

October-December 2007

Staying The Course

By Richard Shaw, Director for Eastern Europe, Praise International

"Blessed is he who has regard for the weak; the Lord delivers him in times of trouble. The Lord will protect him and preserve his life; He will bless him in the land and not surrender him to the desire of his foes."

Psalm 41:1, 2

The ministry of Praise International is built upon the commitment to serve leaders and pastors in the Body of Christ who have financial weakness, those who live in the third world, in the most impoverished places on earth. We are partners together to that end, and we thank you for your faithful partnership with us. In spite of some surface changes you see to the ministry, nothing has changed as far as that commitment is concerned. We are staying the course.

Why the name change?

Our corporate name is still Praise, Inc. However, Praise International better expresses what we do in serving the Body of Christ internationally. Therefore, we will be using Praise International for our daily operations and newsletter to communicate as effectively as we can. We hope our new logo expresses that, too.

Will I still receive the newsletter?

Yes, and it will display the new banner you see above. You will continue to learn about opportunities, victories, needs, and details about some of God's most precious ser-

vants. However, the newsletter will now be mailed quarterly instead of bi-monthly so we can trim administrative costs and still send the attractive newsletters that you have come to expect and appreciate.

How can I express my continued support for Praise?

First, please pray for us. On this page there are a number of urgent prayer requests. For those of you who are long term supporters, we're asking that you consider adding \$5 to your pastor support gift each month to help cover administrative expenses. Thirdly, we still have pastors waiting for support. If you are able, \$1 per day (\$30 per month) will sponsor another pastor and his family. Pastors serving in many of the countries where we work have urgent needs for your prayer and financial gifts. When you agree to sponsor a pastor and his family, we'll send you a photograph of the pastor and a summary of his work. Finally, some of you may in a position to give a substantial gift as the end of the year approaches. We are not asking for ourselves. Most of our staff, including our general director, serve without pay. We ask on behalf of our pastors and their families who live and work in difficult places around the world. Your end of year gifts can be used to help sponsor pastors, help supply our Raven Fund, which responds to emergencies and special needs, or can be designated to help with any one of our special projects, which include pastors' conferences, continuing pastoral

Praise International Prayer Line

Please join us in praying for the following needs:

- *Pray for our pastors and their families. Please pray daily for your supported pastor.*
- *Praise International needs to find a new office location, as our existing building has been sold.*
- *Pray for our state representatives serving the northwest. Pray that the Lord will provide representatives around the United States.*
- *We're looking for individuals who would serve as regional directors for Africa, Asia, and India.*
- *We're praying for a director of our Kid's of Praise ministry. See the article on the back page.*

education, church construction, well drilling, orphan home support, rural church development and medical clinic construction. Praise International has already received a substantial donation of medical equipment to place in the clinic, and some construction funds have also been donated. Many of these projects are already in progress, but need the boost of your prayers and gifts to come to conclusion. We look forward to hearing from you.

Changing a Generation



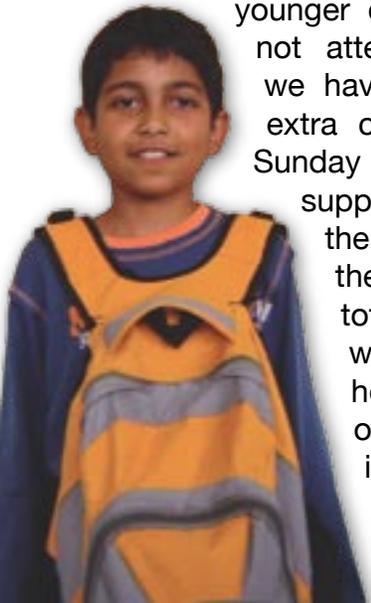
Unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

--Jesus Christ,
as recorded in Matthew 18:3

By Ceitci Demirkova

I am the founder of *Changing a Generation*, a foundation designated to help children and orphans in Bulgaria, by providing humanitarian aid and education for them. We are so thankful for the \$2,000 donation we received this summer from Praise International. Most of the funds were used to help gypsy and Bulgarian children who come from low-income families. We provided 45 backpacks with school supplies, sports outfits, shoes, and books that will enable the kids in our sponsorship program in Veliko Turnovo, Bulgaria to go back to school.

The school year in Bulgaria began on September 17th. Currently we work with 35 children at the local school and 30 gypsy children. Because some of the younger children do not attend school we have provided extra clothes and Sunday School supplies for them. Part of the amount, a total of \$300, was used to help two of our workers in Shumen, Bulgaria with their



monthly salary. They minister daily to disabled children, ages 6 years old to 12 years old. Their influence in the lives of the kids has made a great impact in the physical and mental condition of those children. We have seen great improvement in their abilities to listen, speak and pay attention to the teachers.

