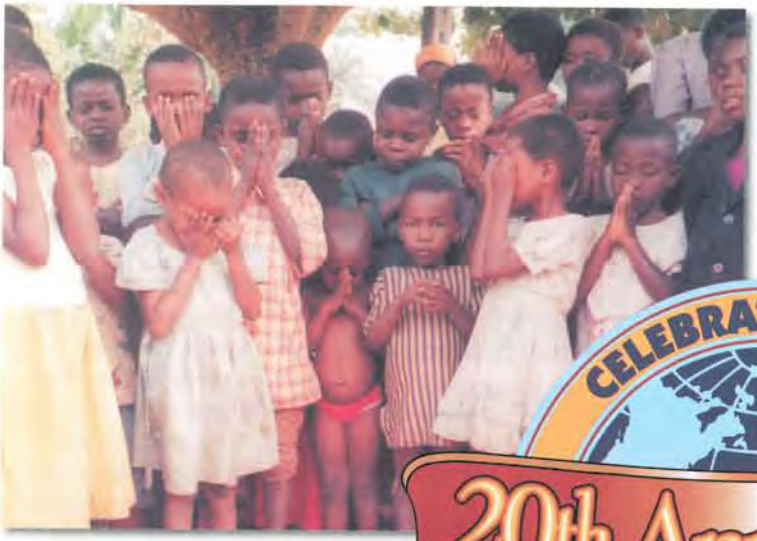
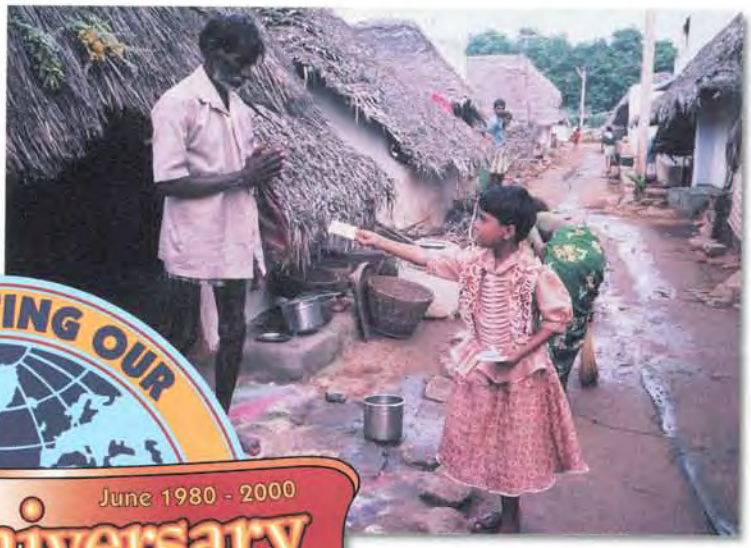
GOSPEL REVIVAL MINISTRIES

October 2000

Equipping Native Pastors and Reaching the Last of the Lost for Jesus Christ Since 1980!





CELEBRATING OUR

June 1980 - 2000

20th Anniversary

IN GOSPEL MINISTRY

Reflecting on 20 Years of GRM

by Teresa Musser

One day as I was pondering God's purpose for me here and what His destiny is for me, (This usually comes after you start going down the other side of the hill, the children start leaving the nest and you now have to carry a bigger purse to make room for the magnifiers you need to read with), God directed me to Psalms 77 ..."I cried out to God for help..." and Psalms 78:4, "...but we will tell to the generation to come the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord and His might, and the wonderful works that He has performed." David was reflecting on all the things God had done for the children of Israel, memories of who they were, where they came from and how God had preformed miracles and directed them by His mighty hand. So I began to reflect on the things that God has done in my life.

I began to thank God for my parents, who raised me in a Godly home. Jer. 1:5 "Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you, before you were born I set you apart. I appointed you a prophet to the nations." Each of us has a purpose. PURPOSE – original reason for creation (what God intended for us). Prov. 19:21 "Many are the plans in a man's heart, but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails." Eph. 1:4 "He chose us before the creation having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself." Predestination – pre (means before), destination or destiny (end – where you are going to end up at – the end for which something or someone is destined). God saw where we were going to end up, before we were even born!

Dad and I read many missionary biographies. When I was 17 years old, my parents allowed me to go on my first mission trip to Columbia, South America. It was an experience I will never forget. I'm not sure if this was when I began to get the travel bug in me or not (Mom says I was like this before I could walk), but from that time on it was on the road for me.

