

IN THE NAME OF  
THE FATHER, THE  
SON, AND THE  
HOLY GHOST

239-574-5683

❖ This is a monthly publication produced and printed by Love And Compassion Ministries.

❖ Permission is hereby granted to reproduce this publication!

❖ If you wish someone who is in jail or prison to receive a copy, call us for details.

**Inside this issue:**

RUNNING THE RACE	2
SUMMER TRIP	3
SUMMER TRIP CONCLUSION	4
MOTORCYCLES IN HEAVEN	5
FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL	6
LETTER FROM PRESIDENT	7
PRAYER REQUEST	8

# Love And Compassion Ministries News Letter

Volume 3, Issue 9

September 1, 2008 In The Year of Our LORD

## How are you running the race?

The 2008 Beijing Olympics are over and I am so proud of our athletes! You can see that they have trained to where they are the world's best at what they do. I congratulate all of them for a job well done.

### You know our Lord has set all Christians on a race of our lives.

Hebrews 12:1 says in the Life Application Bible:

1. Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us.
2. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.
3. Consider him who endured such opposition from sinful men, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

Do you know the race that is marked out for you?  
How are we to reach the goal?  
How do we win the race?

## Focus On Jesus



I Corinthians 9:25 Everyone who competes in the game goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last; but we do it to get a crown that will last forever.

I Corinthians 9:26-27 says: 26. Therefore I do not run like a man running aimlessly; I do not fight like a man beating the air.

27. No, I beat my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize.

**Do Not Lose Your Focus!  
Forget What Is Behind!  
The Race Is An Endurance Run, Not A Sprint!**

Philippians 3:13 -14 says: Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, 14 I press on toward the goal to win the price for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

**Fight Through The Opposition**

Satan wants us to give up, stop and relax. He wants to do all he can to get you off the path Jesus Christ has set for you! If there is sin in your life it will trip you up. Deal with the sin so that you can end the race with a crown of righteousness.

II Timothy 4:7-8 says: I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. 8. Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day—and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for His appearing.

**As We Run the Race  
You Will Find  
If You Don't Grow Weary And Lose Heart,  
That Christ Was With You Every Step Of The Way.**



*God loves you and offers a  
wonderful plan for your life.*

## MY SUMMER TRIP TO THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC WAS CHALLENGING AND REWARDING.

If you like baseball you'll love the Dominican Republic's national focus on baseball. In Palmar Arriba, Santiago, the baseball park is usually full of children, grouped into teams by ages. The coach is a good witness for Jesus Christ. He had Pastor Walter Ries come and pray with the children that he was taking to a four day camp in Santo Domingo. However, the ones who couldn't afford the expense stayed and still played baseball. Smaller cities also play baseball and the other teenagers tend to take this seriously because it's a way out of poverty.

The family I've been supporting is doing very well. The mother, Mari Estrella, did work at the Lutheran School for very little money, scrubbing floors when she was pregnant, but couldn't feed or take care of her other five children. Now her youngest, Naomi, has completely recovered from her illness, gained weight, laughing, walking and being a normal child.

Jose Adoni had his tooth removed ... no more pain! Jereli has glasses so she can read properly, Jose Miguel is able to play baseball after school and Mari Estrella's teeth have been fixed. The children have the clothes, medicine and food they need to grow in the love of Jesus Christ..



This reached a highlight when Pastor Ries baptized all six children. The glow from their faces reflected the love of Jesus. It's interesting that there are many families and children that would accept being baptized in the future. What a wonderful experience! Something to look forward to in future trips.

The mosquito net program is growing slowly. This time I handed out seventeen mosquito nets with five more coming from Minriva. So one hundred and seventy four beds that needed nets (the twenty I did the first time and twenty-two this time) leaves

one hundred thirty two beds for children with no nets. The families that received the mosquito nets were very gracious and thankful for the Missouri Synod Lutheran Church's support from Zion in helping get rid of Dengue Fever in this area.

I know the children's hospital in Santiago could use another two hundred nets, so this is an on going program which will eventually help many children. The mosquito nets cost about ten dollars each so if you would like to contribute to this endeavor please feel free to do so through Love And Compassion Ministries. Just note your donation as Mosquito Nets and all the donations are tax deductible.

