



Testimony from the 2700 Block of Louisville Street

by Lee Byrd

I live on the 2700 block of Louisville, a street in a lower middle class neighborhood in central El Paso. In the 2700 block of Louisville Street, there was a generation about my age or a little bit older who had turned their backs on God. In fact, when I first moved there, I was just like them until God Himself called me out of darkness into His marvelous light. But that older generation in the 2700 block of Louisville spawned a next generation, now in their 40s, and they too live in darkness—I count seven of them whose lives seem locked in alcohol, broken relationships, and despair. And they had children, most of them much too quickly. Nobody seemed to get married, or to even understand the concept of it. There were just children on the street being raised by one or another parent, or a grandparent.



I began teaching a Bible club during the school year in this neighborhood about 12 years ago. I can count at least 50 plus kids who have come to the club, some maybe for as long as two or three years, some just once or twice. I made a list of their names and when I look at this list, I'm a little like Habakkuk with my complaining because I don't see anyone on this list who is walking with the Lord. Last year at this time, one of the boys was murdered by members of a rival gang. He was 19. A 15-year-old girl has had a baby. Many of the young girls and boys are already sexually active.

With Habakkuk, I've seen things go from bad to worse. And I can say with Habakkuk, how long, O Lord, must we call for help, and nothing ever seems to change?

My friend Martha Garza and I have been praying for the 2700 block of Louisville for a long time. Because we have our eyes peeled, we are

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Testimony

"I must thank you so much for the Bible School Youth Retreat Certificates! I was so surprised when I got them! I'm really looking forward to completing more lessons and reading the book you're sending. Thank you once again so much for the ministry of David & Jonathan!!" (age 13)

Ten Terrific Traits

Part 4: PERCEPTIVE

by Brian Cummins

As we continue to look at the characteristics of David's men (1 Chron. 12:23–40) we come to the men of Issachar who were said to have "*understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do.*" Here were people who were not "so heavenly minded they were no earthly good!" They were in touch with their times; they understood the trends and developments of their day. And looking carefully at life from a godly perspective gave them a most valuable perception: they knew "what Israel ought to do."

With all the complexities of life in this 21st century, we surely need *children of Issachar* in our day! We especially need such perceptive people in the church ...people who know the times, see the needs—like Lee Byrd did when she described her neighbourhood on Louisville Street—and understand God's direction for His people. Regardless of your family name, you might be just such a man or woman of Issachar! Be tuned to God's heart and alert to needs in your area of influence. And please pray that we might be "men of Issachar" knowing "what D&J ought to do" to reach and disciple young people in the complex, ungodly youth cultures of our times.



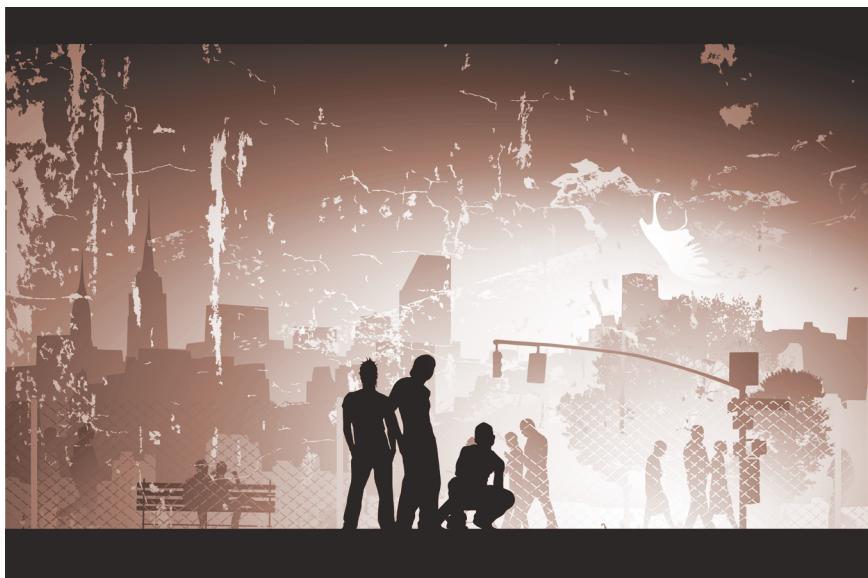
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beginning to see fruit that may not seem like much to some, but means a lot to us. My own grandchildren are next door and God has drawn my granddaughter to Himself. We see the Red Sea opening up for the family of the boy who was murdered last year—they're broken, but God can work, we know, in that brokenness. And a young woman, actually a cousin of the murdered boy, recently had a baby. In her fifth month, she was told that the baby would not live more than just a few hours. She delivered the baby nonetheless and she and her husband held their daughter while she lived. They named her Amaris Luz. Amaris means God has spoken and Luz is light. Martha and I thought that the naming of that baby was an incredible testimony of God's grace in the midst of deep sorrow.

We stand like watchmen on the towers and in the high places looking to see the light of God become visible in the place where we live. Because we know that God is faithful, we know that one day His light will shine there in the 2700 block of Louisville, even though right now and for a long time, it sometimes seems like there has been very little fruit on the vine.

P.S. from Vaughan Durston:

How many “2700 block Louisville Streets” do you know and will you help us change things?



Testimony

I really resonated with what the secret was to a Happy Christian life — ‘seeing God in all our circumstances.’ I love looking for Him, it helps me to see that He is in every circumstance... May grace and peace like only our amazing God can give rest on you and this ministry! (adult student)

Our Mission
“developing young people after God’s own heart”

ALBERTA

It has been encouraging to see Bible lessons coming in from the camps. We have several students who came on at the end of July and have already done between 11 and 14 lessons. As the Bible is unlocked by us spending time in it, our prayer is that many more children will be eager to find the treasures that are in His Word. This office is also very thankful for the many volunteers who give freely of their time to assist with the marking and mailing of lessons. We would also like to thank each of you who faithfully pray for us. Your prayers are an important part of this ministry.

