



# THE SOWER

Volume 4, Issue 5

The Sower is the bimonthly newsletter of Christian Educational Services, Inc., a non-profit organization, and is published in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Sep/Oct 2002

## “Shining Like Stars in the Universe”

### Let our Lives Tell the Story

Dear Child of God Almighty,

May the abounding riches of His grace flood your heart today, and may His peace and joy abound in all that you are and all you do.

This is John Lynn, writing on behalf of Mark and Karen Anne Graeser, John and Jenivee Schoenheit, and Gary and Karen Theisen, all of whom join me in extending to you their love and greetings. It is my privilege to lead off this issue of *The Sower* and share some of my heart with you. How exciting to know that *The Sower* now goes to believers in about 60 countries around the world!

To meet our publication deadline, I am writing this letter on August 12, but expecting that you will read it early in September. As I am trying to figure out how to construct my next sentence, I feel like one of the biblical writers using a past tense to emphasize the certainty of a future event (the figure of speech *Heterosis*). On September 1, I got married! Yikes, I think I just entered some kind of time warp, because there's no ring on my finger today.



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### Celebrate Jesus' Birthday and Stick it to the Devil!

Few people know that September 11 is the probable birthday of our Lord and Savior, based upon the best biblical and celestial evidence we have. Why not take a moment on September 11 and celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ around the right time of year? You don't have to decorate a

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Elizabeth Chavez Prygrocki is the sunrise in my heart after a long, dark night. She is God's gift to me, and I believe that the fruit of our union will touch many people's hearts. I am eager for you to meet her, get to know her, and see what a wonderful spiritual partner she is for me.

I first met Elizabeth in 1987 at a meeting I did in Florida, and have known her since then via her association with and commitment to CES. She lived in Naples, Florida and was married to a wonderful believer from whom she was widowed two years ago. This past March she moved to Indianapolis and shortly thereafter applied for, and got, the job that opened up in the CES office. As we began to spend time together, our hearts blossomed for one another.

We plan to stay around Indianapolis most of the time between now and next February (doing some weekend travel), when we will most likely begin to travel together on longer itineraries. That being the case, we will need to hire someone by about the end of the year to take Elizabeth's job at the office. We have someone who is interested in the job already, but if you are also interested, you could let us know. The job description is posted on our website.

September is a time when the change of seasons is quite noticeable. Summer turns to Fall, and deciduous trees brilliantly herald this changing of the colors. Summer vacations end, and I still shudder when I hear those three words that mean September has arrived: "Back to School!" Likewise, our lives are made up of seasons of change and growth. As I step back today and look at the nearly 59 years of my life, I am

struck by the magnitude of the impending change of season I am now entering.

Having failed once by putting a ministry before a marriage, I am under no illusions that the euphoric bliss Elizabeth and I feel now will automatically carry us through the years to come. No, it will take the hard work of building a relationship with another fallen child of Adam, walking all the way through this wilderness together with the Lord Jesus Christ. Marriage is a microcosm of the Secret of the One Body—Christ and the Church—and as such, it holds limitless potential for the deepest joys of the human heart.

I know that I am a considerable way from being like my Lord Jesus, and I pray that as I diligently seek his help in loving and cherishing Elizabeth, reaching for her heart day after day in spite of my own shortcomings, he will bring the transformation I long for. Our hearts' desire is that our lives together bear much fruit for our Lord, and that we touch many people in a meaningful way. Thank you for praying for us.

Elizabeth and I will be at the Fall Fellowship in Charlotte, NC October 25-27, and we hope to see you there. And I'd love to see you gentlemen October 10-13 at the Men's Conference in Bedford, IN. Ladies, we haven't forgotten you—there's a dynamic Women's Conference November 1-3 in San Jose, CA.

At our New York City Weekend gathering last month, the theme was Philippians 2:15 & 16a, in particular the phrase: "...so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and depraved

generation, in which you shine like stars in the universe as you hold out the word of life...". In my closing teaching, I went to Psalm 19 and pointed out that the zodiac depicts the story of mankind from the Fall of Adam to the Redemption of the world by the Son of God. But what is *not* written in the stars is the revelation of "the Secret," because that was hidden in God from before the foundation of the world.