Many other Christian acts of love happened in the two months I was there. Pastor Ries showed the Christian movie *Enfrentando Los Gigantes* (Facing the Giants) which the children thoroughly enjoyed. Singing Christian songs, reading books, bible classes, learning how to swim, learning to ride a bicycle, having shoes, clothes and food to eat etc. Jesus is such a blessing. (continued on page 4)



There are many hurdles in the Dominican Republic such as high unemployment, sanitation problems, water two hours a day, electric two to four hours a day, lack of medication, being able to buy bottled water, etc. But take heart, the Lord is hearing their cry for help. When you want to be a true missionary and bear the burdens of the people you're trying to help, then and only then, can you bring people to hear the gospel of Jesus Christ because they see the love of Jesus in you. Find a need and fill it, put the focus on someone in need, Amen.

God Bless!

Jesus Loves you and so do I.

Your brother in Christ,

*Van Wells*

Van Wells



## MOTORCYCLES IN HEAVEN

I wonder if there will be motorcycles in heaven. I hope so! When Jesus comes back riding on His beautiful white stallion, I wonder if there will be a band of us clothed in white and glowing in the transcendence of rebirth. I think I'd like a big white Aspencade, or Ultraclassic. I wonder if Engineers boots come in white. I've tried cowboy boots before and I can't wear them. They are just too hard on the feet. Maybe, if I have to ride a horse, they will be more comfortable made by an angel; better than the ones made by Fry down here.

I don't suppose it will matter though. We will be riding into a battle the likes of which we can't even imagine, and I don't think I will be thinking about my feet.

You will be there, won't you? I hope so! The prophets and Revelation tell us that any day now we may hear a trumpet. When it sounds, first, the dead in Christ will rise. Next we, the saved of Christ - the saints- will rise, just disappear from Earth and land at the feet of Jesus. Wow, I bet Scotty could never beam us up like that! Then we will be judged. The bad stuff will be burned away like wood, hay and stubble.

I suppose I'll get my tail feathers singed. Next comes the gold, silver and precious stones. I guess I've collected a few. They will determine what your rewards are in heaven. Maybe that's when they decide what kind of Bike you get.

Any way, you'll stay for seven years while the world undergoes its tribulation. I don't even want to watch that. And then we ride! It's back to earth to wrap up Satan's folly and to rule the new heaven and the new earth forever. Wow!

In the meantime, we have some work to do. There are plenty of bikers out there who will miss the trumpet, and it's too bad. Some of them are very nice people who have never heard the Word! Some are not so nice, but they probably just need a friend. We'd better get to work.

I don't think God will mind letting more bikers into heaven. We are told in Matthew 29:19 "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

KSU it's time to ride.

*Steve Smith*

Pastor Steve

## The First Day Of School

The first day of school our professor introduced himself and challenged us to get to know someone we didn't already know. I stood up to look around when a gentle hand touched my shoulder. I turned around to find a wrinkled, little old lady beaming up at me with a smile that lit up her entire being. She said, 'Hi handsome. My name is Rose. I'm eighty-seven years old. Can I give you a hug?' I laughed and enthusiastically responded; 'Of course you may!' and she gave me a giant squeeze.

"Why are you in college at such a young, innocent age?" I asked. She jokingly replied, "I'm here to meet a rich husband, get married, and have a couple of kids..." "No seriously," I asked. I was curious what may have motivated her to be taking on this challenge at her age. "I always dreamed of having a college education and now I'm getting one!" She told me.

After class we walked to the student union building and shared a chocolate milkshake. We became instant friends. Every day for the next three months we would leave class together and talk nonstop. I was always mesmerized listening to this 'time machine' as she shared her wisdom and experience with me. Over the course of the year, Rose became a campus icon and she easily made friends wherever she went. She loved to dress up and she reveled in the attention bestowed upon her from the other students. She was living it up.

At the end of the semester we invited Rose to speak at our football banquet. I'll never forget what she taught us. She was introduced and stepped up to the podium. As she began to deliver her prepared speech, she dropped her three by five cards on the floor. Frustrated and a little embarrassed she leaned into the microphone and simply said, "I'm sorry I'm so jittery. I gave up beer for Lent and this whiskey is killing me! I'll never get my speech back in order so let me just tell you what I know."

As we laughed she cleared her throat and began, "We do not stop playing because we are old; we grow old because we stop playing. There are only four secrets to staying young, being happy, and achieving success. You have to laugh and find humor every day. You've got to have a dream. When you lose your dreams, you die. We have so many people walking around who are dead and don't even know it! There is a huge difference between growing older and growing up."

