



Full Gospel Business Men's

VOICE



Benji

*The Frank
Inn Story*

Contents

Latin America <i>Richard Shakarian</i>	2
Benji <i>Frank Inn</i>	3
A Cure for Cancer <i>James W. "Jim" Johnson</i>	10
True Strength <i>James deMelo</i>	13
World Convention	16
A Gift of Life Insurance	22
FGBMFI Ministries	23
News from the Front <i>Thomas L. Packard</i>	24
Fellowship Events	28
Six Steps To Salvation	29
Officers and Directors	30

A Word From The President



**Richard
Shakarian**

OUTREACH TO NICARAGUA

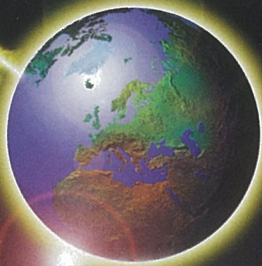
Our Lord loves every nation, but recently He pointed out to me the little nation of Nicaragua. The Holy Spirit said, "I have heard their cry. I have seen their oppression. I know their bondage. And I have come to deliver. Go to Nicaragua, and My glory shall fall upon the nation. I will bless it. I will protect it. I will encourage the people. And in every family that receives the blood of the Lamb, someone will be saved." These words exploded in my heart and in the hearts of our leaders.

At the time this magazine is being printed, this week-long outreach is happening. We will be asking the government leaders the question: "What can Christian businessmen do to help this nation?" Then Fire Teams, filled with the Holy Spirit, will be spreading out upon the entire land, and testimonies will be ringing across the land by radio. We are believing that many will give their lives to Jesus Christ.



Richard Shakarian

International President





Benji

The Frank Inn Story

It's early in the morning - people in jeans and boots are climbing in and out of trucks. A crew is climbing on ladders, changing street signs, moving mailboxes, changing fire hydrants and painting props. Meanwhile, cameras are rolling down the street on wheels. Thick electrical cables are everywhere, along with piles of wood and pipes.

Down the street behind the trucks is a van, and resting in the van is the reason for the whole mad scene: Benji.

Benji, the famous actor, veteran of movies, TV specials, a documentary and thousands of public appearances; Benji, the dog with the big, brown eyes - is making another movie.

When the filming is over Benji lifts his head, wags his tail and comes over to me for his reward: a little piece of steak and a pat of love. I am Frank Inn, Benji's owner and

Voice

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FOUNDER: Demos Shakarian; **OFFICERS:** International President, Richard Shakarian; International Executive Vice-President, John Carrette; USA Executive Vice-President, Ralph Marinacci; International Secretary, Kwabena Darko; Assistant Secretary, Bruno Caamano; International Treasurer, Tom Leding.

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WHO WE ARE: Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship International are business men, men of high status, as well as ordinary men, and our vision is that the light of Jesus shall shine forth from each of our men into every culture, nation, race, language, and creed. That vision is becoming a reality through the Fellowship's ministries, now touching 150 nations and transcending denominational, racial and cultural barriers. Men interested in participating in this exciting end-time ministry are invited to write.

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trainer, and the story that brought us this far has been filled with miracles.

My father was a Quaker minister, so I was raised up in a Christian family. My father started a church in an old, unused saw mill. He built the seats, the pulpit, and everything from old discarded lumber. He also bought a tent and had tent meetings. We lived in a little tent. People would bring us hand-me-down clothes, food, etc. Later, he would start a church at the site of the tent meeting.

When I was 10 years old my father gave me a Bible. I got so fed up going to church - 3 times on Sunday, at least one night during the week, and sometimes two weeks in a row we would go all day long and into the night. Finally, I decided I wanted to do something on my own, so I left home. I had all kinds of problems after leaving home. In those days they didn't pay much money for workers - 10-15 cents per hour. People on the farm got almost a \$1.00 a day, so I went to work on a farm.

One day I was plowing the field, getting it ready to plant crops. I had taken a lunch with me and at noon I put nose bags on the horses so they could have something to eat while I ate my lunch. One of the horses was very old and it laid down. I felt sorry for the other horse who was standing up, so I picked up his front legs, and put a little pressure on his back, so he would kneel down, and then would lay down. The farmer came out and saw both horses laying down, eating with their nose bags on. He had been spying on me and he had seen how I had made the horses lay down. Anyway, he fired me.

As I was walking along the road, my father drove up. I got into the car. I told him I was



going to go west. He tried to talk me out of it, but kids can be very stubborn. My father said, "I want you to take your Bible with you everywhere you go." Well, I was proud of the Bible with my name stamped on it, and I still have it today.

I took the Bible with me. I would wrap it up in a piece of canvas or oil cloth, trying to keep it from getting damaged.

A few years later I came home and brought the Bible with me because I knew Dad would want to see that I still had it. He asked me if I had read it, and I told him I had, but I think he knew that I was lying. I was used to telling lies and tall tales anyway. He opened up my Bible and turned to John 3:16. When I looked, I couldn't believe it. I thought about all the times I had gone hungry, and there was a \$10 bill in the Bible.

One day I was working at a stable. I took some people out to show them where the trails were, then I went back to the barn. Sometimes people would have trouble on the trail – maybe a saddle would come loose, or somebody would have trouble keeping the horse from heading back to the barn.

One time I rode up the hill. I recognized one of the horses from our stable, running away with a guy. His friend was trying to catch him. I rode down, scooped up the rein and turned the horse in a circle just about 50 feet before they reached the

highway. On the highway the horse could have hit a car, or cars could have hit him. This guy was so thankful, He said, "You saved my life." Because of that he gave me a job at MGM studios, sweeping streets, working on a nail pile, doing whatever work that he had. They paid \$29.10 a week. To me that was a lot of money.