God revealed the Secret to Jesus Christ after his resurrection and exaltation, and then the Lord Jesus revealed it to the Apostle Paul, who unfolded it in the Church Epistles, primarily Ephesians. The Secret is that, as of the Day of Pentecost as recorded in Acts 2, there is a new group of people on the earth—"neither Jew nor Gentile," but "one new man" (Eph. 2:15), the Church, Christians, the Body of Christ, intimately and inseparably joined to the Head by incorruptible seed as "one flesh."

Ephesians 3:10 says that it is *you and I* who are to make known to Satan and his evil spirit minions the "manifold wisdom of God." That is, our words and deeds are to so evidence the indwelling presence of the living Lord Jesus that the Devil is constantly and painfully reminded that he never should have crucified the Lord of glory! Why not? Because before he did, he had to put up with only one man, Jesus, who defeated him in every encounter. But now he is faced with millions of people equipped with the nature and power of Jesus, who can also defeat him—IF we know the Secret and live the truth therein about who we are in Christ.

WE are to be the "stars" who shine forth the glorious message of redemption and salvation to those dying in the darkness of this world.

We are to show forth that which the stellar universe does not—the Administration of the Secret and all the practical benefits thereof. Your life and my life can tell the whole story of God’s love, grace, and goodness. Let us shine on more and more brightly—together. We love you very much.

*John & Elizabeth, Mark & Karen Anne, John & Jeniwee, Gary & Karen*

### ***A Believer’s Bill of Rights***

**An individual participating in any church or fellowship affiliated with CES shall:**

1. Be free from unreasonable interference in personal affairs and demands made concerning diet, marriage, lifestyle, etc., not specifically mentioned in Scripture. The believer’s right to self-government shall be affirmed to the fullest extent within the bounds of love and mutual edification within the Body of Christ (1 Tim. 4:1-4).

2. Be free from legalistic domination that leads one away from a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and replaces such relationship with the laws and ordinances of the flesh (Gal. 5:1).

3. Be kept informed about how his financial contributions are being utilized so he can be a responsible giver, and confident that he is “sowing to the spirit.” He will not be harangued, extorted, or intimidated to give, but will be asked to give in response to the blessings that he has received of the Lord through the ministry of CES.

4. Have an opportunity to volunteer time and talents for the benefit of the Body of Christ, and be encouraged to contribute in ways that are reasonable without being made to feel guilty for declining such service. No believer will be required to work without compensation unless that right is waived.

5. Have a right to respectfully dissent from any teaching or decision made by CES or a person representing CES without being subject to intimidation tactics. Gentle and loving persuasion will be utilized to win the dissenting or offended brother or sister. In accordance with Scripture, we maintain the right to exclude those whose behavior is divisive and antagonistic to the unity of the Body. It is understood within the CES community that any servant/leader can be questioned, challenged, or rebuked by any other believer according to the standards set forth in God’s Word pertaining to the conduct of leaders and overseers in the Body of Christ.

6. Have a right to know why he is not given a position of responsibility within the Body to which he aspires and believes himself to be qualified for, and this explanation should be in writing if so requested of his overseer.

- Be treated with respect and honor as a fellow member in particular of the Body of Christ and as one gifted to serve his Lord in some capacity.
- Have the right to a reasonable written response to any written rebuttal of CES teachings, and given reasons why his or her position is not acceptable or consistent with CES community standards.

- Be expected to uphold the ethical and moral standards for Christian behavior as specified in God’s Word and the CES *Code of Conduct for Believers*, recognizing that continued fellowship within the CES community requires that he not breach trust by behavior that sows division, moral decay, or toxic teaching. If, after a reasonable amount of time in a probationary period, he is unable to maintain honorable conduct, he may be asked to separate himself temporarily from the community of the saints until he can demonstrate a change of character and motivation.

