

AFTER 13 YEARS— God Gave Him A Son!

WHOM HE PROMISED
TO GIVE BACK
TO GOD'S SERVICE!
From Lazarus Livingstone;
Bangkok, Thailand:



Lazarus Livingstone, 21 years old, smiling after his father's prayer.



... As a result of his father's prayer 21 years ago!

Dear MO, Maria & Family,
THANKS FOR ALL THE LETTERS, ESPECIALLY THE LAST—“God’s Gift is God’s Work!” (No. 744). It really blows my mind to think how the Lord plans each new little life! Well, I just recently found out some pretty startling news that my parents never told me before regarding my life! PTL! I ALWAYS WONDERED WHY MY PARENTS WERE MARRIED

GOD GAVE HIM A SON! Cont'd.

FOR 13 YEARS before having any children, as they were both strict Catholics & definitely did not believe in any form of birth control. Well, it turns out that my mother had been told by countless doctors that she could not have children. My parents went to specialist after specialist for help, but to no avail.

MY FATHER, WHOSE LIFE HAD BEEN MIRACULOUSLY SAVED MANY TIMES, had incredible childlike faith, which is why I'm here today, alive & serving the Lord! Well after 13 years of crying out to the Lord, my mother became pregnant, to everyone's amazement. Right before she conceived, my father was praying very hard, having almost given up himself, & he said he was sweating & shaking when suddenly the Lord's voice came to him & said,

“DON'T WORRY ABOUT THE WORLD & ITS WARS! I'll take care of that—you just take care of your family.” So when my mom got pregnant, my Dad really thanked the Lord for His faithfulness & told the Lord that if He would give him a healthy child, that he in turn would give him up to serve the Lord. So on July 8, 1957, I took my first breath.

EVER SINCE I CAN REMEMBER, my Dad took me to church every Sunday & taught me many prayers before I would go to sleep at night when I was little. Later, two little sisters came along. I nicely spaced at 17 months apart according to the Lord's planning. WHEN I WAS 11, MY MOM GOT BREAST CANCER & after four years of real suffering went home to be with the Lord. I couldn't understand why God took her away, after all of us had prayed so hard. So I turned off my channel to the Lord & became wild, rebellious & untamable.

I STARTED TAKING DRUGS, was arrested at age 15 for grand auto theft, broke into school & church properties, destroying them & influencing others to do likewise, until my best friend was killed in a car crash while going home after I gave him drugs.

WELL, I REALLY “FREAKED OUT” & HAD A NERVOUS BREAKDOWN. My father then

committed me to a mental hospital (I was 18) to try to help me, since he had done all he could for me, praying for me always & taking me back into loving arms time & again. It was then, he said, that he prayed that same little prayer he had prayed when my Mom first became pregnant, about giving me to serve the Lord.

WELL, AFTER A WEEK IN THE HOSPITAL & coming face to face with myself, I got so violent that it took about nine nurses' aides to chain both arms & legs to a bed in a steel room where I was left alone for 7 hours, with no one to talk to but the Lord & nowhere to look but up. I finally broke down & asked the Lord to tie my frazzled nerves together & to heal my stomach (I had developed severe gastritis from drinking & drug abuse), & I received a sample of that “perfect peace” the Lord was talking about when “our mind is stayed on Him” (Isa. 26:3).

I DIDN'T KNOW TO ASK JESUS INTO MY HEART yet, but I came out of that room turned on to the Lord & tried witnessing to the others in the institution about the Lord's love & healing power. After a week of doing so, they sent me home to my Dad. (I guess they had enough of me—hah!)

FOR ABOUT A YEAR, I WORKED FOR MY DAD & went back to church & even started my own little business (wholesale of bread). But after enjoying the so-called “good life” & seeing thru’ the false fronts of my newly found friends, I was ready to quit. Then on my way home from work one day, I picked up a couple of hitchhikers from the Family who led me to the Lord & I received the Holy Spirit & dropped out, all in one glorious day! PTL!

AT FIRST MY DAD COULDN'T UNDERSTAND how I could give up my “chance of a lifetime” business to live in this “strange” Family. But then the Lord reminded him of his long-ago prayer, the one that he had prayed 21 years ago & that it was truly answered! Now he's very happy that I've found the Lord's will in my life & reads & likes the Letters.