On the way to work, I stopped to talk to some people on a hay ride. It was 1 o'clock in the morning. As I started to pull away, a lady who was coming from a party and had been drinking, came across into my lane, hit my car, and knocked it about 60 feet. She even knocked the motor out of the car. They had to use all kinds of things to get me out of the car and take me to the emergency hospital. The doctor said that I was dead, so they sent me to the morgue. The students who were learning to embalm heard a heart beat. Then the doctor who was instructing the students came in and the next thing I knew I was in the hospital under the name of Frank Inn.

A cowboy friend of mine took me out of the hospital, got me a wheelchair and bed, and let me stay at his home. His

children went to school, so I was alone all day. Their little boy said to his mother, "I found this dog, could I have it?" She replied, "No, you can't have it because it's somebody else's dog, so you have to turn it loose." She finally gave in by saying, "If it's still here in the morning, we'll advertise and try and find the owner." Even though they advertised, no one showed up. About 3 or 4 days later the dog had puppies.

When the puppies were 8 or 9 weeks old we found homes for all of them except one. The boy said to his mother, "You know, Frank is awful lonesome in there. Could I give him this dog?" She said he could.

The next morning there was that puppy. He stuck his head out. He knew I was eating, so I threw some food to him, a little closer each time. He got real close to me. Then I dropped one next

Benji looks at photos



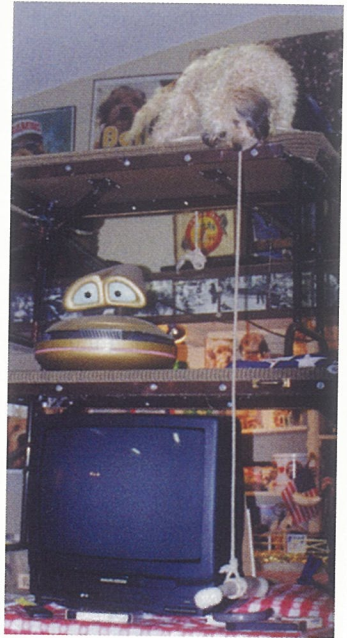
to me, but he wouldn't come that close. So I leaned over, but when I felt the wheelchair tip, I jerked it back. He backed up, barking like crazy. The neighbor came over immediately. I said, "Watch this," and I showed him how I was feeding the dog. I didn't know it at the time, but I had just taught that dog how to bark. Later I learned that all I had to do was wave my hand and he would bark. That was the beginning of my dog training.

My wife thought I should be baptized. I told her "I was sprinkled as a baby in the Quaker church." She tried to tell me that that was not like being baptized. That night I had a dream. Then, though I don't know why, I went to our minister and said, I'd like to be baptized. I gave myself to the Lord and I've been living for Him ever since.

God has been good to me. That's the reason I help handicapped people. Because I was handicapped, I know what they are missing. They will never have the life I've had here on earth. That's what life means to me now - to help those that I can, when I can. I hope this article will glorify God and do something good for the magazine, for the FGBMFI, and for people in general.

My wife has passed away. She was a good Christian woman, so I look forward to being with her again one day. Since then God has given me a wonderful helper, whose name is Bob. He is living by faith. He's an assistant pianist, and is also helping young people. He helps me with the handicapped people. He does a lot at the Full Gospel Business Men's breakfasts. He's just one wonderful man.

I have a habit of praying. My prayers are a regular thing at night after I get out of this wheel-



Benji pulls a rope

chair, although I pray in the chair quite a bit, too. But I go to bed and then I pray. I thank God for Bob. And I pray for those in our church that are sick, the old people, and ones that need help. My prayers are mostly asking God to show me how I can help those people.

Janet Strong's father used to pray with me. I prayed for her and for my son and daughters. I promised Janet's father before he died that I would take his wife to the Full Gospel breakfast every Saturday, which I did

until she died. That was for about 5-6 years. She passed away this past year. Since then Janet has become a Christian, joined our church, and been baptized. She is a very conscientious woman. She brought a man in today that received the Lord.

These are the kinds of people I've given dogs to. I've also given dogs to hearing impaired people. These are the kinds of things I'm involved in doing whenever I can.

Frank Inn, 'Benji' honored by humane services

"Benji", the well-loved animal star and veteran trainer, Frank Inn, a resident of Sylmar, were honored recently by the

**On TV Shows like,
"Beverly Hillbillies",
"Green Acres",
"My Three Sons",
"I Love Lucy,"
"Ozzie and Harriet,"
"Barnaby Jones"**



President Carter meets Frank Inn and Benji

American Humane Association (AHA) as the team that inspired a million shelter adoptions and popularized "mutts" as pets.

Frank Inn and Benji have won numerous awards for their work in front of the camera; this tribute recognized them for their extraordinary contributions off camera, promoting shelter pet adoption, humane animal training and assisting handicapped individuals and groups.

Inn rescued the original Benji from the Burbank Animal Shelter and coached him for starring roles in the TV series, "Petticoat Junction" and the historic "Benji" movies. The films, which told the story through the eyes of the dog, sparked worldwide interest in, and adoptions of, shelter animals - especially fluffy, mixed breeds like Benji.

The event included the unveiling of a special portrait of Benji being donated by the AHA for display at the Burbank Animal Shelter.