Responding to the Call

When I went to Bible School, I was bound and determined NOT to come back with a MRS. Degree and I was DEFINITELY NOT going to marry a pastor. Well, you don't tell God what you will or will not do... and it wasn't a pastor, it was an *evangelist!* God had called John to be an evangelist 6 months after he was saved out of a life of drugs, alcohol, etc. So he went to Bible School to prepare himself for God's call on his life.

John and I were married in June of 1978, John graduated from Bible School in 1979 and in June of 1980 we started Gospel Revival Ministries.

After we left school we worked in my home church in Muskegon. One day, after we had been there a year, John informed me that in TWO WEEKS we would be stepping out by faith and he was going to become a full-time evangelist. Now at that time we didn't realize that we needed an itinerary first, and that we probably needed to have some contacts and meetings set up. We had no money saved up - NOTHING. We had one baby and another on the way and no insurance. The first week after we left the church, we also had a bill for $210 and no way to pay it. ***Thus began our life of totally walking and ministering by FAITH.***

The very first week, John was called to preach at his home church. Sunday morning before we left, John casually mentioned at breakfast that he wished we had some real butter for his toast. It was also our anniversary and we didn't even have money to go out for a little dinner. John preached morning and evening services that day and received a $100 offering. We went to one of the deacon's homes after the service and as he and John were walking in the pumpkin patch he said to John, "God told me to give you a $100." Well, God is good! We needed $210 and God gave $200. On the way home that night we stopped in to see John's mother. As we got ready to pull out of the drive, she ran out and said, "Oh, I forgot to give you something." She came back with a paper sack. Inside was a pound of butter and an anniversary card with a $20 bill. We had enough to pay our bill AND go out for dinner! God has faithfully continued to meet our EVERY need, exceedingly and abundantly above all we could

ask or think (from food to babies, even a pound of butter).

God Opens the Doors for Ministry

I am so overwhelmed with God's faithfulness as I think about the way He opened doors for John to minister. The first revival meetings were extended to two weeks and John was interviewed on the radio. From that time on God began to open doors and direct our steps.

The First Mission Trip

In 1979 John went with Sam Galindo into Mexico for one month. Sam had started many churches in Mexico after he had retired. Sam was 80 years old at that time, and as they traveled from church to church, John received a deeper passion for the lost, (and I believe, the missions bug).

On the Road

Our first son, Jonathon was born in 1979, Matthew in 1980 and the twins, Mark and Rebecca in 1983. *Four children in three and a half years!* We all traveled together for the first few years, mostly staying in people's homes, as John would hold revival meetings. The meetings were always open ended, in case revival broke out and they wanted us to stay on. John somehow ended up doing a lot of arbitration work in churches that were going through splits or other difficulties. Staying with people with four little ones was quite a challenge.

When Jonathon started school I began to stay home and John began to fly to his meetings. He would fly out on a Friday or Saturday, preach for a week or two or three and then return home on a Monday or Tuesday. There was enough time to take the kids somewhere fun (John always made sure to spend time with the kids first), rest up, wash clothes, pack and fly out again.

Ranchers' Revival

In 1985 John flew out to Nebraska to hold three 8-day meetings in area churches. I was at home with children when he called me to say he didn't know when he was going to come home. God was moving mightily through these churches. Revival had broken out and people were making restitution to one another; people were falling to their knees crying out to God in prayer. Pastors and missionaries on the Indian reservation were experiencing revival.

I got a few people together to finish up a travel trailer we were building. We worked around the clock for two days. John found out that our pastor was leaving for Nebraska at the same time, so we had him drive the van and trailer out to Valentine, Nebraska, while I followed shortly behind in his car with the children. Four children in a car and two of them in diapers was quite the experience. To this day I believe my right arm is longer than the left!

Thus began our two-year ministry with the ranchers. This has been called the "Ranchers' Revival." John says he was in the right place at the right time. There was so much to do and we needed help, so we called for help and Max and Nina Cheney came in. What a blessing they were.