I HOPE THIS ENCOURAGES PARENTS & PARENTS-TO-BE not to give up hope but to “expect miracles”, knowing God will never fail to answer in His perfect time, if we stay faithful! Love, Lazarus.

What the People (of Nigeria) Say! ABOUT HOW THE LETTERS OF FATHER DAVID CHANGED THEIR LIVES!

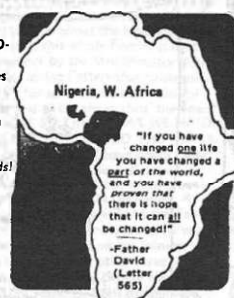
Compiled by Matthew Davidson;
Abia, Nigeria:

AS A RESULT OF OUR SPREADING GOD'S LOVE & WORDS here in Nigeria, we receive many responses thru' the mail & we answer them accordingly as part of our mail outreach. Here are some excerpts from some of the many letters about the many lives that have been changed, & are being changed, by God's Words!

“YOUR LETTER & PARCEL OF SCRIPTS (Letters by Father David) have been received. I thanked the Lord with all my happiness. I felt very happy as I have never dreamed before when I got your letter. I will be happy if I can get more of them. Thank you.”—A student in Imo State.

“I WAS VERY PLEASED TO HEAR FROM YOU. What an interesting letter, what a lovely letter! You said if I had any problem to write & tell you. Yes, you see, little things that people do make me angry. When I got your letter about prayer I was very happy about it & I went over & over it. I learned to love people more than before. So you see, you've saved me from this problem that was worrying me before. Thank you!”—A student in Kaduna State.

“I LOVE YOU! THIS IS WHY I'M WRITING. I felt weak when I came home & then I saw a beautiful leaflet on the table which I picked up to read & saw that it said “Love



Is News”. I was very interested. I will be very grateful if you will send comics & all Letters by Father David to me for distribution in this part of the state.”—O., Imo State.

“WHEN I GOT YOUR LETTER, I COULDN'T CONTROL THE HAPPINESS. Please write to me again because my heart is burning in happiness because of your words to me. Yours.”—Justina, a student in Imo State.

“I THANK GOD FOR THE PRIVILEGE of coming in contact with you. I am so grateful that in the two weeks of my association with you I have started feeling the impact of transferring my problems to Jesus. It is no gain-saying if I in-

form you honestly that I am full of joy & happiness & that anger & worry have taken their exit in my life.”—A businessman from Imo State.

“I LIKE READING YOUR LETTERS VERY MUCH. It is as if I have found a new purpose for my life, a new way of living. With you I have learned to love. I want to know more about God's love & His Family, so please send me more information about how I can receive God's love in my life. I always feel sad because I am not a member of the Family. But if I get your letter, will feel as if I am in the Family!”—Theresa, a student from Niger State.

“THANK YOU FOR YOUR LOVE FOR ME. Love is everything! I got that from one of the Letters by Father David that you sent me. The messages contained in these Letters are a blend of fascination & inspiration. I simply cannot afford to throw them away. I treasure them & I hope you will continue to keep me on your mailing list. The messages contained in them are so worthy that I've given them to various people to read. God bless you all!—Your brother, O.”—A teacher in Oyo State.

“THANK YOU FOR ALL THE ADVICE YOUR PAMPHLETS GIVE. In fact whenever I read it, I always feel a sort of change in my heart. I hope you won't be tired of giving me the spiritual help which you've been doing. Thanks.”—SOL & WELDON from Kaduna State.

Getting Out The Word!

From
Matthew Askins;
Dallas, USA:

YESTERDAY WHEN I WAS OUT LITNESSING, I started getting a poem, so I stopped for a little while to write it down. I was thinking

about the brethren in the States who have taken jobs to survive when there are still so many cities & areas wide open to litnessing & provisioning. It's called:

“AS LONG AS IT'S POSSIBLE”

Where have the paper prophets gone? Those kids on the street, Sharing smiles & radical words With the people they meet.