Inn's television credits include training the 500 critters on the Beverly Hillbillies, "Arnold" the pig on Green Acres, "Tramp" on My Three



Frank Inn with Benji

Sons, as well as animals on "I Love Lucy," "Ozzie and Harriet," "Barnaby Jones" and many more.

His film work includes "Breakfast at Tiffany's," "Bell, Book and Candle," and "The Absent Minded Professor."

With Benji, he worked in the film series that included "Benji," "For the Love of Benji," and "Benji the Hunted," plus several television specials including "The Phenomenon of Benji," "Benji's Very Own Christmas Story", and "Benji's Life Story."

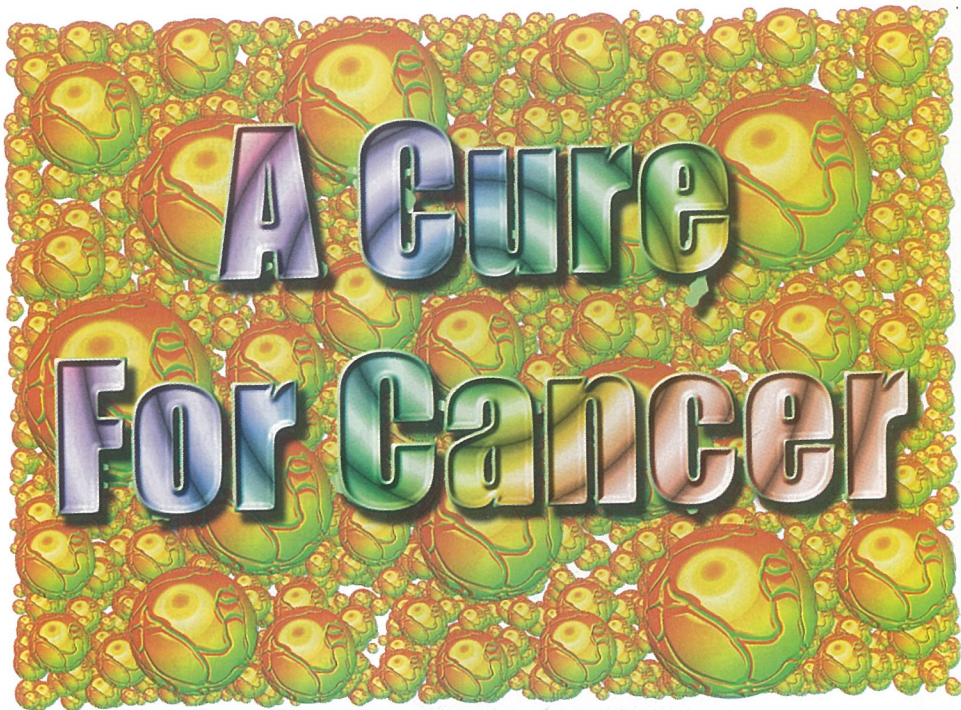
Inn has earned over 40 PATSY (Performing Animal Top Star of the Year) awards from AHA

more than any other trainer. Inn's legacy lives on through many of today's top trainers, who began their careers as his assistants. One of his most successful proteges, Karl Lewis Miller, the trainer of "Babe" and the sequel "Pig in the City," spoke about Inn's influence on his career and on the current generation of trainers. "Frank has passed the humane training baton to a generation of trainers. I am proud to be his colleague and one of his closest friends."

Benji has earned his share of honors and was inducted into the Animal Actors Hall of Fame. The second animal to be so honored after "Lassie."

Over the years, Inn and Benji have put in countless hours and many miles on behalf of humanitarian and animal causes. From personally delivering Benji pups to disabled youngsters and visiting handicapped friends in the Benji-mobile to working with the Muscular Dystrophy Association, Starlight Foundation, Toys for Tots, Children's Village U.S.A. and many shelters across the country, Inn has strived to bring happiness to those less fortunate than himself.





A Cure For Cancer

James W. "Jim" Johnson, Winston Salem, NC

May 14, 1974, is a time that I will never forget. I was experiencing my first FGBMFI Regional Convention. Kenneth Copeland was the Thursday and Friday afternoon Seminar teacher, and the Saturday evening closing speaker. I had never heard of him before that time. My wife, Jo, was overcoming a second bout with cancer. This time, through some recently acquired new friends, we were beginning to understand more fully the

scripture principles of healing. On April 15, 1974, the day after Resurrection Sunday, something new happened to us Jo was being anointed with oil, and the prayer of faith was prayed over her with the laying on of hands. Then, at the May Convention, I could see the strength being restored to her physical body as we attended the Convention. Some ladies, our new friends, took Jo to the afternoon meetings, and I went with her several nights and all day Saturday. That last night, Kenneth gave the call for those wanting to receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit. I jumped to my feet. I asked Jo, "Are you coming?" and I went. However, on the way, I prayed, "Lord, I don't understand all of this, but I do believe that

it is of You, and I pray that You will do this in such a way that I will never doubt or deny this experience.” What a glorious time I had with the Lord as I basked in His power! Jo had a different, but magnificent, experience, and we both became wall to wall Holy Spirit filled.

This was a huge change in my life. I had grown up in a Christian family and had joined the church at age 12. I was a pretty good person, especially around my family and when it was expected of me, although without genuine commitment. I also did my share of wrong.

