

June 8, 2005

Dear Friends of LIFEBUILDERS MINISTRIES:

In John 13, Jesus began to tell his disciples about his soon coming death, resurrection, and ascension back to his Father. This was shocking news and they were soon filled with feelings of insecurity and doubt. I often feel this way as I realize that to have the privilege of life on this planet is only to have to face certain death as well. However in chapters 14-16 of John, Jesus goes to great lengths to explain that not only was He going away to prepare a place for them and come back to get them, but also He would walk closely with them as they lived out their earthly lives. In chapter 14:21 He said, "One who loves me obeys me, and I will love him and manifest (show) myself to him." In verse 23 He said, "If a man loves me he will keep my words and my Father will love him, and we will come and make our abode (live) with Him." In other words He is going to "show up" in our lives. I can't remember all the times this has happened not, only in my days of uncertainty as we by faith established and continue to grow this ministry, but in my personal life as well. Please take time to read these chapters, tell Him about all your insecurities, and expect Him to "show up" just for you. He really wants to!!!

MINISTRY HAPPENINGS

Summer Camps. Youth (grades 7-12), Boy's (grades 4-7), and Girl's (grades 4-7), camps will be held at Baptist Hill, Mt Vernon, Mo on different weeks in July. As you probably know just one week of concentrated Bible teaching and wholesome social interaction can change a young person's life forever. Lifebuilder's goal is to sponsor a dozen kids. As much as possible, and as time and personnel have allowed, we have implemented a weekly scripture memorization program for kids to earn a scholarship to go. However, if some come in late, or are from such troubled homes that adequate scripture memorization is not possible, we will not allow this to keep them from going. Remember our first priority is to reach at-risk youth, not undue enforcement of academic requirements. We do not want to be unfair, but feel that God will honor our motive in this matter.

Summer Sports Program, Glenwood begins June 16. It is a well known fact in Christian circles that one of the best ways to reach at-risk youth is through sport's ministries. We are delighted to announce that Larry Vernon (whom you may recall did a 50-mile fundraising run for Lifebuilders last November) will be going to

Glenwood each Thursday night beginning June 16 until school starts to organize teams, play basketball, and do devotionals with boys ages 9 and up. We tend to lose

teams, play basketball, and do devotionals with boys ages 9 and up. We tend to lose kids (especially boys) from our weekly classes when they reach this age category and are not from strong Christian homes. We would love to implement this program (for boys and girls) in all areas but don't have the personnel to do so at this time. However, Glenwood seems to have more than its share of boys in this age group so we feel this is a great place to start. Larry is a member of South Haven Baptist and teaches a boy's Sunday school class there. Thanks Larry, for giving your heart to this most needy situation.

Kids summer, Baseball Program. Pictured to the right is Carl Hawn, Lifebuilder's volunteer, and Leroy Petit, Villa Marie kid. Carl and wife Angela sparked the initiative necessary to raise funds for Leroy to be able to participate in the "10th Inning Kid's Summer Baseball Program". The fees covered tuition, uniform, glove, etc. Even adults desire the pride and belonging that comes from being a part of "the team", how much more for a child! The self-esteem, confidence, and wholesome pride that this builds can hardly be measured. "Inasmuch as you have done this to the least of these"- Mathew 25:40.... Thanks Carl and Angela, for the joy and light you have brought to this young man's life.

We feel one of the best ways to help kids develop a healthy productive lifestyle is to give them the opportunity to learn how to work and earn a personal income. One method we use to do this is to supply interested young men, such as Frankie Beltran (pictured to right) with mowers and weed eaters for summer lawn care work. This equipment is donated by caring individuals who share this vision. It is initially "loaned" to the boys, but given to them at the end of the summer if they meet a certain work quota. Frankie lives with his single mom and two brothers in HUD section 8 housing. They lived at Glenwood for 1½ years and still attend Monday night services there, Frankie has a good heart and we feel will do well this summer.

We seldom mention this anymore but wanted you to know that as the ministry has grown financial needs have increased as well. Won't you please consider becoming a consistent financial partner with Lifebuilders? We feel that we are involved in the most vital work possible right here on the "home front." God Bless you and yours.

For Him,

Winston, Sue & Lifebuilder's Team