**An individual hired by CES or its affiliates shall:**

1. Have a right to earn a living wage as a member of the middle class of his community, including provision for savings, health insurance, and retirement benefits in proportion to the number of years served.

2. Be compensated on the basis of community standards for comparable skills and responsibilities in the non-profit sector.

3. Be given increased compensation with increased levels of responsibility or accountability for results.

4. Have a right to reasonable severance pay in proportion to the number of years served, if CES terminates his employment for any reason other than misconduct.

### ***CES Vision Statement***

*Building a global community of committed Christians living the truth in love*

(Continued from page 1)

tree, give gifts, or have all the relatives over for turkey and stuffing. Just open your Bibles and read the records of his birth and recommit yourself to live for him who died for you. What better way to make the Devil-inspired act on September 11 rebound back on him?

Let's keep spreading the Good News that in the Grace Administration God does not slaughter a bunch of innocent people to make political points or to chastise nations. This is the acceptable year of the Lord (Luke 4:18 and 19), and God is patiently awaiting the precious fruit of the earth—people who will believe on His Son and live accordingly.

Let's also continue to pray for the recovery of the American economy so that there will be an abundance of resources to further the Gospel to the ends of the earth. Without the generosity of American Christians, CES, and other ministries cannot hope to provide the support necessary to keep the Word moving around the world. No other country has the means or the willingness to help the way America does.

Our books, *The Christian's Hope: The Anchor of the Soul* and *Don't Blame God!* are still excellent resources to share with people to help them see the goodness of God and the badness of the Devil. People desperately need to hear this simple message, since so many are confused about God being in control of everything that happens.

Order your copy of *The Christian's Hope: The Anchor of the Soul* for only \$15.00 or *Don't Blame God!* for only \$12.00 by visiting us online at [www.CESonline.org](http://www.CESonline.org) or call us at 317-255-6189

## ***The Women's Ministry - Making a Difference***

The Women's Ministry Committee was started at the Leadership Conference in 2000. Since then we have put on three extremely successful Women's Conferences with the theme "Bloom Where You're Planted." The first conference tapes were the best selling conference tapes of any CES has done to date.

Another Women's Conference is coming up in San Jose, November 1-3 with the theme, "Blooming in Relationships." All the teachings and activities will be geared to helping us grow in all of our various relationships, starting with our relationship with God and the Lord Jesus Christ and continuing with our relationships with family, friends, marriage, and dating etc. This will be a conference that is particularly "new people friendly." We hope to see people come to the Lord for Salvation as some did in San Jose last year. To help make it easier to invite new people, we are making available a special reduced registration rate of only \$20 for anyone who has never been to a CES conference (pre-registration only). If you're a woman, we encourage you to come and bring your friends. If you're a man reading this, we hope you will encourage the women in your life to come.

These conferences are also about encouraging young people to be all that they can be for God. **Anita Graeser** also did a video tape interviewing **Laura Stone**, who coordinates the CES Counseling Ministry, about "How to Love Your Troubled Teen." These video tapes are first going to be broadcast on public access TV and then will be released for

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## **Calendar Corner**



Register online at  
[www.CESonline.org](http://www.CESonline.org)

### **2002**

**September 19-22**  
*Leadership Team Meeting & Leadership Conference*  
Indianapolis, IN

**October 10-13**  
*Men's Conference*  
*Hidden Falls Camp & Conference Center*  
Bedford, IN

**October 25-27**  
*Eastern Regional Weekend*  
Charlotte, NC

**November 1-3**  
*Women's Conference*  
Santa Clara, CA

### **2003**

**January 17-19**  
*West Coast Conference*  
Santa Clara, CA

**February 13-16**  
*One Flesh Couples' Retreat*  
*Hidden Falls Camp & Conference Center*  
Bedford, IN

**April 10-13**  
*Southern Conference*  
Dallas, TX

**July 20-25**  
*CES Family Camp*  
Pokagon State Park, IN  
Call as soon as you can. Rooms fill up fast!  
877-768-2928



## *Thank you!*

Dear Partner/Contributor,

God bless you in the mighty name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

We, the Staff of Christian Educational Services, wanted to write you and say THANK YOU for being a Partner/Contributor. You are such a blessing to us. We know you are giving your hard-earned money to the Lord, by way of CES, and it means more to us than words can say. Your faithful support, as well as your prayers, is what is keeping CES growing and moving forward all over the planet. Without you, we would not be able to produce materials, go on mission trips, and minister to people all over the world in many different ways. We want you to know how much we appreciate your sacrifice of giving to the Lord in order to make all of this possible.