When I first met Jo, I saw in her something that I knew I needed, and I fell in love. She radiated love for Jesus. I had never known anyone like her. When we were married I committed to our marriage as much as I knew how. My parents had a good marriage, but I had some friends with really bad marriages. I didn’t want any of that for me. Soon a day came when I was under conviction because of my ungodly lifestyle while I was overseas in the military. Jo said to me, “Jim, I forgive you, but let’s get it right with the Lord. Then she led me through a prayer of repentance and at that time I really committed my life to Jesus. From then on I experienced continual growth in my Christian life. We prayed when each of our two children were conceived. My son’s first spoken phrase was, “God is good.” I led our family in daily devotions, even though I was not a good reader. There was much that I didn’t understand, but we were all learning together. I taught some in Sunday School and became an elected elder in our church.

In late summer of 1973, Jo was diagnosed with cancer. With what little we knew, we sought Jesus. After much prayer and medical attention, including 20 cobalt treatments, we considered

the victory had been won. However, after about three good months, cancer was again found! In March Jo was told that maybe we would be able to buy some time with chemotherapy, and those treatments were begun. Then God brought new friends and neighbors into our lives. He led us into a deeper relationship with Himself, and

**In late
summer
of 1973,
Jo was
diagnosed
with cancer.**

He healed Jo from cancer. In the next few years, there were some serious counter attacks, but no cancer was found!

Since 1974 the WORD of God has become more and more alive to all of us. I have seen so many miracles in these years, and not only when others prayed, Our faith and prayers have had good results for us also. I find that the prob-

lem with most people is not really “knowing” God. God said in Hosea 4:4, “My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge...” That is, knowledge of God, as referred to in Verse 1, and knowledge of His WORD.

Jo and I became more and more involved in a small church group that met in the pastor’s home. This was where Jo was first anointed and prayed for. As time passed, I was able to fill in for this pastor when he would be out of town. Prior to my retiring from work in 1989,


“I didn’t think it could be, until it happened to me.”

I taught a weekly lunch time Bible study. This lasted for over 12 years, several of which were even after retirement. I also served as Vice President of the Winston Salem Chapter of the FGBMFI, and became a lifetime member. I have been ordained



James W. “Jim” Johnson

as elder in another church denomination. I’m in my 9th year as trustee and home base for a missionary couple ministry in Jamaica. Jo and I teach and minister at “Prayer & Healing Bible Study” every Tuesday at our church.

All of this is best explained by a song that was popular back in the 70’s, which says, “I didn’t think it could be, until it happened to me.” God has really made a change in me, and I look forward to whatever else He wants to do. 

True STRENGTH

James deMelo



I was born in Brooklyn, New York, to Brazilian immigrants. We moved to Kenner, Louisiana, when I was very young and that is where I was raised and where my parents still live to this day.

As a young child, I appeared to most people like I didn't have very much going for me. I had a learning disability called dyslexia which caused me to have terrible grades in school. At that time learning disabilities were not as easily diagnosed and it was many years later before my problem was identified. My parents could not understand why I had such difficulty when all my brothers and sisters had done so well in school. At one point they even considered a school for the severely mentally handicapped.

As I progressed in school (teachers "passed" me on to be someone else's "problem"), my self-esteem got worse and worse. I spent my days

in special education classes apart from my friends and endured nicknames such as "Dumb-elo".

I received very little learning support at home as my parents spoke little English and were barely educated themselves. However, one of my older sisters did help me when she was able to and I will always be grateful to her.

In junior high I encountered a teacher who believed in me and encouraged me to learn. Up to that point I had been told to "take a trade" because I

probably would not graduate. Ms. Seiler worked with me and gave me the boost of confidence I needed to dig in and study hard. I graduated with A's on my report card the last 6 weeks of my senior year. Teachers can make or break a student and I thank God I met one who used her influence to better my life.

About my junior year in high school, a coach encouraged me to get involved in bodybuilding. I had been lifting weights on and off since I was about twelve, so this sparked my interest. I was determined to succeed at something. The very next year I won the school title of Mr. Bonnabel High; it was clear I had a natural talent for the sport.

Fueled by my new-found confidence, I entered and won nearly all the local contests, which led to winning the Teenage America title in 1983, just two years after I graduated. Eventually I became a finalist at the Nationals competition and a runner-up in the Mr. U.S.A. Now I was competing with the "big boys" and placing well.

About the time of Teenage America, I was convinced that in order to compete, I had to



In a Brazilian arena, 25,000 people

begin using steroids. I had tremendous results, gaining 60 pounds within a few months time. This only fueled my obsession with becoming the best in body building. I did not care about the potential damage I could be causing to my body.

At the age of 22, I moved to California, the mecca of bodybuilding, and was introduced to Joe Weider. Within months I was on the cover of 7 national fitness magazines, including Muscle & Fitness. I was on my way to becoming a professional bodybuilder and I had become an "overnight" success in the sport. I was offered small parts in movies, modeling contracts and started a business of private fitness training.



"Praise the Lord" show with Matt and Lori Crouch

At one point I made \$2,000 in one week and was starting to get fan mail every day from the magazines. I thought I had it all - fame and fortune - but I was empty inside. I had become driven by the passions of my career and nothing else mattered but being on top. I had sacrificed everything to get there: integrity, morals, people. Finally, after the breakup of a relationship, the emptiness and depression were too great, and I found myself considering suicide.

Although I was raised Catholic, I had not been overly religious growing up. I had heard about God all my life, but I had never really made a personal commitment to Him. Yet, somehow, deep down inside, I knew He was the only one who could fill my void. One night, as I walked on Venice Beach, I fell to my knees and cried out to God.

"Lord, can you please help me? I'm losing control and my dreams are shattering before me. I heard somewhere that You are the Master of putting broken dreams back together. I need my life put back together, Your way."