During the time while God was shaking up these rancher churches, I told John that I felt I needed to start taking the children out for class. So I began teaching Children's Church while he preached. One night as I was teaching the children, I noticed it was quite late. The services were usually late, but not this late. It was going on midnight and I had 20 something children getting pretty restless. As I had them all lay down on the floor and got someone to watch them, I went upstairs to see what was going on. John had been preaching for a few days now and nothing seemed to be happening. However, this night the man who had been causing trouble and discord in the church had gotten up to ask forgiveness of the whole church. It started a chain reaction. The whole church was making things right with one another. What an awesome sight!

continued...

John shares his testimony with students at LaJoya High School.

ANTI-DRUG SPEAKER — John Musser, a former rock musician and drug addict, is shown warning La Joya High School students of the dangers of drug during a program earlier this week. Musser, who is from Muskegon, Mich., will share with the public his experiences with drugs, starting at a 12-year-old, in a special free presentation at 7 tonight in the La Joya High School gym. The program will be followed by refreshments and a rap session. (La Joya ISD Photo by Rigo Orduz)

Disappointing the devil!

'God was moving mightily and the devil didn't like it. Especially when God started dealing with the teenagers. John's greatest desire before he was saved, was to become a rock star. When God saved him, HIS MESS BECAME HIS MESSAGE. He knew exactly where the teens were coming from. Many times during a crusade we would have a Friday night pizza blast. John would give his testimony and we would give out free pizza. Many teens were delivered and touched through these meetings. Sometimes we would collect all the satanic music and paraphernalia and have a burning after the meeting.

John visits a Minnesota Indian Reservation.

During a citywide crusade in Nebraska, we had collected over $10,000 worth of satanic stuff to burn. After the crusade one night, I went home (to our trailer parked by one of the churches). Well, the devil was mad. He tried to scare us out of town. The trailer was moving just like footsteps going through it. I just walked through and commanded the devil to leave in the name of Jesus! He had to flee!

Coming Off the Road

John and I continued on the road until 1989, in churches and Indian reservations, from Mexico to Canada. The last trip John took to Canada, I stayed home. During the three weeks he was gone, he preached up to seven times a day. One day he got up and just fell back into bed. He was so exhausted that he could not move. He made arrangements for someone to take his place and stayed in the room and slept and spent time with God. God ministered to him during that time to come off the road, love his wife as Christ loved the church, put his house in order, and become financially impeccable. Many people and preachers did not understand this decision. However, John has always chosen to obey the voice of the Spirit over the voice of man.

Max & Nina Cheney with Pastor Don Courville.

Granny McClain & Aunt Ann helping stamp literature.

During the last couple of years (before we came off the road), we had sent a few boxes out to people in other countries. Some of the tapes of John's messages from the Ranchers' Revival had been sent out overseas. **GOD WAS SETTING US UP FOR OUR NEXT PHASE IN MINISTRY.**

When we came off the road we began to regroup and see what God had in mind. Letters began to come from third-world countries asking for Bibles and literature. We received a letter from a man in Nigeria asking John to visit. John went to Nigeria on his first mission trip in 1990. Thus began our third world ministry.

From that time on, God has allowed us to send literature into more than 80 countries, and enabled John to go to 7 countries, set up mission stations, see many thousands of souls receive salvation, and to help hundreds of native pastors to reach their nations for Christ.

Just think how different things would be if John had not obeyed God! As we were in prayer for one of our upcoming trips last year, God reminded me of the saying, "When God closes a door, He opens a window." However, God said to me, **"I HAVE GIVEN YOU WINDOWS OF OPPORTUNITY, BUT I HAVE NOW OPENED THE DOOR TO THE NATIONS!"** PRAISE GOD, He knows our destiny. All we have to do is follow the Holy Spirit as He leads and directs us. It is truly the "weak things of this world to confound the mighty"! As John has been saying lately, "I'm just a little pea brain with a **BIG ANTENNA!**"

20 Nations in 2 Years!

The Vision Becomes a Strategy

The "Ranchers' Revival" movement thrust GRM into global ministry, as friends in Nebraska began sending John's revival materials overseas to missionaries. Letters from third-world countries began to pour in requesting more materials. The Lord instructed John to send "tool boxes" consisting of books on revival, sermon helps and sermon tapes - stamped "Free, Not for Resale...GRM". News of free literature spread from nation to nation, and within a short period of time, GRM had sent materials into over 20 nations.

