

# Notes & Letters

## The Gospel of Grace to the Philippines

I am a missionary with New Tribes Mission. Since discovering GES three years ago my understanding of free grace has increased tremendously. I am soon looking forward to sharing this gospel of grace with the unreached in the Philippines. I praise the Lord for your ministry. Thank you!

R.J. ~ Rutherfordton, NC

## Helpful and Encouraging

Recently, while at a friend's house, I read the May/June 2003 issue of *Grace in Focus*, and I found it *enormously* helpful and encouraging—and then I also read the Mar/April issue and found it extremely beneficial as well. Thank you very much.

S.D. ~ Bloomington, IN

## Confusion Began

"We don't have a sin problem we have a life problem because the sin problem has been taken care of..." This

gives me answers to many questions I had. I have long believed this because the gospel of John nowhere mentions repentance and yet it is dedicated to the saving of the lost. I was saved reading John 3:7. I was in great need of help that night and reading that book at the suggestion of a friend saved my life and marriage. Then I went to Bible college and seminars, etc, etc, and the confusion began. Many years later I found a book by Zane Hodges, *Absolutely Free!* And everything I suspected was true! We are being told in colleges and tracts that we must confess we are sinners or we cannot be saved.

J.H. ~ Eden Prairie, MN

## Teaching Rewards

I taught "Rewards" 2 weeks ago in my Sunday school class and it was well received. Thanks to you [Bob] and Zane as I used each of your books in preparing for the lesson.

B.D. ~ Long Beach, CA



The staff of Grace Evangelical Society

# PARTNERS in Grace

## Fran Retires After Eleven Years with GES!

On June 22, 1992 Fran Stilwell who was a few months short of age 65, came to work part time at GES. At the time, she thought she'd help me out for a few months or maybe even a year or two.

Fran proved so invaluable that she stayed on for 11 years. Fran is now 75 and is well known to everyone who calls the ministry or who comes to our conferences. She is a surrogate mother to both Cathy and me and a surrogate grandmother to Mike.

We love Fran and are really going to miss her. There is no replacing her. We hope to find someone or maybe two people to do her job, but no one will ever be able to take her place. She was sent from God at a time when the ministry had no staff other than me. Cathy started the same day Fran did, and so the three of us have watched the ministry grow together. Who knows (this side of the kingdom), how many lives Fran touched while she served the Lord here. I'm confident He is pleased.

Our thanks to Fran for all she means to this ministry. 



Fran Stilwell

## Brenham (TX) Bible Church

June 7-8

Sharon and I drove 500 miles over the weekend, to preach for my friend, Woody Woodward, who pastors this church. He was in Quito, Ecuador on a mission trip.

In Sunday school I spoke on how to share the gospel clearly. The questions the class asked at the end were great. Then in the worship service I spoke on 1 Corinthians 9:24-27, *Keep Your Eyes on the Prize*. The group was very responsive.

Woody's wife, Tracie, was in town and we enjoyed visiting with



Three ladies enjoying fellowship after the service at Brenham Bible

## Highlights

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July 2003

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Financial Report

June Revenue	\$15,932
June Budget	\$29,826
Fiscal YTD Revenue	\$308,625
Fiscal YTD Budget	\$357,912





Brenham Bible Church member Dan Cole and his son

## New Book on Assurance Progressing

I've been making a fair amount of progress on this new book. Unfortunately, I'm coming up with a lot of chapters. So far I have 24! But on the good side, they are short chapters of an average of about 4 pages each. There are four sections: what assurance is and why it is vital, many Christian leaders are saying we can't be certain till we die, questions about assurance, and how assurance should impact my life.

The booklet *You Can Be Sure* is by far our most popular publication. People are ordering more than one thousand each month. The popularity of the assurance booklet suggests this book will really meet a need as there are very few books on assurance on the market. PG

## Kari Taylen Goes to Be with the Lord

Those of you who come to our annual conference regularly probably met Phil and Kari Taylen. They lived in Montana where Phil pastored.

Kari was diagnosed with cancer and after a valiant fight against the disease, she went to be with the Lord in June. She leaves behind three children ages 6 through 13.

Kari was such a vibrant witness for Christ. All through her chemotherapy and other treatments she witnessed to her nurses and doctors and all who cared for her. She gave out a huge number of the *You Can Be Sure* booklets.

Please pray for Phil. He gave up his church six months ago so Kari could have round-the-clock care from her parents. But that required them to move away from Forstyth, MT. That church has since called another pastor. Phil would love to pastor again, especially in MT or WY. PG

## June Financial Update

Although we lost a significant amount of support from some of our partners due to the bad economy, other partners were able to increase their support. Some new partners were added as well. If it hadn't been for the increases in support from older and new supporters, we would have been unable to pay bills. As it is, our reserves are at a 10 year low, with only about one month in reserve.

We are committed to paying all bills in a timely fashion. We don't think it is good practice to do otherwise. So, we are tightening our financial belts a bit more.

Thank you for all you do to support this ministry. PG

See page 4 for figures.

## Brenham Bible

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her over lunch at a neat Italian restaurant in the downtown area.

It was great to see Tracie again and to visit with her about old times and catch up on things that have happened since we were all together at Crossroads Bible Church in 1992. We talked about getting together again when Woody is in town. Maybe I'll go back and do a Saturday seminar someday. PG

## Grace Chapel Orange, California

June 1

My cell phone started ringing. "Hello."

"Hi, Bob. This is John. Are you almost here?"

It was 10:10. I was only a few minutes away and the service didn't start till 10:30.

"Yes, John. I'm near Anaheim Stadium."

"Okay. You should be here in about 10 minutes. We'll just keep singing."

"Singing? Doesn't the service start at 10:30?"

"No. 10:00."

Fortunately everything ended up well during my visit to Grace Chapel. I preached on Galatians 6:6-10. Do we really reap what we sow? You bet we do, both now and in the life to come. While eternal life is a free gift, rewards now and in the life to come are earned.

I was much encouraged by the saints there—a number of whom are partners. I stayed for the Lord's Supper and really enjoyed it.

I was able to get in a lot of visiting with Mom. Twice my sister Pam and I took Mom out to eat. On my last day, Monday, I had lunch with her at the board and care home in which she lives. Afterwards I put my large print Bible in front of her and had her read John 3:16. Then I showed her 6:35, 47 and 14:6. She isn't convinced yet. But she does listen and is thinking about it.

I'm going back to Southern California in a few weeks to speak at churches in Simi Valley and Long Beach, see Mom again, and vacation. PG

## Summer Board Meeting

July 7

The summer board meeting is upon us. It is at this meeting that we set our new annual budget. We took measures early in this fiscal year to reduce spending to as conservative a level as possible, with a good measure of success. However, since total revenue received during this fiscal year is far below budget, it appears we are going to have to revise our plans with more belt tightening. We appreciate your prayers for the direction of the ministry and for the finances and programs. PG



The youth of Brenham Bible



Bob with his mother, sister Pam, and nephew Ethan



The Parliers with Jayne DeArmond at Grace Chapel



Sunday morning at Grace Chapel



Bob with Frank & Babbette Tyler and John & Diane Niemeli