For the first time in my life, I asked God for His will, His plan, and not my own. I wish I could say that at this point everything became a bed of roses for me, but there were many things the Holy Spirit would have to work through in

Cont. Page 18...

Registration ▼

Name _____

Address _____

State\Zip\Nation _____

Registration Fee	\$35 =	\$35
Weds. Breakfast Z8151	\$13 =	
Weds. Pres. Lunch Z8121	\$20 =	
Thurs. Breakfast Z8091	\$13 =	
Fri. Breakfast Z8101	\$13 =	
Sat. Breakfast Z8111	\$13 =	
Fri. Men's Lunch Z8141	\$20 =	
Fri. Ladies' Lunch Z8131	\$20 =	

Total

Credit Card holder _____ Card (eg Visa) _____

No. _____ /Exp. _____

Signature _____

Hotel

Name _____

Address _____

State\Zip\Nation _____ Phone _____ Fax _____

Arrival Date _____ Departure Date _____

Reserve ___ room(s) for ___ persons for ___ night(s)

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Mail or fax with payment to:
Hilton Anaheim Hotel
777 Convention Way, Anaheim, CA 92802
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Rates \$95 per night tax Single Double \$110 Triple Quad

Please reserve your room by June 10th.

Know The Glory



Richard Shakarian



Peter Gammons



Daniel Ponce



Tim Storey

7 1999
FGBMFI
World Convention

Anaheim California- July 25-31

...Cont. from Page 15

my life. This is something that would take time.

I left California and went back to Louisiana where I got involved with a great church and met a youth pastor whose uncompromising lifestyle and love for God greatly influenced my life. He taught me how to pray, study the Word, and hear God's voice. He also taught me the importance of not just going to church, but being involved in church and catching the vision of the pastor. He took the time to really disciple me and see that I was grounded in God's Word.

I want to say here that sometimes I feel we need to get out of the atmosphere where we have been in order for us to be able to hear the Lord more clearly in the beginning stages of our walk with Him. This is what the Lord did for me.

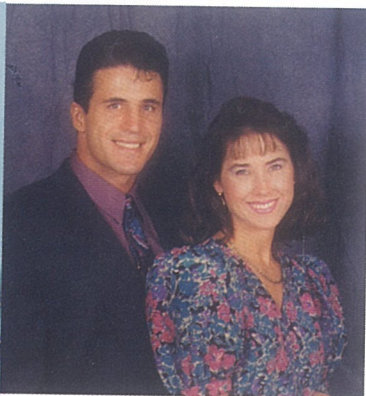
During this time the Lord was dealing with many issues in my life. First and foremost was bodybuilding. I still had visions of grandeur about the sport, and I was trying to fit God into my plan instead of seeing if bodybuilding fit into God's plan for my life. I rationalized that if



Laying between nails

I was going to compete, steroids were acceptable. After all, wouldn't God want me to become Mr. Universe? What a great platform I would have to proclaim His name! That is what I thought anyway.

One night as I was watching "Jesus Of Nazareth", I was deeply emotional over the soldiers treatment of Jesus. Still meditating on the story, I went to take my steroid shot and go to bed. I told Jesus, "I could never have treated you



that way! “ Then, as clear as a bell, I heard something within me say, “You do. Everytime you put that needle into your body you treat Me just as badly as the soldiers did when I was crucified.”

I Cor. 6:19-20 says, “Do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have from God and you are not your own. For you were bought with a price. Therefore, glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God’s.”

What a revelation that was to me! My body did not belong to me any longer. It was the dwelling place of the Holy Spirit and I needed to value it as such. No longer could I rationalize steroid use for any purpose, not even my bodybuilding career. I was determined to let God have His way in my life from that point on.

A short time later, I was recruited by the Power Team and later became a part of Strike Force (a similar team). Above all, I learned that God could take an ordinary bodybuilder and mold him into a man of God. During that time I became an ordained minister and God gave me a wife.

There were many times during those first few years that I tried to run from the call of God on my life. I told Him that I was happy just to go to church, love Him and serve Him through my job. That was a great plan, but it is not what God had in store for my life. My wife was always there to remind me that I had a calling on my life and I would never be happy until I accepted it. She was right. Many times I tried business ventures, but I was always

unfulfilled, unsuccessful and dissatisfied.

Today, I am the founder and director of James deMelo Ministries in Vista, California. Through this ministry I have founded a team of athletes called The Conquerors (strength feats), whose primary mission field is the schools of America. Although we cannot share the name of Jesus, we are able to encourage the kids and promote Biblical values (even though we don't present them as such). We encourage stu-

dents to stay away from drugs, alcohol, and violence, and to practice abstinence. We also speak on the subjects of abuse and suicide.

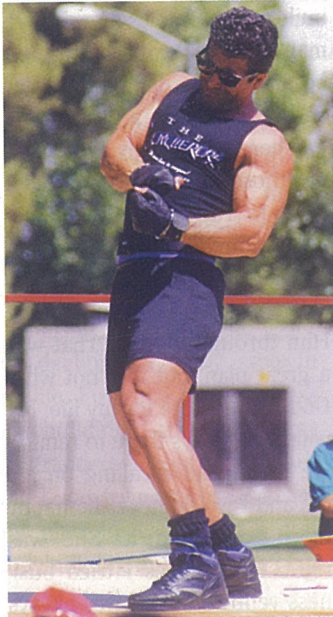
Wherever we may be, we just want to share the love of Jesus with young people, even when we can't mention His name. Youth today need to know and experience the power of God first hand. I want them to know that there is a big God, who can deliver them from the battles they face. We minister in parks, churches, and wherever we can reach the unreachable.

