



CHALLENGE OR OPPORTUNITY?

Is being a Christian today a greater challenge or a greater opportunity than ever before? There is cause for concern among Christian parents and children these days. Not only are Christian values challenged daily in our increasingly secular society, but unbelievably, it seems that the Christian idea of tolerance (freedom of speech and religion) is extended to everybody except Christians. Yet, we seem shocked and somehow surprised by the idea that we are being marginalized and hated for our beliefs. Jesus said that the world would hate us because it first hated Him (John 15:18). That did not stop Him from carrying out the plan of redemption for all of us. Neither should “all the bad things” that are happening around us be a stumbling block for us. In fact, it is because of this present darkness that our opportunity to shine has never been greater. The world doesn't know or recognize Jesus as Lord and it is to this that our words and lives must testify. At D&J, we are helping little lights (our students) shine brighter through personal discipleship. Growing godly kids amidst the trouble of this generation is a privilege and an opportunity. Shine on!



TESTIMONY

“I... started with *David and Jonathan* when I went to camp one summer at Southern Alberta Bible Camp when I was about 7. I loved earning rewards and learning new things about my relationship with God, my family and my friends. I am now married with two wonderful girls who we are raising to know, love and serve Jesus with everything they do.”

Former student whose daughter started lessons.

Club DJ

Club DJ continues to see God doing extraordinary things. This past year has seen hundreds of children attending each week in churches across Canada as well as further development of **Club DJ CONNEXION** for youth in grades 7 & 8 which introduces them into Bible Quizzing! In grade 9 they continue on in Bible Quizzing through grade 12 and this year have been memorizing from the books of Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, and Colossians. It is during these years they are encouraged to go out and reach more children with the gospel through Child Evangelism Fellowship's 5-Day Club ministry. Over half of the young people teaching these 5-Day Clubs in the province of Saskatchewan come from Bible Quizzing. We now have a complete **ministry cycle** in which the children we reach through the 5-Day Clubs are introduced to local churches through **Club DJ**, continue on in **Club DJ CONNEXION** and Bible Quizzing, and then are encouraged to reach more children with the gospel.

It is exciting to see the partnership with **Club DJ** and CEF moving ahead across Canada and director Jerry Durston believe God is in the process of putting together something that is beyond what we could ask or think.

In the town of Gull Lake, SK a church with only 3 children club age has grown to 22 children registered in **Club DJ** with 5 children who have already accepted Jesus as their Saviour. Jerry has come to believe that most of the things God does are extraordinary. If you would like more info contact him at jdurston@clubdj.ca.



The Glory of God

- Vaughan V. Durston

What is the Glory of God? I did not realize what it was until just recently.

Romans 3:23 is a well known verse with a few big words in it. Words such as “sinned”. Scofield suggests sin is an absence of righteousness. Then there is “come short of the glory of God”. What is the glory of God? It is God’s righteous character. Wow! Of the many character traits of God, perhaps His greatest is His righteous character. When we get to “Glory” the most wonderful thing will be the absolute pre-eminence of the character of God. Wonderful! Can you imagine? All present will have a godly character. I need to allow the Spirit of God to show me how ungodly I am and show me areas in my life that need change, particularly my spirit, motives, attitudes.

God’s glory is an interesting study. This word is mentioned in the Lord’s Prayer. It is mentioned in Corinthians where Paul talks about a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle. In Numbers 14:20-21 we read, “And the Lord said... As truly as I live, all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the Lord”. Is the earth full of God’s righteous character today? Anything but. Glory—what a day to look forward to.

Psalm 72:18-19 says, “And blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel, who only does wondrous things. And blessed be His glorious name forever; and let the whole earth be filled with His glory. Amen and Amen!”

In the year King Uzziah died, Isaiah saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up. He saw the seraphim crying one to another “Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory.” Next he saw himself and cried “Woe is me!”

Isaiah saw the righteous character of God and realized how far short of it he was. This led to repentance. Next, in this event his mouth and lips were touched and his iniquity taken away and his sin purged. Soon there was the call to serve. Wow! It all started with seeing the Lord and His glory.

God’s righteous character has genuine love, no second agendas, no manipulations, no grudges, no false pretenses, and no gossip.

I am trying to fathom life in “Glory”. It sounds humanly impossible; but with Christ all things are possible.



ONTARIO

We thank God for the Bible lessons that are coming to us from Ontario and the Atlantic Provinces. It is great to have the CSSM Camps with us this year. A number of their camps are doing really well.

We have a good number of teens doing our new “Timely Topics for Teens” series. This series is great and the teens are enjoying them.

