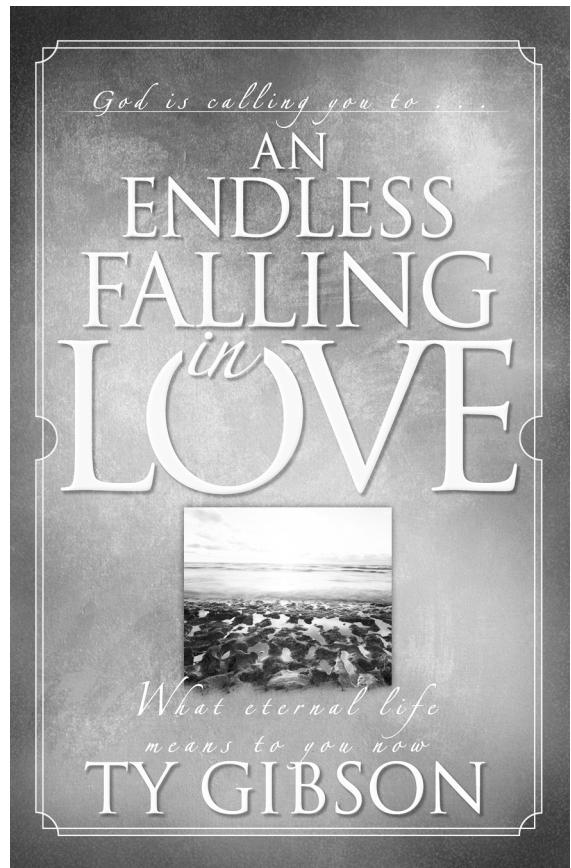
“Few have any adequate idea of what the distribution of tracts and papers is doing. The missionary work, in circulating the publications upon present truth, is opening doors everywhere, and preparing minds to receive the truth, when the living preacher shall come among them. The success which attends the efforts of ministers in the field is not due alone to their efforts, but in a great degree to the influence of the reading matter which has enlightened the minds of the people and removed prejudice. Thus many are made susceptible to the influence of the truth when it is presented before them” (*Gospel Workers*, 1892, p. 409.2-410.2).



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"The third angel's message is the proclamation of the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus Christ. The commandments of God have been proclaimed, but the faith of Jesus Christ has not been proclaimed by Seventh-day Adventists as of equal importance, the law and the gospel going hand in hand. I cannot find language to express this subject in its fullness. 'The faith of Jesus.' It is talked of, but not understood. What constitutes the faith of Jesus that belongs to the third angel's message? Jesus becoming our sin-bearer that He might become our sin-pardoning Saviour. He was treated as we deserve to be treated. He came to our world and took our sins that we might take His righteousness. Faith in the ability of Christ to save us amply and fully and entirely is the faith of Jesus. . . . There is salvation for the sinner in the blood of Jesus Christ alone, which cleanseth us from all sin. The man with a cultivated intellect may have vast stores of knowledge, he may engage in theological speculations, he may be great and honored of men and be considered the repository of knowledge, but unless he has a saving knowledge of Christ crucified for him, and by faith lays hold of the righteousness of Christ, he is lost. Christ 'was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon Him; and with His stripes we are healed' (Isaiah 53:5). 'Saved by the blood of Jesus Christ' will be our only hope for time and our song throughout eternity."

1888 Materials, p. 217

Events Schedule

- ◆ July 1-6 (Please note schedule change!)
LBM Convocation, Malo, WA
☎ (509)779-4444
- ◆ July 11-13
Sweden—www.adventist.se/nyhyttan/kyrka
Ty Gibson—☎ 011-0587-60233
- ◆ July 14-19
Norway—www.adventist.se/nyhyttan/kyrka
Ty Gibson—☎ 011-0587-60233
- ◆ July 18-26
Central CA Camp Meeting, Soquel, CA
James Rafferty—☎ (650)851-7792
- ◆ July 23-27
Upper Columbia Conf. REFRESH—Spokane, WA
Ty Gibson—☎ (509)838-2761
- ◆ July 26-27
Glide SDA Church, OR
Herb Montgomery—☎ (541)498-2236
- ◆ July 31—August 10
SDA Camp Meeting, Greece
Ty Gibson—lackey@otenet.gr
- ◆ August 20-24
Ooltewah SDA Church, TN
James Rafferty—☎ (423)715-1066
- ◆ August 22-23
Benton SDA Church, TN
Ty Gibson—☎ (423)472-8842
- ◆ September 5-6
Yuma SDA Church, AZ
Herb Montgomery—☎ (928)783-3088
- ◆ September 5-7
Brooklawn SDA Church, CT
James Rafferty—☎ (203)795-0607
- ◆ September 12-13
Braintree SDA Church, MA
James Rafferty—☎ (978)440-7838

Accepting Resumés

Light Bearers is in need of filling the following full-time position:

Bookstore Manager/Computer Systems Administrator: To manage a mail order and on-site resource center and maintain day-to-day computer systems. Must be organized, high-energy, efficient and computer-smart.

Lift Him Up

3ABN Schedule
(GE- 4 Satellite;
Sky Angel Channel 9710)

Tuesday	4:30 p.m. (PST)
	10:30 p.m. (PST)
Thursday	11:00 a.m. (PST)
Saturday	10:30 a.m. (PST)

Published by Light Bearers Ministry

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Light Bearers is a non-profit ministry based in the beautiful northeastern mountains of Washington State. Our purpose is to help proclaim the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ through the spoken and published word.