I love to tell people that there is nothing that they have done that can separate them from the love of God. They just have to accept His love and forgiveness and make a commitment to walk in a new way of life. I think that many times when we share Christ with someone, we make it seem like everything will be easy when they become a Christian. Wrong! God gives us the power to overcome, but we also have a responsibility to change our previous lifestyles.

I enjoy working with pastors across the country to reach those in their community. The Conquerors is such a versatile tool that captivates the attention of all ages and brings a platform for sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ to those who may not normally come to church. This aspect of our ministry accounts for approximately 50% of our bookings - there is such a great need to reach the lost.

We are in the planning and fund-raising stages now to have our own 18-wheeler with the trailer converted into a stage. We want to be able to take the gospel to the people instead of expecting them to come to church to hear it. We also want to be able to hand out food and clothing to meet the physical needs of the people and intro-

Bending a horseshoe





Leg pressing a Volkswagon

duce them to the pastors of their city. God has definitely given us a big vision!


Invariably, in our meetings, I meet one young person who stands out to me. One who the Lord really touches and changes. It always makes me sad to leave that city wondering, "What will happen to them?" The Lord has placed on my heart to have a discipleship/training camp. I want to be able to take the young people who need special attention out of their negative surroundings and place them in an environment where they can be trained spiritually, mentally, physically and socially. Most of them need to develop in all areas of their life. This "boot-camp" type setting will give these young people the stability to grow in a way they probably have never had before. I want to be able to give a person every opportunity to keep their commitment to Christ.

God has given me the opportunity to encourage the body of Christ. I believe with all my heart that we can live life as the predator and not the prey. I love to motivate people to a new boldness

for Christ. He has made us super victorious! By uplifting my brothers and sisters in the Lord, I hope to urge them to reach out to those around them and build the Kingdom.

I want every believer to be the best they can be for God. One area that can keep us from being our best is often overlooked and misunderstood. That is the area of our health. Too often we are kept from doing all God called us to do because of fatigue and illness. What a shame, especially when we realize that "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure."

I try to encourage everyone to live a full, well-balanced life. That includes taking care of ourselves by eating healthy and exercising. I use my experience in the athletic field to teach the Church how to do this practically. Too often we are turned off by the extremes.

I can never begin to express what God has done in my life. I can truly identify with Paul in saying that I am a "new creation in Christ". No longer am I an obsessed bodybuilder, but I am possessed by the Spirit of God. More than anything I want to do what God called me to do and make a difference in this modern world. 

A GIFT OF LIFE INSURANCE

Are you looking for a way to leave your legacy through a charitable gift? What if you don't have available cash or securities to contribute? How can you make a gift if many of the planned giving options don't suit your needs? One solution to these questions might be to make a gift of life insurance.

Life insurance? Indeed, it is one of the most versatile gifts that can be contributed to charity. It offers numerous benefits for charitable donors and their heirs, giving peace of mind to many, and it provides a nice gift for the recipient charities. Gifting life insurance can be done in many forms, including outright gifts, gifts involving wealth replacement, or arrangements designating a future gift.

Utilizing life insurance as a way of making a gift to charity offers several advantages:

1. Death benefits pass to charitable recipients outside of probate. They are also less likely to be contested than a gift passed through a charitable bequest.
2. The gift to the charity is prompt and can be utilized immediately by the organization.
3. Death benefits directed to charity can reduce or possibly eliminate the federal transfer taxes on a donor's taxable estate.

Simply by naming a charitable organization beneficiary and owner of a life insurance policy, you can make a gift without disturbing other assets or losing income. You can also use life insurance to replace the value of assets or other property contributed to charity through the creation of a wealth replacement trust. This vehicle fits nicely with a life income gift, such as a charitable remainder trust. The donor uses the income received annually from the trust to purchase a life insurance policy, naming loved ones as beneficiary. In this way, the heirs still receive an inheritance, while the charity also received a gift.

If you irrevocably transfer life insurance to a charitable organization, you can claim an income tax deduction for the policy cost basis or cash surrender value, whichever is less. If you continue to pay premiums, you are entitled to claim an income tax deduction for each payment as made.

With a combination of tax savings, as well as an opportunity to help secure the future for those you love and establish your legacy with a charity, the life insurance charitable gift is a unique and wonderful option. If you would like additional information on how to use life insurance to make a gift,

please call Ron Weinbender at (949) 260-0700.

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-  **Prison Ministries:** Andrew Kaminski, CO (303) 343-8907
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-  **Voice Ministries:** Jimmy Rogers, GA (770) 621-3044
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-  **Youth Chapters:** Enrique Morales, HN (949) 260-0700



News From The Front

Thomas L. Packard

I have been involved in air-lifts to encourage existing chapters and establish new chapters. I have worked in nations with a Christian heritage and without.

I believe the word of God qualifies believers to go into all the world and preach the gospel. According to Matthew 28:17-20, all Christians are called and sent to witness. According to Mark 16:17-22, God said signs would follow believers as they preach the word at home or abroad.

Since we are involved in God's work, and not just man's good ideas, I ask those interested to pray and ask God if He wants them to go.

I share with them where we are going. I never soft-sell the trip, but I let them know what the conditions are sometimes like in the country where I am going to go. That's their decision. Many people do not know how to act on their faith to begin with, and need teaching. I believe the best way to learn how to go on a trip is just to do it. Since I spend a lot of time in prayer before and during the trip, I listen to God's guidance and He orchestrates the whole trip. It is for businessmen traveling to and from foreign nations and for foreign students in universities in your area, especially those studying business.