Taken jobs—that's no fun When there's a war to be won! To conquer hearts, spirits & minds To change them all, one at a time!

Giving them Jesus & His Words, Giving them a sample—that will be heard!

The sample of living by faith, Of trusting God to supply, As He promised, if you serve Him, Come what may, do or die!

So give me those streets & parking lots.

As long as it's possible, then DTD! The sheep still abound in variety & plenty! And I know only one way to feed so many!

Thank God for the Letters! I know of no method better! Thank God for litnessing! And personal witnessing! Thank God for the privilege Of Mark 16:15!

—Matthew Askins.

FROM MO & MARIA!

We are sorry but in this present dangerous world situation all top Family Officers—including WS & KQS Units & other highly sensitive Homes—must not FF! This is for

your own well-being & the maintaining of your present happy home & safety, & the security of the Family & Family materials under your jurisdiction—sorry, but FF'ing is now too identifying.

Smoking It Almost Killed Me!

DUEL WITH A
DEMON!
THE DANGER OF
COMPROMISE!
—& GOD'S MERCIFUL
DELIVERANCE!

From
Mary Magdalene; France:

I NOTICED A FEW PEOPLE IN THE FAMILY having battles over smoking cigarettes & I wanted to share what happened to me. When I joined the Family three years ago, one of my biggest tests was to quit smoking. I used to hide in the toilet to smoke almost every day. I talked to my shepherd about it & prayed & prayed but was too weak to put feet to my prayers & stop. I KNEW IT REALLY HINDERED MY SPIRITUAL GROWTH, like letting a door open for the Devil to come in & it made me feel very guilty in front of the Lord but I just couldn't seem to stop. Six months after I joined, I returned to France from India & went to have a general check-up at a hospital, my body being very run down from a long stay in India.

THAT'S WHEN I DISCOVERED I HAD TUBERCULOSIS! I knew right away that it was a judgement & a warning from the Lord about my smoking. I got pretty scared! The doctor's verdict was: sanatorium & antibiotics for a whole year! But with the help of some faithful-building brothers & sisters, I decided to trust the Lord for my healing & we had a prayer meeting. While praying, the Lord spoke to me very

Don't let the “camel's nose” of COMPROMISE get you!

clearly & told me in French, “Donnant, donnant.”

“IF YOU GIVE UP SMOKING, I'LL GIVE YOU THE HEALING!” I gladly & thankfully submitted! A few days later another X-ray showed that I was completely healed! PTL! All desire for smoking subsided & I felt completely delivered.

A YEAR LATER THO; AS I STARTED TO FF, the same battles came back. Most of my fish were smokers & I found myself starting to smoke again, first a puff here & there, then whole cigarettes. Then the need to smoke came back & with it a feeling of drawing away from the Lord as I started again to sneak into the toilet to smoke cigarettes. Give one inch to the Devil & He'll take a whole mile!

THE LORD TOLD ME IN A DREAM THAT IF I DIDN'T QUIT SMOKING completely that I would get tuberculosis again. This scared me but I kept smoking anyway & of course I soon started to cough. I tried to ignore it until it became so bad that a fish himself told me to go to a doctor.

THE RESULT: TUBERCULOSIS AGAIN—A WORSE FORM OF IT as I was now contagious! I went straight to a hospital so as not to contaminate anybody. It was a very trying time. Being separated from the Family is the thing I fear the most & here I was, locked away in a hospital, in a foreign country at the mercy of people who spoke a foreign language!—Then in Italy, I WANTED TO HAVE FAITH & GET HEALED AGAIN but it's difficult to have faith when your

heart is not right with the Lord & when what you suffer is the consequence of your disobedience! I was praying & praying. The Lord is so merciful & so good that He nevertheless heard me. After two weeks in the hospital, the doctors told me I was no longer contagious & agreed to let me go home if I would rest.

FOR THE NEXT SIX WEEKS I WAS IN BED, extremely weak & sick, my hair falling out because of heavy doses of antibiotics & feeling very much under condemnation. I had truly “sinned & come short of the glory of God”. Then, to top it off, I foolishly got out of bed & went out FF'ing ten nights in a row. I completely collapsed & could not get up anymore. I felt I was going to die & was very desperate, truly at the end of my rope at last.

