



Bible Art Ministries

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Newsletter February 2011

Report from Florida

By Rev. Stan Crookall

One of my mother's favorite verses was Ecclesiastes 11:1, in the Living Bible translation, *"Give generously, for your gifts will return to you later."*

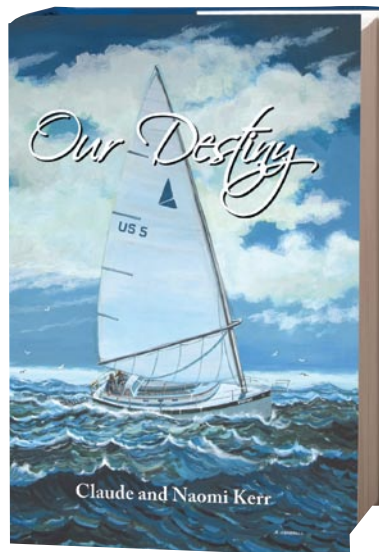
Claude and Naomi Kerr were missionaries in Brazil. Then they bought a 30' boat which they sailed around Central America and the Caribbean visiting mission stations and helping out however they could. They ended their journey in 1991 at Tarpon Springs, Florida, where I live, and stayed for the winter, worshiping at the same church as I did. We became friends, and they became Bible Art Ministries supporters. When they left for their home in California, I felt they should have a painting of their boat, *Destiny*, as a reminder of their journeys, and of the Lord's blessings and His provision for them. So I painted one, and gave it to them.

A few days ago, I received a copy of the Kerr's new book, *"Our Destiny"* with my painting of their boat gracing the cover. What a surprise, and a joy. The book is the

story of their lives of service. A gift returned, 20 years later.

Last month, we reported that an average of 13 people per day were reading our website, **www.bibleartministries.com**. So we've decided to enhance the content. Please pray for us as we seek ways to use the Internet to reach more souls for Christ. And let us know your suggestions. We also have added a few more names to our mailing list, please keep the suggestions coming.

Thank you for your faithful prayer support. May the Lord bless you real good.



Report from Colombia

By German Rozo

This year schools started back up after the summer/Christmas holidays on February 7th. The principals and teachers started on January 24th to plan the school year. We started presentations on February 9th. Julio and I visited new schools where we have not worked before. Seven new schools will be doing the Bible lessons through the Mailbox Club. Julio delivers the lessons to each classroom, then comes back to pick up the completed lessons, takes them to Elizabeth and the volunteers who mark them, then returns the lessons to each school.

In one of these new schools we met a teacher that we had known before in another school where we worked years ago. She said that in her previous school the principal and teachers were good people but they did not allow her to teach about the Word of God, so she changed schools to this one, where they gave her permission to teach the Bible. "And now," she said, "today, you come to bring the

Bible Club. This is not coincidence, this is God working and using us for the children.”

We can see how God opens doors in times when the people are more separated from Him.

Another day, we were crossing a park close to a school and a teacher who knows Julio and me saw and called to us. She was with six other teachers. She introduced us and asked us to pray for the new school year. We all joined hands and prayed for their work and for the Bible lessons and presentations. We also prayed in another school with the principal and teachers. Prayer explains how the Lord gives us favour and grace.

On February 10th, I was sharing about the delivery of the Israelites out of slavery in Egypt, using the new painting of the Passover. The last part of the talk, I spoke about how many people are slaves to various things in their lives – to sin, to too much TV or computer use – how we dedicate more time to these things than to God.

I asked the students to close their eyes and think about what their “slavery” was. We then prayed to ask the Holy Spirit to trouble us each time that we spend more time than we should on things that move us away from God.

After we finished, an 11 year old girl said: “My Mom and Dad work all day and when I return to my house, I turn on the computer all afternoon. But when you said close your eyes and think about what you are a slave to, I felt sad to know that I am separated from God because of a computer.”

I answered her: “Each time that your parents are at work, God is with you in your house. He wants



German and the pastor's daughter in front of the church, whose sign can be seen from the bus station



German repairing the sign on top the church, with the bus terminal in the background

you to know that He loves you and that He wants to have a more friendly relationship with you.” She cried quietly, as if the Lord was showing her the absence of a relationship with Him.

God has helped me to give good presentations using the painting of the Passover. In four presentations so far, I have seen how the students have responded to the Word of God.

SIGNS

A lady was waiting for the bus in the Transmillennium station when she saw across the road, about 200 meters (yards) away, one of our big Gospel verse signs, that is on the roof of a church. It was Psalm 119:71 “*The punishment you gave me was the best thing that could have happened to me, for it taught me to pay attention to your laws. They are more valuable to me than millions in silver and gold.*”



She left the station, crossed the street, and knocked on the church door. She started to cry and said that she was living a wrong life, that when she read the verse her heart and mind received the call to pay attention to God. She said: “I am the person God is speaking to in Psalm 119:71.” This lady is a Christian but was living a life separated from God and her spirit had become empty and sorrowful.

During a long meeting with the pastor of the church, they prayed and invited her to visit the church again. This story was told to me by the pastor the next time we were there to change the sign. This sign is read by many people; there are thousands who use that bus stop every day.

“*The entrance of thy words gives light*” Psalm 119:130