Foreign governments and businesses are very open to Americans coming over for business-type seminars, especially if they are expensive. Such topics as Management, Computer Programming, Accounting Methods, Legal Help, Forming Working Relationships with the United States, How to Start a Business. What an opportunity to share that God is the one who causes us to

prosper through Jesus Christ and His principles for life.

As to the question, "What is the best size for an airlift to be?" I believe four people is best. When you take more than four people, you need to consider getting a small bus for transportation, hotel rooms, and meals in restaurants. It is possible for small groups to be invited and stay in homes, which saves money and gives opportunity for more sharing in the home where you are staying. The Lord is always trying to work with His people to cause them to grow up and become more productive for Him.

When you are going on a trip it is always important to stay open to the leading of the Holy Spirit. Many times the Lord wants existing churches visited and encouraged, and even new churches started, and existing ministries helped as the Spirit leads. Sometimes there are businessmen in churches, who are capable of being leaders of Full Gospel Business Men's chapters. You have to go with the Spirit and follow His leadings to be effective.

*Tom & Pat Packard & family.
Tom's 60th birthday*



It's important to go when God says. Check off seasons for lower air fares, room, and board. Also, it's important to give all the glory to God, who does all of the work, and not to man. When He is lifted up He draws all men unto Him. We are just His instruments and hands extended to a lost and dying world.

It's important that the team members have a working knowledge of the 91st Psalm, always keeping their confession positive and in line with the word of God: Believing that no evil shall befall them, the ministering angels have charge over them to accompany, defend and preserve them. No sickness or disease can come near them. We believe we will bring everyone back alive and stronger in the Lord then when they went. Many return to become strong leaders in the FGBMFI, their churches, and communities. We do not allow fear - it paralyzes. We encourage those who go to always keep in the love of God to keep their faith working.

Working with a good travel agent can be very helpful, letting us know the best prices and packages available, also the cheapest time for flying to the foreign countries, but the Holy

Spirit never fails to guide in travel arrangements. Many times he knew we were all tired and gave us a night's rest in a fine hotel in Europe with expenses paid by the airlines by canceling our flight out until the next day. He's a miracle-working God and He works many miracles. We believe that every flight that we are on will be safe and a smooth non-turbulent ride. Travel by car, bus, train, or boat will all go well and be non-eventful with regard to problems of any kind. Jesus is our Lord and He supplies well.

I have been blessed to help organize and take groups of 1-68 people to many parts of the world to tell the good news of Jesus.

The first trip I took was to Ghana, West Africa. I was asked by Charles Rogers, a man God sent into my life to teach and be a mentor to me, to go with him to have a birthday party for Jesus in December of 1971 in Kumasi, Ghana. I said I would like to but I had a wonderful new job and the corporation I worked for said no vacations until after January of 1972. But God had other plans. In October there was a big cut



Tom Packard, Istanbul, Turkey

back and most of the district managers were let go because of the gas shortage. Praise the Lord! Through many miracles and trials we moved to Atlanta. While there God provided enough money for the plane ticket and \$114.00 expense money for two weeks. Many people were trying to get visas for Ghana, some for several months but did not get them. I called the Ghanaian Embassy and they said 3-6 weeks was the fastest time. I flew from Atlanta to Washington, D.C. the morning of the same day we were leaving for Ghana to get my visa.

At the airport in Washington the cab driver asked me where I wanted to go, and I said the Ghanaian Embassy. As we talked he said his name was Flynn Akufu. He was a Ghanaian and his dad was the Secretary of Agriculture of Ghana. When we arrived at the Embassy they told me to come back in 3 weeks, then 2 weeks. My plane left New York at 11:00 p.m. that night. I praise the Lord that Philippians 4:19 (But my God shall supply all of your needs according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus) works. The cab driver came and asked what I needed. I told him a visa. He took

the visa application and said he would be right back. Ten minutes later he came back with my visa, glory to God. I got the plane in New York for Ghana. When we arrived, six groups met us. Only one group was left the next morning when we didn't have thousands of dollars to give them for their help. A man from Kumasi said, "You come and we will have meetings." In two weeks we saw over 5,000 people saved, healed, filled with the Holy Ghost, and set free from demon bondage. The blind, deaf, dumb, crippled, those with withered arms or club feet, and many others with various types of illnesses, were healed.

I made 10 trips to Africa between 1971 and 1987. I shared in a FGBMFI prayer meeting one Wednesday night where over 300 people came fasting and praying for souls in Lagos, Nigeria. Our group sizes were from 4-19 people.


We worked with Rev. Samuel Ukaegbu, a local pastor in Lagos. We prayed and God lead us to have a meeting on a garbage dump with shanties all around. 15,000 people heard the good news in this meeting. 5,000 got saved, 10,000 were filled with the Holy Spirit, and 1,000 were healed and delivered.

I went to the Full Gospel Business Men's World Convention a few years ago to just praise God and enjoy. I ended up spending 2-1/2 weeks sharing in chapters, churches, and along the Amazon River. Again God confirmed His word with signs following.

In the early 1980s I was invited to come and share in Costa Rica. Two of us went. By the end of 30 days we had traveled from Port Limon on the east coast to the banana plantations and workers in the field. Just a side note: Two drunks staggered into the meeting. Both had had

strokes and were walking with canes. They sat in the back and listened. Both got saved and miraculously healed and went out leaping and praising God. We also shared testimony in San Jose to wealthy men in a beautiful hotel for a Full Gospel Business Men's breakfast where we saw 35 executives hear about Jesus. 5 got saved, 20 healed and filled with the Holy Spirit.

