

...continued from page 3

our time ended there. Larger crowds would gather for the music that lasted about 90 minutes. During this time we were invited to advertise our topics for the night in hopes of interesting those who were drawn. Many stayed.

After the singing, Risë would open with a health talk. We both had excellent translators, though translating the health meetings always seemed to pose more of a challenge. Then James followed with the three angels' messages and righteousness by faith. God blessed richly as we moved through our topics, sharing the simple and practical aspects of the gospel and how healthful living affects the mind.

As we think back on the faces we looked out upon throughout the days, we remember how closely we bonded with those precious people. It was not easy to say good-bye.

After camp meeting we jumped a train for a two-hour ride to Stockholm. We stayed with a family our one night there, and we believe the Lord directed

us to that home. Mother and son had attended the camp meeting faithfully throughout the week. They were Christians of another denomination who love our Savior. The father had not attended the meetings, and his wife was anxious for him to learn about the Sabbath. He warmly received us and spent much time in conversation. The wife told us what a blessing she had received from attending our camp meeting—how God had convicted her about the Sabbath—and now she asked us to share with her husband how the Sabbath relates to the gospel and righteousness by faith.

Our time in Sweden was over all too soon. The last meeting closed with a focus on the New Heaven and the New Earth and what it will be like to see Jesus. To look into His face, feel His embrace and realize, as His warm tears flow with joy, that our being saved has brought happiness to His heart for all eternity.

Events Schedule

- **November 5-7**
Pathfinder Leadership Retreat, Camp Mivoden, ID
Herb Montgomery—☎(509)838-2761
- **November 5-20**
Grants Pass, OR, Evangelism
Ty Gibson—☎(541)476-6313
- **November 12-13**
Habersham SDA Church, GA
James Rafferty—☎(706)754-5311
- **December 3-4**
Shenandoah Academy, VA
Ty Gibson—☎(540)740-3161 x220
- **December 11**
Deer Park SDA Church, WA
James Rafferty—☎(509)276-6097
- **January 7-8, 2005**
Ephrata SDA Church, WA
James & Risë Rafferty—☎(509)754-4513
- **January 21-22, 2005**
Yuma SDA Church, AZ
Ty Gibson—☎(928)783-6533
- **January 28-29, 2005**
Chandler SDA Church, AZ
Ty Gibson—☎(602)442-5167
- **January 29, 2005**
Inchelium SDA Church, WA
James Rafferty—☎(509)722-4300

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LIGHT BEARERS

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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.

MISSION UPDATE

The Newsletter of Light Bearers Ministry

An Encounter with Kiwis

By Sue Gibson

In August Ty and I were privileged to visit the beautiful but cold (it was wintertime there) country of New Zealand. New Zealand is a land of many landscape faces. Its beauty ranges from ocean beaches to the snow-capped mountains of the south island. It is comparable in size to the state of Colorado (approximately 103,711 square miles), and the population is about 3,994,000—composed of 74.5% New Zealand Europeans, 9.7% Maori Indians, 4.6% other Europeans, 3.8% Pacific Islanders and 7.4% Asians and others. While one-third of these claim no religion, 24% are Anglican, 18% Presbyterian, 15% Roman Catholic, 5% Methodist, 2% Baptist and 3% are other Protestant. Of the 3% other Protestants, 16,986 are Seventh-day Adventists.

Ty's invitation was to the Papatoetoe church, just south of Auckland. While there he conducted seven adult meetings, plus a few for the younger divisions, and was met with a very positive

response. The local pastor, Brendan Pratt, shared this testimony:

"This week of spiritual emphasis has been a highlight in the life of our church. Ty has presented the love of God in a very fresh, revitalizing way and many people in our congregation have grasped God's incredible love for them for the first time. I've been particularly impressed with how Ty has been able to connect with the diversity of our church family. The talks he has done for our teens, youth and young adults have been fantastic. Ty's ministry has been a huge blessing

to people who have been attendees for many years along with our new Christians and contacts. Several times people have commented to me saying that they wished they had heard these presentations years ago and hundreds of people in our congregation have grasped a new sense of what it means to be God's children. Thank you for your ministry with us, Ty. We have really appreciated your insights and have been blessed by the way you allow God to work in and through you in uplifting Him. We would love to have you come back when you can fit this

part of the world into your schedule again—we might even have some sunshine for you next time.

Thanks a million and God bless in your ministry!"

Whether or not Ty can make it back to New Zealand, we are looking forward to fellowshiping in heaven with our newfound Kiwi friends. And who knows, just maybe everyone will then have their lovely accent.