Everyday we make contact with people all over the world who are seeking the truth about God and Jesus Christ. Our ministry has much to offer them that is not available in other Christian ministries. Your financial support is making it possible for us to do what we are doing. It is also because of you that we have the privilege of daily working for the Lord and his people. We want you to know that we do not take this responsibility lightly. We steward all of our resources with you in mind, right down to the paper clips.

**YOUR offerings to the Lord are in good hands, and he will reward you, of that we are sure!**

We have the joy of working closely with the Board of Directors and personally seeing the integrity and commitment they bring to our ministry. Their vision and heart is just what we need in our leadership. The example they set is a tremendous blessing. They are tirelessly working, as we are, for you.

We wish we could hand deliver this letter to you so that you could see in our faces how much you mean to us. How blessed we are to have you as Partners/Contributors in the Lord's work. We appreciate you and want you to know that you are ALWAYS in our hearts and prayers. We trust you are being blessed by our labor of love as we are by yours. Please let us know if we can be of service to you in any way. We love you. Thank you for your faithful support. The Lord will reward you.

Your brothers and sisters in Christ,

*Dottie, Elizabeth, Jeff,*

*Lydia, Matt, and Robin*

## ***CES Family Camp Report***

Pokagon State Park in Northeast Indiana was the site of this summer's CES Family Camp, with 135 campers of all ages from 16 states making this the biggest and best CES Family Camp yet!

The resort setting, which offered lovely woods, trails, lake swimming, indoor pool, horseback riding, workout room, and buffet style country cooking, all added to the experience of a first rate,

relaxing, and exciting family vacation.

The theme of the camp this year was "Living in Balance," with the theme verse of Ephesians 4:1. The teachings involved all three aspects of our lives: body, soul, and spirit.

At the orientation on Sunday night, the Camp Staff reminded the campers that CES Family Camps are optional—and so is every activity! Each family was encouraged to come together and decide what activities they wanted to take part in. Throughout the week this included boat rides, fitness walk/run, expressive arts, an ice cream social, prophecy sessions, games, swimming, campfires, picnics, praise and worship, teachings, a movie, and workshops on speaking in tongues and interpretation, determining your temperament type, Bible study sessions with **John Schoenheit**, prophetic activation with **Karen Anne Graeser** and **Kathy Lunardini**, biblical parenting, marriage enrichment, a teaching on the significance of the constellations by **Nate Graeser**, and liturgical dance!

Incidentally, **John Schoenheit** had the 13-15 year old boys during small group time, and led them into the woods looking for snakes, taught them how to skin bears, and other cool stuff (actually, we don't know what he did with them, but he seemed to take the experience in stride).

Monday we heard teachings about "The Balanced Body" from **Dr. Gary Theisen**, anesthesiologist and comedian, who talked about the amazing design of the human body and a little about a book called "What Would Jesus Eat." Then

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# Can You Help?

## CES "Wish" List

(Figures approximate)

Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work (2 Cor. 9:7 and 8).