In 1990 John was invited into Northern Nigeria. Pastors from all across Nigeria came to see John and thank him for the materials they had received from GRM. John was blessed and amazed at how such a small toolbox could reach so many lives for Christ. He realized that he must do more to help these native pastors and evangelists - and this burden gave birth to equipping native pastors and the GRM five-fold strategy called "Stepping Into Another World".

- ***GRM now has sent literature into over 80 countries.***
- ***GRM is divinely linked with national leaders.***
  - These leaders are positioned strategically throughout the 10/40 window.
- ***GRM supports Nationals.***
  - Providing needed tools and training, GRM sends them out to reach the unreached.

GRM believes that equipping native pastors is the most strategic, sensible, and economical way to penetrate nations for Christ and reach unreached people groups.

Thousands Touched in Ghana, W. Africa.

Thousands Touched in Nigeria.

Thousands Touched in the Philippines. John meets President Ramos.

Ministering Through

Our 5 Step Strategy

Stepping Into Another World

Mobilizing a Small Army! When you join GRM's Native Pastor Support Program, you become a vital link in mobilizing a small but mighty army! Every native pastor supported is part of a unit with an overseer - the GRM Director. GRM Directors look for faithful men and women who have a call on their lives to reach the final tribes with the Gospel. These workers form a unit; evangelists, pastors and teachers, in unity under spiritual authority with one purpose - to build, edify and equip the body of Christ to reach the last of the lost!

Step 1: Supply Materials Globally

Boxes of literature sent by GRM to third-world countries reach up to 100 people and generate many return letters of request for more literature and for ministry support. From these return letters, GRM gathers names of native workers who are screened for potential leadership based on their vision to reach their nation for Christ. When a native worker is selected, we proceed to Step 2...

• *As of 1995 GRM had sent free Gospel literature into over 80 countries of the world. Thousands upon thousands of boxes have gone into needy countries and villages. GRM Director Victor Akujobi reported that in all his travels through Nigeria, he had not met one pastor who did not know about GRM or had been personal recipients of GRM literature.*

Since 1992 we have sent literature by the ton...many times over 50 tons per year!

Step 2: Train a Native Pastor

A native worker who meets GRM criteria becomes a GRM Native pastor. GRM trains, equips and supports the native pastor, who arranges meetings with other native workers, and arranges crusades conducted by GRM staff. When the native pastor completes the training program, he/she is ready for Step 3...

• *GRM has trained and/or assisted hundreds of native workers. Currently, GRM is directly assisting 500 native missionaries throughout the 10/40 Window.*

Pastors are supplied with personal libraries.

Step 3: Establish a Mission Depot

This mission depot houses the local GRM Office, all GRM equipment and literature, with the native pastor serving as the GRM Regional President. The GRM mission depot becomes the crusade center, and opens up the doors for Step 4...

• Many of our mission depot stations are temporary because they are in restricted areas, or their job is completed. Currently, GRM has mission depots in Malaysia, Singapore, Nigeria, Nagaland, and several in South India.

Step 4: Prepare a Sending Church

Through GRM mission depot contacts, a centrally located church is selected. The GRM mission depot supports, trains and equips the sending church to reach their region for Christ. They do this through literature, equipment, and support staff, as well as construction and other special projects. These works pave the way for Step 5...

• GRM workers have planted numerous churches. This year alone, we have planted over 30 church projects.

Step 5: Support Laborers to Penetrate the Field

GRM native pastors train other believers and pastors to reach their communities for Christ. The GRM USA office generates monthly support for additional workers, and provides more tools and supplies to reach the lost. GRM currently has nearly 500 native workers in third-world countries!

• GRM is connected with some of the most aggressive church planters and Christian workers in the missions world today. Just one of our pastors has 900 pastors under his ministry, and another pastor oversees 300 Christian leaders. This way, GRM is able to impact thousands of native Christian workers.

Ministering Through Crusades & Pastors' Conferences

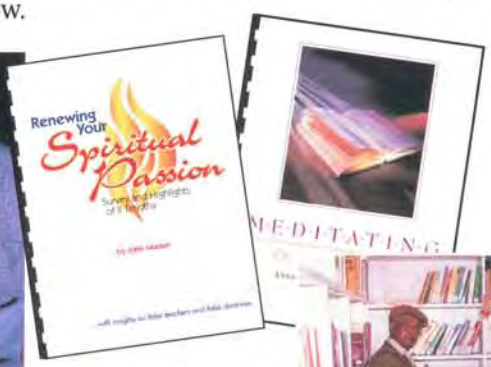
GRM conducts overseas crusades at least once a year. In the crusades, many thousands of people come to hear John preach, and as a result, countless numbers give their lives to Christ.