LIFT HIM UP

3ABN Schedule (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)

COOL QUOTES

Jesus did not suppress one word of truth, but He uttered it always in love. He exercised the greatest tact and thoughtful, kind attention in His intercourse with the people. He was never rude, never needlessly spoke a severe word, never gave needless pain to a sensitive soul. He did not censure human weakness. He spoke the truth, but always in love. He denounced hypocrisy, unbelief, and iniquity; but tears were in His voice as He uttered His scathing rebukes. He wept over Jerusalem, the city He loved, which refused to receive Him, the way, the truth, and the life. They had rejected Him, the Savior, but He regarded them with pitying tenderness. His life was one of self-denial and thoughtful care for others. Every soul was precious in His eyes. While He ever bore Himself with divine dignity, He bowed with the tenderest regard to every member of the family of God. In all men He saw fallen souls whom it was His mission to save.

Such is the character of Christ as revealed in His life. This is the character of God. It is from the Father's heart that the streams of divine compassion, manifest in Christ, flow out to the children of men. Jesus, the tender, pitying Savior, was God "manifest in the flesh" (1 Timothy 3:16).

Ellen G. White,
Steps to Christ, p. 12

I freely admit that real Christianity . . . goes much nearer to Dualism than people think. One of the things that surprised me when I first read the New Testament seriously was that it talked so much about a Dark Power in the universe—a mighty evil spirit who was held to be the Power behind death and disease, and sin. The difference is that Christianity thinks this Dark Power was created by God, and was good when he was created, and went wrong. Christianity agrees with Dualism that this universe is at war. But it does not think this is a war between independent powers. It thinks it is a civil war, a rebellion, and that we are living in a part of the universe occupied by the rebel.

Enemy-occupied territory—that is what this world is. Christianity is the story of how the rightful king has landed, you might say landed in disguise, and is calling us all to take part in a great campaign of sabotage.

C.S. Lewis,
Mere Christianity, pp. 45-46

God looked upon humanity, not as vile and worthless; He looked upon it in Christ, saw it as it might become through redeeming love. He collected all the riches of the universe, and laid them down in order to buy the pearl.

E.G. White,
Christ's Object Lessons, p. 118

MISSION UPDATE

IN THE LAND OF THE VIKINGS

BY JAMES AND RISÉ RAFFERTY

By camp meetings held in the cities, thousands will be called out to hear the invitation to the feast, "Come; for all things are now ready"

The land of the Vikings, with its ancient history of exploration and pagan worship, stirred our imagination when we traveled to central Sweden in August. Our mission was to spend a week in the quaint town of Skovde (pronounced Shuv da).

Sweden is a country where God's spirit rested upon courageous reformers like Olaf and Laurentius Petri. Remnants of yesteryear's spiritual devotion are seen in beautiful, ornate cathedrals. Today, as in many European countries, Sweden is a secular country with a small percentage of its people attending church. The state religion is Lutheran.

After a very long train ride, we were met at the train station by Lars-Gustaf Larsson. Following his personal conversion as a young man, Lars-Gustaf took his family to Newbold where he was educated and became a Seventh-

day Adventist minister. His zeal and devotion to the cause of God was obvious, and we enjoyed his fellowship. Now nearing retirement, Lars-Gustaf is working with a small group of believers to develop a ministry in the rural countryside. "The farm," as they call it, already has a little health food store, a "hut" (a cabin for guests), a nearly finished workshop, and a couple of homes and central building.

With his small group of co-workers and a large faith, Lars-Gustaf planned an "old-fashioned" camp meeting in a tent on local public school grounds, right on the main road where passers-by could see it. His friends thought his goals and plans were unrealistic and financially impossible. In addition to this, Sweden was having a very

wet summer. And it poured our first couple of days there. We all prayed as the afternoon arrived for the truck to deliver the large tent.

Lars-Gustaf's two sons and other helpers labored to erect the tent in the pouring rain. We were awed to witness God's hand over the elements when the rain ceased just in time for the meetings to begin. The next five days were warm and sunny all through the meetings. Not a drop of rain fell.

The camp meeting was "old fashioned" in another way in that it was organized specifically with evangelism in mind—something our camp meetings used to be primarily designed for:

"The experiences of this meeting, with what has been presented to me at various times regarding the holding

of camp meetings in large cities, lead me to advise that a larger number of camp meetings be held each year, even though some of them are small; for these meetings will be a powerful means of arresting the attention of the masses. By camp meetings held in the cities, thousands will be called out to hear the invitation to the feast, "Come; for all things are now ready" (*Review and Herald*, April 4, 1899).

The evening meetings started with a special "church sings" time of music. Each evening the hymns and songs of praise were led by guests from various denominations. Even though we couldn't understand most of the words, the music was a wonderful blessing as the Holy Spirit drew very close. We were even able to join in some of the songs before

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