### Home Office: Equipment, etc.

Upgrade Postal System	\$5,000
Phone System	\$5,000
Laptop for Conferences	\$2,000
Network Color Printer	\$500

### Personnel

Receptionist/secretary	\$25,000/yr
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### 2002 Missionary trips

(Money to come from gifts over and above regular giving)

Africa & India (Togo, Congo, Rwanda, Uganda, Tanzania & Kenya)	\$40,000
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### Missionary general

Additional minister support	Unlimited
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### Translations

Telegu (India) project	\$5,000
Cebuano project (includes computers)	\$5,000

### Two New Video Classes

3 new Cameras & accessories	\$50,000
Editing and production costs	
Set design	

### Publishing

New Booklets	\$10,000
Reprints of:	
<i>One God &amp; One Lord</i> (soft cover)	\$12,000
<i>Don't Blame God!</i>	\$3,000
CES Catalog	\$2,500
General CES Brochure	\$1,500

### Sound Studio

(for professional quality tape recording, radio shows, etc.)	\$5,000
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If you are not a Partner with us (or a regular contributor), please prayerfully consider supporting us in this way. We honestly believe that CES is an excellent investment that will bring dividends to those who stand with us financially (See Partnership Plan form, page 14).



*Together We Can!*

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**Nate Graeser** shared about the benefits of physical exercise and how it energizes our lives and helps us be at peace. Gary shared at the campfire that night about balancing work and play, and the benefits of finding a career that you are passionate about. He loves putting people to sleep, but fortunately he loves waking them up even more!

Tuesday we talked about "The Balanced Soul," and heard a great teaching on healthy anger management by **Karen Theisen**. Needless to say, it was a very balanced presentation, and she never once got mad at us. Many people thought that this teaching would make a good "Tape of the Month." Following the teaching was a wonderful Mexican buffet and many enjoyable siestas.

That night **John Lynn** shared the Word about balancing grace and works, and then **John Schoenheit** taught on the meaning of the Sabbath. As he began teaching, he said that his father had been rushed to the hospital earlier that day for tests in his abdominal area. Shortly thereafter, John received a phone call and was called out of the room. Mark kept teaching (on the same subject, more or less) until John returned with the good report that his dad was OK, had already had surgery to remove his gall bladder and was resting comfortably. After his teaching, we converted the room into a theater and showed "October Sky," an inspiring movie about a teenager from a backwater town in West Virginia who learns how to shoot rockets and ends up winning a scholarship to Purdue and goes on to work for NASA.

Wednesday we learned about "Living in the Spirit," and heard from **Karen Anne Graeser** about

the importance of prayer. That night at the campfire we were treated to an inspiring sharing about the biblical significance of the constellations, aided by a software program that projected images on a screen so we could see the stars on an overcast night with a full moon!

Thursday we heard from **Dan Gallagher** who shared on the balance necessary in our attitude toward finances and giving. He showed how a poverty theology on one hand, and a prosperity theology on the other, each skew our attitudes away from the truly biblical perspective of good stewardship. Many people said that this teaching was really liberating, and we look forward to Dan redoing it as a "Tape of the Month" sometime soon.

Thursday night was a raucous time of the whole family getting together to entertain and inspire each other. We call this "Shine Time," because it gives everyone a chance to shine in some way or another. **Greg and Linda Rogers** did an amazing job of controlling the chaos behind the scenes, and **Courtney Rogers** was the perfect MC. Just to give you a few highlights of the evening: on the silly side, the **Graeser family** and friends did a take off on a Veggie Tale skit, called "Under the Power of Vegetables," about the time Israel wanted to go back to Egypt because the vegetables were better there.

On the amazing side was **Jordan Lunardini**, who wowed us with his blues guitar virtuosity. He can make that guitar moan, groan and wail! **John Lynn** reprised his "The Devil's Bathroom" comedy routine, and **Micah Wright** and **Christian Robinson** showed their prowess in an African-American

martial art/dance. It was truly a night to remember, and if you missed it, just plan on coming next year so you don't miss out.

At the close of "Shine Time," Mark introduced the new CES Youth Council, all but one of whom were present at the camp. Each came up and shared his commitment to the CES Youth Community, and then the CES Board came up behind them for a prayer session and pictures.

