

TURNING A PAGE



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Dear Friends of BLF,

As the year comes to an end, we find ourselves closing a very active chapter of BLF's history, while, at the same time, opening a new one with great anticipation.

One of our goals this past year was to consolidate the partnership with AES. By the grace of God, we have not only reached that goal, we've taken it one step further to form a full-scale merger!

James Davis writes in the December 2005 World Evangelism & Missions Reports: *"Statistically, if Christian organizations do not partner together and instead continue to try to win the world alone (our procedure for centuries) then our children's children and their children's children will not come close to seeing our Lord's Commission finished in their lifetimes"*.

Joining together with other organizations has nothing to do with becoming a larger mission. It has everything to do with **fulfilling the Great Commission... Go therefore, making disciples of all nations... teaching them...** Our primary focus is **growing stronger disciples through Bible-based literature!**

We praise the Lord for the eight new titles we've published and printed this year. Each new book symbolizes hours of dedicated work on the part of our missionaries and staff, countless hours of intercession by our faithful prayer warriors, and generous financial gifts from so many of you. Due the Lord's blessing on the work, prayers and financial contributions, each of these books will have a life-changing impact on the people who read them! **Together we truly can make a difference!**

Our second goal for the year was to strengthen our Impressions Team program. The old program, where teams worked exclusively in the print shop, was a good program. Much was accomplished and people enjoyed a sense of satisfaction as they prepared books for distribution. It was well-organized and productive, but something was missing. The teams were leaving Europe having been involved with their hands, their energy and their finances, but their hearts were not being permanently burdened, nor their lives impacted to the degree we felt was possible.

As a result, the teams' focus was redirected **from task to discipleship.** They still work in the print shop, but now they also help get the printed material to its destination and see firsthand the impact it's having on the lives of Europeans! The teams are walking side by side with missionaries - seeing the incredible needs, and feeling the pain and joy, the challenge and responsibility of the Great Commission.

The riots have passed, but the conditions that sparked the civil unrest remain. "The main problem for us is not the violence," says Jean-Daniel Linsig, of CLC France, "but the drop of sales due to bad economic conditions." Linsig's statement is a somber word to Christian publishers. "We must help people rediscover where their treasure is," (Publication Frontiers)

As missionaries and Team leaders disciple team members, they're being changed - they're coming away with a new perspective, a passion for missions, and a deeper desire to serve the Lord. In order to make this new focus more meaningful we're **partnering with France For Christ.** The mutual blessing of this teamwork has lifted our Teams program to a new level!

As we close the book on the events that brought us to this place of increased solidarity and productivity, we pray (as Steve Green put it) that *those who come behind us will find us faithful.* With your prayers and financial help, we will finish

2005 on a positive note. Your prayerfully consideration of an additional financial contribution would be appreciated.

Thank you for serving together with us!

Thomas J. Rice
Thomas J. Rice
Board President

UPCOMING TEAMS

~ 2006 ~

Mar	AVAILABLE ⁵
Apr	Shawnee, KS ³
May A	AVAILABLE ³
May B	AVAILABLE ¹
June	Inchelium, WA ²
July	El Cajon, CA ²
Sept A	Manhattan Beach, CA ²
Sept B	Decatur, AL ³
Oct	El Cajon, CA ⁴

~ 2007 ~

MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS NOW TO LEAD OR PARTICIPATE IN A MISSIONS TRIP TO FRANCE!

To make reservations or add your name to the waiting list, please contact our office NOW.

Specific duties for this team:

- ¹ Youth Camp in Marpent, France
- ² Evangelism & Vision Casting with France for Christ
- ³ Bindery & maintenance
- ⁴ Maintenance at Genval Camp
- ⁵ Maintenance at France For Christ office, Drulingen

For recent adjustments to the Impressions Teams program, pictures of the new guest facilities, and exciting new ministry opportunities, check our web site at <http://www.blfusa.org>

LEADER TRAINING

Have you ever lead a missions trip and felt TOTALLY UNPREPARED?

BLF has recently started a training program for Impressions Team leaders, preparing them to guide their teams through the maze of **practical matters** involved in overseas travel, and **cultural issues** they need to be aware of. But most importantly, they'll be trained to **disciple the team members to a closer walk with God and a deeper understanding of missions**. The training sessions are packed with informative and interactive activities!

Consider leading a missions trip to France in 2007! It will be an enjoyable challenge, a tremendous benefit to the ministry ... to say nothing of the blessing you'll receive from the training as well as the experience!! You're view of missions will never be the same.

FRANCE IN THE NEWS...



Legislation banning Muslim headscarves in schools passed earlier this year. A letter sent to two leading French newspapers by a group called Servants of Allah, declared the veil ban a "declaration of war to the Muslim world" and threatened "to plunge France into terror and remorse." **Muslims account for almost 10% of France's population.**

Yelling into a radio reporter's microphone, a radical French Muslim from a working class Paris neighborhood urged his friends to join him on the battlefields of Iraq. "I'm ready to set off dynamite and boom! Boom! We kill all the Americans!" Boubaker el-Hakim cried. "All my brothers over there, come defend Islam."

Among France's Muslim population of about 5 million (Western Europe's largest) 5,000 embrace extremist Islam, according to the police's intelligence agency. It says that of those radicals, 400 are converts. Recruitment is "in

full swing, and worrying us," agency chief Pascal Mailhos said in a recent interview with the newspaper Le Monde. (CNN)



THESE PEOPLE NEED THE LORD! CAN YOU HELP US PRINT 50,000 NEW TESTAMENTS FOR FRANCE?

Unlike Dr. Bill Bright who said, "We have the manpower, we have the resources, all we lack is the motivation", BLF has the manpower and the motivation - **all we lack is the resources.**"

WISHING YOU GOD'S BEST IN 2006!

Some of you are already faithful and generous donors of this ministry. Your concern for the French-speaking world and your willingness to get involved are a great encouragement to us! We cannot provide Christian literature for Europe, Canada and Africa without your financial help.

As 2005 comes to a close, we ask you to prayerfully consider how God wants you to help us reach the French-speaking world with the Gospel of Jesus Christ! Together we can do more!

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A higher standard.
A higher purpose.