A young girl from PEI is doing the “Explorer Series” online and in her last lesson submitted, she wrote: “We absolutely love these devotions!! Keep up the great work!! I am telling others about ubdavid.org!”

There have been a number of children that indicated that they have received the Lord Jesus because of studying and doing the lessons.

At Christmas 2007, a mother wrote, “Once again thank you for your support in our daughter, Marissa’s, life. We wish all of you who put this wonderful material together a Merry Christmas. May Christ Jesus enrich all of you and may you prosper in God’s word as the New Year arrives.”

We are trusting God to do even greater things in the new 2008

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

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

camping year.

ALBERTA/BC

What's new? New shingles on the roof, some new paint and new lessons for camping season. What's not new? The excitement that comes every single day hearing from students who send in their lessons. We hear how kids are growing in their relationship with Christ. We pray for students who are struggling with issues. We rejoice when students tell us about their personal victories. Our hearts are broken over painful situations that are a reality for many children. Please remember D&J in your prayers as we continue this ministry by and for God's glory.

SASKATCHEWAN

It has been an exciting time here in the Saskatchewan office. This last Christmas we sent out over 7000 Christmas letters to our students. It has been wonderful to hear that many gave their hearts to Jesus over the Christmas season as they read their Christmas letter. Please pray that these individuals will grow in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior and discover the joy of obeying Christ. We love to receive each letter and lesson in the mail.

TEXAS

"Jesus Christ is Absolutely Amazing!" These were the words of an 11 year old girl in answer to a question about what she had learned through doing one of the Bible correspondence lessons. A man who has completed over 40 lessons in the past few months comments, "What an awesome God we have to give us Jesus. What love God has for us! What a name!"

INFORMATION AND OPPORTUNITY EVENT

D&J Alberta is pleased to announce an "information and opportunity" event taking place in Calgary at the Hillhurst Sunnyside Community Center's "Fireside Room" on Thursday, April 17 from 7:00 - 8:15 p.m. This event is open to the public and you are invited to bring friends to find out how D&J is influencing the next generation of decision makers by helping disciple children today! Refreshments and desserts will be served. Come and meet some of the Calgary office's staff, volunteers and hear from some of our students. Call 403-283-0627 if you have any questions or would like more information.



One amazing fact is that He allows us to share the Good News with others. Last summer over 4000 lessons were completed in El Paso summer clubs. During the winter 300 students have faithfully studied. 50 children received award books for completing at least 10 lessons and many earned T-shirts, Bibles and other prizes for doing 20 - 70 lessons. Over 100 online lessons are completed monthly here in the

US with the possibility of reaching out to thousands. Several prisoners have finished one or two courses and have been released from prison with the desire to walk with the Lord.



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.”

(1 Samuel 18:1)

PRAYER REQUESTS

- * Pray for all of the camp directors as they look for summer staff and volunteers. Pray also that many campers would come to know Christ.
- * Pray for Child Evangelism Fellowship as they recruit volunteers and line up their backyard clubs for the summer.
- * Pray for churches across Canada who are considering the use of *Club DJ* for their young people.
- * Pray for the many hundreds of summer campers and backyard clubbers who will begin doing D&J lessons for the first time in the next few months; for salvation, assurance and firm grounding in the faith as they keep doing lessons.
- * Pray for more friends to catch the vision and stand with us in supporting this ministry.



TESTIMONIES...

“I love these lessons and found them very insightful.” (17-year-old-girl)

“I am very thankful for the bookmark you sent me, I love getting gifts like that. You recently sent me a book called “Corrie ten Boom”, I am still working on it... Thank you for the time you spend sending me lessons and books. I enjoy them all.” (10 year old)

“I really enjoy the course... Each envelope from you guys is a joy that brightens my day! Did I tell you how great the designs are?” (12 year old)

“Thanks so much for your faithful ministry over the years! You have been a blessing in my life and an encouragement to keep growing in the Lord. I am thankful for the role *David & Jonathan* played in my life through my teen and college years. Thanks also for your prayers. I continue teaching school and have applied to be a missionary in Peru. I continue to wait on the Lord’s leading and His timing.” (former student)

“I myself was a big David & Jonathan fan. I still have my lessons from 20 years ago or so. I’m very excited for my son to take part in this program.” (a mother)

“I’ve known Jesus for all my life. But I thought that since my parents were Christians that I was. This week I have realized that I have to accept His gift of salvation in order to be saved. Now I understand. You have helped me learn more about him.” (11 year old)

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