Everyone liked Pokagon and the Potawotami Inn so well that we reserved it for Family Camp again for 2003 and 2004. The dates for 2003 are July 20 to 25. In 2004 we also reserved it for the weekend before camp from July 23 to 25 for a CES Midwest Regional Weekend, which would end on Sunday morning. The CES Family Camp would begin on Sunday night and end on Friday morning, July 30th. On Friday night the Graesers and the Theisens will celebrate their 25<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversaries together in a big bash to end a week of fabulous fellowship. We also have reserved the lodge rooms Friday night. It's not too early to reserve your rooms for next year or 2004, as the Potawotami Inn fills up fast! Their number is 877-768-2928.

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distribution in the CES bookstore. We are thrilled to have these two women in our ministry making a difference.

If you have any news about what women around our ministry are doing, we'd love to hear about it. Contact Nancy Berwid, Chairperson for Women's Ministry Committee.

408-238-0353  
nancyberwid@aol.com

## Teens 'n Twenties Report

Ninety-nine young people from 13 states came together for a wonderful time of learning and fellowship at the third annual CES Teens 'n Twenties Camp at Camp Hope, NC, June 29 to July 5. The campers who had attended a camp before happily greeted all their old friends, and first-timers quickly made new friends with kids from all over the country who share their love for God and His Word. It took 18 staff this year to support the camp, and that was not quite enough!

Those of us present thought this was a high point of our ministry year. Many returning teens brought friends who came to Christ or rededicated themselves to him. What could be more thrilling than so many teens on fire for God and dancing and praising Him, but also willing to learn the disciplines of study that will help *keep* them excited. This is the real future of our ministry. These are the ones who will carry the Word to the future generations.

The theme of the Camp was "Who Let the Lambs Out?" a take-off on the title of a song, but pointing to Jesus Christ, our liberator from the Mosaic Law. The campers studied about the physical Tabernacle and Temple in the Old Testament, and learned how privileged we are in the Grace Administration to have the presence of God in our bodies through Christ. We each are now a literal place of worship!

To make the point even more emphatically that we have been liberated, **Barbara Cunningham** and **Jenivee Schoenheit** made an historically accurate High Priest costume, and each day a male

camper was chosen to serve as the High Priest for that day. He was chosen by using urim and thummim, a simple system of decision-making employed by Israel, involving a white marble and a black marble. Then he would choose who got KP duty the next day. Female campers got to experience the feeling of being left out in leadership that women in Israel would have felt, and then got to rejoice that in Christ Jesus there is neither male nor female.

To help campers get the idea of the animal sacrifices required in Old Testament times, a young lamb (who the campers named "Goat") was acquired by local believer and camp staffer **Eddie DeBruhl**. "Goat" was never sacrificed, but some of the staffers were thinking about strangling him after he spent the better part of the night bleating.

The typical camp day was as follows:

- A flag raising ceremony, where **Sue Carlson** would share interesting and inspiring stories of our godly American heritage, and we would begin the day with prayer and devotions.
- Fabulous meals prepared by Cookie (**Greg Paules** of Charlotte, NC) and his assistants (**Katherine Brumm** of Ft Wayne, IN and **Crystal Mosher** of Ft Gratiot, MI).
- Rocking praise and worship led by **Anita Graeser** and **Richard Priebe** that tested the old floorboards of the Camp Hope lodge!
- Largely self-directed study sessions all morning and after supper, where

campers learned to use Bible Dictionaries, Lexicons and Concordances to answer study problems put to them by **Brandon Walker**, **Sue Carlson**, **John Schoenheit**, and others.

- Small group meetings where campers opened up to each other about their lives and spiritual needs. This was also where many campers learned to step out and manifest the spirit of God to one another.
- Recreation and free time. A creation walk, a trip to Sliding Rock, Fourth of July fireworks, walks down the river, Frisbee, volleyball, and a time of organized games led by **Gary Theisen**.
- Dramatic portrayals of biblical characters who were in relationship to Jesus were preformed throughout the week by campers with a dramatic bent. **Denise Zankich** of Los Angeles, CA coordinated these poignant and thought-provoking portrayals.
- A campfire to wind down the day with lots of singing, and sharing.