When we first started the programs in Bulgaria, we began working with kids who didn't know the Lord. Through the daily feeding, Christmas programs, and other special programs throughout the year, we have seen about 75% of them come to know the Lord, and some of their parents are now also members of our church in Turnovo "Open Door."

Thank you for being a part

of *Changing a Generation* - one life at a time.

Ceitci Demirkova is the Founder of Ceitci Demirkova Ministries
www.ceitci.org

LIVING WATER FLOWS IN WEST AFRICA

By Jim Cardillo, General Director
Praise International

"Jesus said to her, 'Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty forever. The water that I will give him will become in him

a spring of water welling up to eternal life.'"

John 4:13,14

I had the privilege of visiting Bamako, Mali and Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire in October. One of the purposes of the trip to Mali was to formally establish Praise's presence there and meet with senior, local church leadership to identify pastors and projects for support.

I traveled with Pastor Brett Wiuff from the Red Sea Church in Portland Oregon. Brett is the youth pastor there as well as the church administrator. He proved to be extremely helpful to me in establishing our work in Mali, and he participated in numerous meetings and discussions.

In Bamako, I had the pleasure of meeting Pastor Christophe Dembele, our contact there. Pastor Christophe is the head of "AHAED," a Christian organization dedicated to the aid of children. He is also the pastor of two churches. One church is currently under construction. When completed, it will seat one thousand people. Pastor Christophe is a man with a vision and truly on fire for the work of our Lord.

One project I would like to highlight is his vision for St. Dorcas' Children's Home and Training center. The government has given his association two hectares of land for the project, and it's already under construction. When complete, the home will have three dormitories that will house one hundred and twenty children, a medical clinic and general meeting area for a vocational training center and church.

Pastor Christophe also plans to use the training center as a place for local Christian groups. This will generate some income to offset the operational expense of the



Jim Cardillo, General Director of Praise International, with the pastors group in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire.

home.

One immediate need they have is for a well. The workers make all of the bricks by hand and this requires a great deal of water. They are able to hire a few local women to carry water in for this purpose, but, as you can imagine, it is very slow and costly. We have a desperate need for approximately \$4,200.00 to dig a well to help complete this worthy project.

Pastor Christophe also set up a half-day meeting for us to meet many of the senior church leadership in the region. The fourteen pastors we met represented more than forty churches in the city. What a great experience to meet these godly men who serve so faithfully in such a diverse and harsh environment - they truly need our prayer support.

Upon our departure from Bamako, we traveled to Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire. Praise currently assists approximately thirty pastors in this country.

We are extremely fortunate to have a godly young man, Joseph Oulai, to administer the affairs of Praise here. Joseph has surrounded himself with a number of seasoned, mature Christians as his advisors. One is the president of the

country's evangelical association, and another is the dean of the seminary in Abidjan. I have known Joseph for approximately two years and I am extremely proud of how he has matured and has been willing to submit himself to these wise advisors.

We had a number of administrative matters to deal with while there, as well as numerous meetings with the pastors we

support. It was great to reconnect with other members of the family and be of encouragement to one another.

I am truly blessed to be a part of Praise International ministry. I want to thank you for your support of this vital ministry and I look forward with great anticipation to see what the Lord will do with and through us in the future.

We invite you to join us in supporting the well drilling project for the St. Dorcas Children's Home and Training Center. Your gifts will impact over 100 children and make the medical clinic and training center possible. Would you prayerfully consider a monthly gift given for 12 months or a one-time gift of any amount that you sense the Lord would have you give for this well drilling project? Designate your gift for the St. Dorcas Children's Home and send it to:

*Praise International
P. O. Box 1377
Caldwell, ID 83606*

Thank you for your prayers and gifts for this project!



Pastors and leaders of churches in Bamako, Mali, pictured here with Rev. Brett Wiuff (left) and Praise International General Director Jim Cardillo (right).

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Help Wanted

We're looking for a director of Kids of Praise. As you can see from this newsletter, ministry to the needs of children in the third world is a priority for us. We are praying for your support in prayers and gifts for the St. Dorcas Children's Home work in Mali, and we're excited about the partnership we have had in helping needy children in Bulgaria.

Praise is helping children directly and indirectly in every country where we support pastors and their families. Many of our pastors have orphan children living in their homes with

their own families. We are looking for someone who would like to champion this work. This is a volunteer position with very flexible scheduling.

Much of what is needed can be done right from your own home. If you would like more information, please contact us.



*International
Treasures, LLC*

One of the ways you can help support the world's most impoverished pastors who are part of the Praise International family is to purchase products that help support our work.

We have been offering products from overseas for many years that are interesting, a good value, and appropriate for gifts. We will continue to offer these in the future through our partnership with International Treasures.

Beautiful fresh water pearls are always available for purchase in various styles, colors, and value based

on size. Please contact the Praise International office for information about purchasing pearl jewelry.