ONE MORNING AS I TRIED IN VAIN TO GET UP, I started to cry & prayed with all my heart, really broken, ready for anything, at last submitted to the Lord, & my prayer broke thru' in the Spirit for the first time in months. The Lord told me, “There's a whole bunch of dirty dishes to do in the kitchen, you'd better get up & go do them!”

IT SEEMED IMPOSSIBLE, BUT WITH GOD nothing's impossible! I stayed up for the whole day for the first time in a long time. The very same day I quit taking the medicine & had desperate prayer together with the whole home to be healed. The Lord told me, “When thou shalt cry unto Me with a whole heart, then will I hear thee & answer thee & show thee great & mighty things which thou knowest not.” PTL!

WITHIN A FEW DAYS MY HEALTH WAS BACK TO NORMAL & since then two X-rays have showed no signs of tuberculosis! Glory to God! He never fails, if we obey! Thank the Lord for His “lashes of love”!

—Mary Magdalene.

FAMILY NEWS —BY YOU!

Iranian Finds God is Love...

(The following is a personal testimony from our Iranian Catechist brother, Ali, here in England. We met him when he came to our home, referred by another sister who met him while out litnessing. He has a special burden to reach other Muslims & sent a copy of “Love Is News” with every Christmas card he sent to his friends! He's a real on-fire “Don Quixote” who loves the Letters & says he'll never give up & wants to do anything the Family does, even litness, although he is 44 years old & has a lot of physical disabilities, including partial paralysis on one side of his body. God bless him! Here's his story!—Sent in by Judy.)

I WAS BORN 44 YEARS AGO IN IRAN, a Muslim. I have travelled in my life to the Far East & India. Seeing other religions, I always compared mine to others.

IN 1961 I CAME TO EUROPE as an import-exporter. In England last year I met Chris when she was distributing MO Letters on the street. At first I walked away from her, but then I came back to talk to her. When I saw her I felt inside her some kind of spark & glory.

SHE TOLD ME ABOUT LOVE, that God is Love & Love is God. I asked her, “What sort of people are you?” We talked & she invited me to her home. What attracted me to her was the things she was telling me. I learned that the difference between Jesus & the other prophets is that He isn't dead. He rose from the dead & is living! I read the leaflets she gave me, expounding more on God & Love. She had to leave the country & gave me the address of another home where I went to visit.

I REALISED THERE IS MORE TO THIS FAMILY than I had first thought & I made up my mind that I was going to join this Family. Until now, I never found this feeling in any human being since I've been



in Europe. I WANT TO DO ANYTHING & EVERYTHING I can as part of the Family to spread God's Love. I wrote to my family in Iran & told them about what happened to me

& I tell a lot of people I meet about the Family.

THE FAMILY IS LIKE THE MOON reflecting the light of the sun (Jesus & His love). Like in the East, the sun is too hot, so people use the moon for light to travel by at night. I used to mourn a lot, but since I met the Family I have a feeling in my heart that there's something to live for, something to love for! I want to bring more people to know that God is Love—not Law! That is my dedication!

Love, Ali.

From Our Declaration of Love!

WE BELIEVE IN LOVE! Love for God & others, for “God is Love” (1Jn. 4:8.) That's our religion—Love! LOVE IS EVERYTHING, for without love there is nothing!—No friends, no families, no fathers or mothers or children or sex or health or happiness or God or Heaven—there could be none of these without love! And none of these is possible without God, for He is love!

THIS IS WHY JESUS SAID THE FIRST & GREATEST COMMANDMENT IS TO LOVE—to “love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, & with all thy soul, & with all thy mind... & the second is like unto it,” it's almost equal—almost the same, “thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.” (Mt. 22:36-40.)

IN FACT, THIS IS WHY GOD CREATED MAN TO BEGIN WITH: TO LOVE—to love & enjoy Him for ever & to try to help others to do the same! And it is God alone who can satisfy the deepest yearning of every human soul for total love & complete understanding.

HE'S PICTURED IN HIS SON CHRIST JESUS, who came for love & lived in love & died for love that we might live & love forever! To receive God's Love in Jesus, all