ONTARIO

We praise God for eleven camps that signed up with D&J this summer. To date we have received 377 new students from these eleven camps. Our prayer for them is that these lessons will help them in their daily lives to grow in Christ and to be made aware of Satan’s ways and tricks. For those who have never heard the Good News of the gospel of Jesus Christ, we pray that some will be saved through the lessons.

Some of our new students have gone onto the Internet to do our online

Our Vision

“to see Jesus seated on the throne of every ‘David’ and ruling over all the aspects of their life.”

lessons, for which we are grateful.

We are now in our 7th year with D&J and the journey has been good. Several students from our very first year are continuing in their studies. There is also an ongoing need for more financial help. However, we are thankful for those who do give faithfully to the work.

SASKATCHEWAN

Isaiah 40:8 says, "*The grass withers, and the flowers fall, but the word of our God stands forever.*" What a wonderful promise of God! The world is always changing and here in Saskatchewan the grass has withered and the flowers have fallen, but what a tremendous comfort to know that God and His Word are the same yesterday, today and tomorrow.

It is wonderful to see hundreds of students finishing their *David and Jonathan* lessons and mailing them into the office. Many of the students have indicated that they made the choice to follow God by receiving Jesus as their Saviour because of reading the lessons. Praise God for His Word.

Let's continue to pray that God would continue to open hearts and minds to understand the truths that God wants each of us to know and that students would continue to grow in the faith and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

TEXAS

Is your heart saddened over news reports of childhood abuse, fractured homes and bullying in schools? Please continue to pray for children around the world and rejoice with us over boys and girls who are 1) hearing the Gospel, 2) coming to

Club DJ

Club DJ is in full swing and it has been exciting to see God open many new doors in churches across Canada as we seek to partner with them to reach the children in their community for Christ.

One of the new churches running **Club DJ** this fall is in Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan. They started out with 18 children enrolled their first night but after just a few weeks are now up to 58 children registered with new children coming each week. The children's pastor emailed me after two weeks of **Club DJ** to say that they had already had 5 children accept Jesus as their Saviour. And now two more pastors have gotten involved on Wednesday because of the large outreach they are having.

Another church that has started **Club DJ** this fall asked me to come speak on a Sunday morning. That Sunday there were no children in attendance and I wondered how their **Club DJ** ministry would go. On the first registration night, they had 25 children come out plus parents. They were so excited about what God has already done.

Please continue to pray for the children being reached each week across Canada and that they would respond to the gospel message.



Pray for more open doors as we seek to partner with churches to reach children for Christ and disciple them to have '*Hearts that Desire to Please God*'.

know Jesus as Savior, and 3) being discipled through the ministry of *UB David*.

Here are some testimonies from our 8 to 10 year olds:

Erwin: "I have just asked Jesus to be my Savior, thanks to you."

Daphne: (who attended a summer club and started doing paper lessons) "I believed in the Lord Jesus as Savior by reading about Him."

Ernie: "I received Jesus doing these lessons."

Sandra: "Thanks for the lessons. They really help me learn."

Hannah: "I enjoy doing these lessons."

Josiah: "Jesus is the ruler of my life."

Antonio (our first Spanish online student from Mexico): "I love Jesus with all my heart, soul and mind. I want to go to heaven to live with Jesus."

Your prayers have had a part in these children believing and growing. May God bless you.

Our Method

*Jonathans building up Davids
“And it came to pass, when he had made an end of speaking with Saul, that the soul of Jonathan was knit with the soul of David, and Jonathan loved him as his own soul.”*

(I Samuel 18:1)

TESTIMONIES...

“I learned a lot in this course but one of the most important lessons is that Christ is coming again, and we must be ready. It opened my eyes that you can't put off living for Christ, it has to be now.”

(15 year old)

“Thanks so much – you have been such a help in my spiritual walk with God.” (14 year old)

“This lesson helped me to see that I'm beautiful the way I am made!!”
(16 year old)

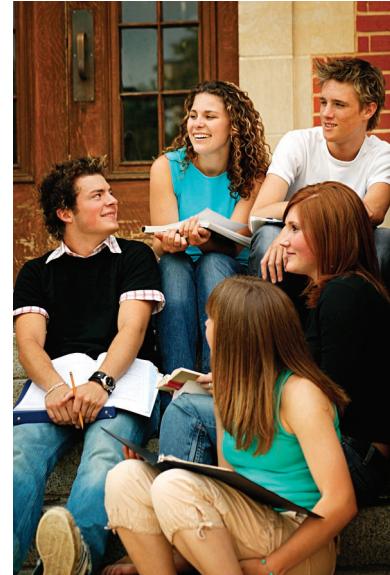
“Great Series! (*Timely Topics for Teens*) This last lesson really made me think and realize that I got to make the most of my life for God while I still have time.” (17 year old)

“Thank you for the work you do with all the lessons! I have appreciated them lots. These lessons reminded me that God provides everything we need, even during the hard times.” (18 year old)

“I love learning more and more about God. They really teach me so much and I am proud to be able to say that, ‘I am a Christian’ and that I do your wonderful lessons”
(14 year old)

PRAYER REQUESTS

- * Continue to pray that many of the kids from camps will send in their lessons and that they would continue to do lessons.
- * Please continue to pray for our need for an executive director for the Alberta/BC ministry.
- * Pray that many more children, teens and adults will find our **online lessons** and that God will use this resource for their spiritual growth.
- * Pray for our **expanding outreach** through the Internet to Spanish-speaking students.
- * Please pray for our financial needs.



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