"If you are nineteen years old and lie in bed for one full year and don't do one productive thing, you will turn twenty years old. If I am eighty-seven years old and stay in bed for a year and never do anything I will turn eighty-eight. Anybody can grow older. That doesn't take any talent or ability. The idea is to grow up by always finding opportunity in change. Have no regrets. The elderly usually don't have regrets for what we did, but rather for things we did not do. The only people who fear death are those with regrets."

She concluded her speech by courageously singing 'The Rose.' She challenged each of us to study the lyrics and live them out in our daily lives. At the year's end Rose finished the college degree she had begun all those years ago. One week after graduation Rose died peacefully in her sleep. Over two thousand college students attended her funeral in tribute to the wonderful woman who taught by example that it's never too late to be all you can possibly be.

These words have been passed along in loving memory of ROSE. REMEMBER, GROWING OLDER IS MANDATORY. **GROWING UP IS OPTIONAL**. We make a Living by what we get. We make a Life by what we give. God promises a safe landing, not a calm passage. If God brings you to it, He will bring you through it.

'Good friends are like stars. ....You don't always see them, but you know they are always there.'



## Love And Compassion Ministries

Dear Friends:

With a heavy heart there have been a many a night that I shed countless tears crying out to God for people that are going through withdrawals from drugs, loss of jobs, marriage problems, sickness, pain, and death within their family. But now I have found myself in great need of help.

I am ashamed to admit it, but for the last few weeks I have been crying out to God for my own needs. You see, a small problem with a tooth has become a major problem. Many have said just pull the tooth, but I have found that your old time dentist no longer exist and if you happen to get an infection, you are in for it.

When I was growing up you went to your dentist and he either filled the tooth or pulled it. Today we have to go to oral surgeons to get a tooth removed, and they are not cheap. To remove two teeth, one wisdom and one molar cost \$855.00, plus a \$90.00 fee for office visit. If you are to be put to sleep it will cost another \$875.00. As of today I have spent about \$800.00 on doctor visits, dentist visits, x-rays, oral surgeon fees, prescriptions, and a hospital visit and I still have the problem (two teeth).

I have never had a problem praying for others, but when it comes to me, it is so hard to ask God for something for myself. I guess I get that from my grandmother. God bless her heart! She was always doing things for others and yet had nothing herself. When she died someone told me that she never had more than three dresses to her name. She bore twelve children, two of which did not live more than a day. She, the children, and my grandfather worked from sunup to sundown clearing land for a fee of one dollar an acre. That is not a miss print! One dollar an acre to clear all the trees and stumps in order to make it into farm land.

She drew water from a cistern, never had a dishwasher, washing machine, dryer, or any other modern electric appliances. She cooked on a wood burning stove. She lived all her life without an indoor bathroom until I installed a shower and commode three years before she died. With all my pain and problems it only counts as a drop in the bucket to what my grandmother had to go through.

I am reminded that great Christians have losses, pain, and even death in their lives. Bad things happen to good people. Matthew 5:45 says: *That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust.*

I need your prayers! Please keep LCM and me in your prayers.

May God bless you all with peace and love. I pray that The Holy Spirit will minister, direct, and guide all of us to become better servants of God!

In the Presence of our LORD,

*Ron Willis*

Ron Willis, President  
Love and Compassion Ministries, Inc.

Love And Compassion  
Ministries, Inc.

P.O. Box 152636  
Cape Coral, Florida 33915

Stamp

Phone: 239-574-5683

Fax: 239-574-8183

Email:

GODLCM@AOL.COM

**We're on the Web!**  
**[www.LoveCompassion.com](http://www.LoveCompassion.com)**

If you would like to be a part of our exciting prayer team, please send us your e-mail address and we will send you updates of people who need our prayers. *The LORD is near to all who call upon HIM, to all who call upon HIM in truth.* Psalm 145:18 NKJ

It is a great privilege that we have, as sons and daughters of the KING, to be able to come into HIS presence with our needs, our hurts, and our cares. We know that we can leave them at HIS feet because HE cares for us and will always answer us in our time of need.

Prayer requests are very important to us! We always need people who are caring and willing to personally pray for others needs. As we pray for their physical, moral, and spiritual needs, we must understand that because of JESUS CHRIST'S love for all of us, we are able to do this. CHRIST is the answer to every human's needs.

As members of the Body of CHRIST, we have the privilege and responsibility to pray for our Churches, our missionaries, public officials, other ministries, and each other.