It appeared that everyone had such a great time this year that we are going to have a problem next summer: squeezing more people into Camp Hope! If the numbers keep growing the way they have, next summer will be the last time we can use Camp Hope, so we will be looking for other camps around the country to rent until we can acquire our own facility (please keep this in your prayers). If you know of a beautiful camp with a big kitchen and lots of rooms, let us know.

## *Family News, Views, and Feedback*

*Do you have something to share with the CES family of believers that would edify, encourage, and inspire? If so, send it to us and we may publish it. To contact anyone of these folks, contact us and we will forward it on.*

*(We reserve the right to edit for readability and length, and unless you tell us otherwise, we will print your name, city, and state.)*

Dear Sower,

I just wanted to take a minute to tell you that these two teachings "Breaking Through to Godliness" (July & August Tapes of the Month) are wonderful. I was very confronted with God's Word, and after listening to them more than once, I have begun doing a word study on the words "godly," "godliness," and "religion." I am amazed at what God's Word teaches me. I have been sharing what I have learned from these teachings with my fellowship, and inspiring others to ask themselves if they are really living a godly life or being religious.

Thank you again,

Greg Bailey  
Norristown, PA

You can order both teachings for \$4.00 each for audio tapes or \$6.00 each for CD's plus S&H.  
Order online at [www.CESonline.org](http://www.CESonline.org) or  
call us at 317-255-6189

Dear Sower,

We had a fire in the woods and fields here. It had grown to about 5,000 acres. No rain had been seen since July 6th, four weeks previous. Two inches had fallen all year. The volunteer fire departments, ranchers, farmers, and many town folk were doing their best. No help from the State or Federal Government - bigger fires to fight, no resources to spare.

Those who had fought wild fires before were at their end. Exhausted, the fire completely uncontained, the winds shifting and the fire exploding in a fierce way, from Wyoming into Nebraska, as one fella put it, "I don't know...we just can't get a handle on it."

One lady, Lola, said that "it seemed like prayer would be in order." Those gathered there (about five) were led in prayer by her, just thanking God to take care of it.

Shortly thereafter, the fire intensified with a giant mushroom cloud of smoke. All those fighting the inferno gathered and all admitted it was a lost cause. A gentleman named Ron led a prayer with around 25 others present. He prayed as Lola had for God to handle it, because the people could not. The clouds immediately built in, but they were rain clouds. We received about half an inch of rain, the fire was contained within two hours, and out in twelve.

Dear Sower,

CES Family Camp was the highlight of my summer! I never felt so loved and accepted and free. The worship and teaching was superb!

Bless you all for sharing!

Bless the Lord,

Jetta Inskip  
Lima, Ohio

I was not one of those present. This was relayed to me from four first-person sources. Ron and Lola, (and two others there) go to our community center where I teach the Bible a few times a month.

God be praised and thanked. And I am thankful for those meek humble souls who went to the Father with believing hearts.

Trelle Elliot  
Node, WY

Greetings,

I trust my e-mail finds you rejoicing in the blessings of the Messiah Y'shua (Jesus the Messiah).

I am a Sephardic (Jews of Spain and Portugal) believer and I publish a Jewish Newsletter from a Messianic Perspective. The publication is called "The Jewish Evangelist for Y'shua." The Newsletter is mailed out in English and Spanish. It is mailed out to North America, Europe, Israel, and South America.

If you would offer complementary copies of your books (*One God & One Lord* and *The Racovian Catechism of 1605*), I would gladly print a book review in my Newsletter.

Sholam,

Robert  
The Jewish Evangelist for Y'shua

## ***Good News About “The Good News Class”***

By Nancy Berwid

First of all, I would like to thank those who responded to our last article about the Good News Class. We were grateful for those who shared their support, enthusiasm, input, and testimonies. It's encouraging to all of us on the committee to know that so many saints are excited about this project.