In 1990 I met two people from Bulgaria at a Charles and Frances Hunter meeting in Toledo, and they invited me to come. In November 1991 I went with Carl Vandenburg from Houston, Texas, on a airlift with one other man. We went from the capital of Sofia to Burgas on the Black Sea, helping start two chapters and encouraging a chapter. Many were saved and filled with the Holy Spirit. In the October 1992 Voice magazine, pages 32 and 33 give a short testimony of the trip.

I have been blessed to take 28 trips out of the country to share the abundant life Christ Jesus has for us - all to the glory of God. He has done it all. As my wife, Pat, said some years ago, "He doesn't need our ability, but our availability." 

Fellowship Events

VICHY, FRANCE NATIONAL COUPLES' ADVANCE

May 13-15, 1999

Contact: Bruno Berthon
(+33)14/637.42.46

QUAD CITY HOLY SPIRIT CONFERENCE

May 22, 1999

Contact: Dan Turk (319)323-0140
Fax: (319)323-9282

ALL ONTARIO MEN'S ADVANCE

June 4-6, 1999

Peterborough, Ontario
Contact: Chris Brown
(905)294-1343

17th ANNUAL MARYLAND STATE MEN'S ADVANCE

June 11-13, 1999

Contact: Jim Priddy
(301)863-5842

FGBMFI RESTORATION & RALLY, MACON, GA

June 11-13, 1999

Contact: David C. Crawford
(912)474-8125
(912)788-6935

EASTERN REGIONAL CONV. PAYETTEVILLE, NC

July 23-25, 1999

Holiday Inn Bordeaux

FGBMFI-INTERNATIONAL WORLD CONVENTION

ANAHEIM, CA., USA

July 25-31, 1999

Contact: FGBMFI Headquarters
Ron Weinbender
(949) 260-0700

ALBERTA CONVENTION, CALGARY

August 5-7, 1999

Contact: Ron Hutzell
(403)281-4380

WALES MEN'S ADVANCE, NEWTOWN, WALES.

Sept. 17-19, 1999

Contact: Roger Saunders
+44-1686-650545
Or Ken Woods +44-1686-627821

UK & IRELAND NATIONAL CONVENTION

Sept. 10-12, 1999

Blackpool, England
Contact: UK Office
+44-1565-632667

ARIZONA MEN'S ADVANCE Sept. 17-19, 1999

Prescott, Arizona

Contact: Gary Cline
(520)445-7727 or
Rhuno Nelson (602)585-5225

FALL CAROLINA'S MEN'S ADVANCE

Sept. 24-26, 1999

Contact: Harry Feller
(843)571-6767

GERMAN NATIONAL CONVENTION

KIRCHHEIM/HESSEN

Sept. 24-26, 1999

Contact: +49 9921/2728

COLORADO FAMILY ADVANCE

Oct. 15-17, 1999

Contact: Vernon Murrow
(719)564-3611

MEN'S CAMP

**LAKESIDE WINDERMERE,
NORTHWEST REGION, UK.**

October 29-31, 1999

Contact: +44 161 794 5916
Fax: +44 161 794 5916

GUATEMALA, NATIONAL CONVENTION

Nov. 3-6

Contact: Roberto Recinos
Tel: +502 4710280
Fax: +502 4716260

BURY ST. EDMUNDS, SUFFOLK, ENGLAND

Nov. 19-23

Contact Michael Peters
Tel: 01449736570
Fax: 01449737539

email: Michael@peters.keme.co.uk

Send all your events info.
to the International H.Q.

6 Steps To Salvation

Men still cry, "What must I do to be saved?" The Bible provides a clear answer.

1

Acknowledge

"For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God." (Romans 3:23)

"God, be merciful to me a sinner." (Luke 18:13)

2

Repent

"Except you repent, you shall all likewise perish." (Luke 13:3)

"Repent, therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out." (Acts 3:19)

3

Confess

"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (1John 1:9)"

If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus, and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you shall be saved." (Romans 10:9)

4

Forsake

"Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; and let him return unto the Lord...for He will abundantly pardon." (Isaiah 55:7)

5

Believe

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." (John 3:16)

"He that believes and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believes not shall be damned." (Mark 16:16)

6

Receive

"He came unto His own, and His own received Him not. But as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to those that believe on His name." (John 1:11, 12)

Why not make your eternal decision now?

"Lord Jesus, I believe You died for my sins and I ask Your forgiveness. I receive You now as my personal Savior and invite You to manage my life from this day forward. Amen."

Write us to tell of your decision. We'll send you a booklet, "Now That You've Received Christ."

Yes! I have made my eternal decision. I have read the Six Steps to Salvation and have asked Jesus to be my personal Savior.

Please send me the booklet "Now That You've Received Christ."

Signature _____

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Clip and mail to: FGBMFI, P.O. Box 19714, Irvine, CA 92623 ph (949) 260-0700

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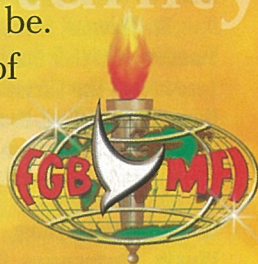
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Hear great testimonies from ordinary people who believe in an extraordinary God! It's a wonderful time to fellowship and network with other people, and a place to use and develop your gifts and talents. Our FGBMFI chapters are designed to help you become successful in every area of your life.

You will be enriched spiritually to become the champion God desires you to be. This is the time to participate in one of our many chapters that are meeting around the world. **You will be blessed.**



A Great place to be

Voice

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