The question has come as to what are the differences between this class and the *New Life in Christ* class. The Good News Class will have a different emphasis, as it is meant to be mainly an evangelical tool for the ministry and be on video. *New Life in Christ* is a very effective teaching tool (15 hours/24 sessions) that helps give people a solid foundation of sound doctrine. It is also particularly helpful in third world countries where video is not readily available. In the Good News Class, the emphasis is to introduce people to Jesus Christ and get them started in a relationship with him. It will also whet their appetites to want to know more and give them the basics to help them in their walk. It will, of course, still honor the CES core precept of valuing the logic of Scripture.

The Good News Class is designed to be run over the course of a weekend. It will be an interactive experience that will include participation as well as teaching. One of our goals is also to help people feel welcomed into the family of God, so the class will include fellowship time to facilitate that. Both preaching and teaching will be included, as well as some testimonies. It will be designed to reach people of all walks of life by

appealing to them logically as well as emotionally. This is an exciting project that we expect will help CES in our commitment to outreach.

We thought we would give you regular updates in *The Sower* of what's going on in the development of this class, so you can keep this in your prayers, as well as share in our excitement about its continuing progress. Our main focus right now is putting together the content, and that endeavor is being headed up by our very capable **Sue Carlson**. She and her committee are working diligently to complete the curriculum outline.

We also have a believer with connections to production facilities who has offered to help get us some of the production resources we need. We are very eager to hear if anyone has camera or lighting experience and would like to volunteer their time and talents for the actual production of the class. Also, please let us know if you can help us get equipment or studio time.

We're eager to hear more testimonies of how people got saved. We especially would like to hear those who came to the Lord recently, but we are open to hearing anyone's testimony. Please send your testimony to me.

Also, we are still looking for any original music that you or someone you know would like to share with us to use in the class. Please send any tapes to our Music Committee chairperson, **Jenifer Mason**. It doesn't matter what the quality of the tape is. Send as many songs as you like.

We thought we'd keep you posted on how we're coming along

with the fundraising. We have a preliminary budget of \$50,000. So far we have raised \$4,113. We would like you to think about contributing to this worthwhile endeavor. We expect this class to reach thousands of people for many years to come. If you are a current partner of CES, we ask that you not redirect the funds you are currently giving, but if you can afford it and believe in this project, please consider giving a special gift to the Good News Class. All donations are fully tax deductible and should be made out to CES, designated for the Good News Class. If you have any ideas for fundraising, we'd love to hear from you. Please contact our Finance Committee chairperson **Lori Gallagher**.

As always, we welcome any ideas or input you may have. Thank you for standing with us as we endeavor to bring this to pass. Please feel free to contact any of the committees. Any general questions can be directed to me.

God Bless!

*Nancy*

The Good News Class Committees:

**Chairperson:** Nancy Berwid 408-238-0353  
mender4@aol.com

**Content:** Sue Carlson 704-752-9408  
suecarl@bellsouth.net  
Karen Theisen & Leesa Railsback

**Format:** Karen Anne Graeser 317-466-1986

**Finance:** Lori Gallagher 916-783-8165  
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**Presentation:** Dan Gallagher 916-783-8165  
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**Promotion:** Kathy Lunardini 616-629-5051  
virtuousreality@aol.com



# CAN YOU HELP?



CES Wish List (page 6)

## Men of Courage II

CES Men's Conference

Thursday, October 10, 6 p.m. through Sunday, October 13, 12:30 p.m.

*Hidden Falls Camp & Conference Center*

Bedford, IN

(see enclosed flyer)

## The Secret is Out

East Coast Conference

Friday, October 25, 7 p.m. to Sunday, October 27, 12:30 p.m.

*Charlotte Marriott Executive*

Charlotte, NC

(see enclosed flyer)

**REGISTER  
ONLINE!**

**REGISTER  
ONLINE!**

## Blooming In Relationships

West Coast Women's Conference

Friday, November 1, 10 a.m. to Sunday, November 3, 12:30 p.m.

Santa Clara Marriott

San Jose, CA

(see enclosed flyer)



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### Did You Know?

*The Sower* costs us \$3,600 every other month (\$21,600 annually). If you are not yet a CES Partner/Contributor, but are blessed to receive *The Sower*, would you consider “chipping in” occasionally to help off set the cost?