GRM Pastors' Conferences provide an opportunity for native pastors to receive teaching and exhortation, and for GRM to meet and screen new native workers for possible GRM sponsorship. Valuable teaching materials written by John are distributed among the native pastors, along with good study Bibles and other materials.

Ministering Through
Libraries and Publications

God has placed a special anointing upon John Musser for writing materials that equip, teach, and minister to the saints of God, both here and overseas. Many of these publications have been translated into foreign languages for distribution in third-world countries. The most notable of these is the tract, "The Greatest Love Story Ever Told", which has been translated into Tamil, Hindi, Indonesian, Mandarin Chinese, Malay, and the Lotha Naga dialect, with many hundreds of thousands being distributed throughout the 10/40 Window.

GRM Gospel Libraries are an important resource. In third world countries, **Bibles and books are like gold**. Most pastors' libraries in third world countries are no more that 3 inches wide! When GRM establishes a Christian Library, it consists of Bibles, encyclopedias, commentaries, devotional books, videos, cassettes, teaching materials, and brochures about GRM. Once the library is open, **people pour in - even from neighboring nations!** The library is a precious treasure to these people. It is truly the "WEAK THINGS OF THE WORLD TO CONFOUND THE MIGHTY".



Ministering Through
Village Water Wells

GRM Water Wells are a divine strategy in reaching the last of the lost. Remote tribes will often travel many miles every day in search of water, and many times the water they use is from stagnant ponds and ditches!

The water well project pictured here, touched the lives of this village so profoundly, that the entire village came to Christ when the well was commissioned. A sheltered area was quickly constructed to serve as a church. Even the king of the village gave his life to Christ!

With a small investment, you can be part of this divine strategy in tribal evangelism, blessing and reaching people for decades to come.

Ministering Through Orphanages & Social Services

In some third-world countries, infants and children are abandoned in the streets because their parents cannot care for them. The people that pass by these little ones without helping them are so deceived by the forces of darkness that they actually believe that these children should be left to die - that they are paying for their sins committed in a "former life". GRM is doing much to help these helpless ones. When you invest your gifts in GRM, you are providing food, shelter, clothing, medical care, and Christian education.

GRM also provides numerous forms of social services that also act as a magnet to draw people to Christ as they experience true Christian love. Some of these services include, free eye exams & glasses, food distribution, free clothing, free school supplies, free night school, and more.

Ministering Through Vocational Training

GRM vocational training helps widows and abandoned women to support themselves and their children, helps re-train the women who are converted to Christ from lives of abuse as temple prostitutes, and also provides believers, pastors, and evangelists with necessary skills to help make their churches self-supporting. Christians who are converted from religions like Islam and Hinduism, are rejected and even persecuted by their families and communities, denied schooling, jobs, and any kind of help from the government. Vocational skills are a vital way that GRM helps to establish and equip new Christian believers.

Twenty Years!

From the Heart of John Musser

As some of you know, five years ago I personally celebrated 20 years preaching the Gospel. I began just months after my salvation, preaching or sharing my testimony in jails, prisons, and then churches. The wonderful letters & cards I received at that time were one of the greatest highlights of my entire ministry. This year is my 25th year of preaching the Gospel, and **we are now celebrating GRM'S 20 year anniversary.**

Some people ask, "Why the name Gospel Revival Ministries?" It was Bill Gothard, Life Action Ministries and Ralph and Lou Sutera with the Canadian Revival Fellowship who taught me that when **revival becomes the experience of the church, evangelism becomes the expression of the church,** so revival precedes a genuine spiritual awakening. Revival Gospel Ministries didn't sound right, hence Gospel Revival Ministries. Ministries speaks of the plurality of ministers, God knowing beforehand that we would become a ministry to ministers!

GRM is not a one man show. We are a multi-faceted ministry consisting of dedicated employees, prayer warriors, volunteers, interns, financial supporters and board members both past and present. Without all of them we could not do what we are doing today. I cannot underemphasize the very important formative years, past mentors, employees, volunteers, financial supporters and board members who made GRM what it is today. As I look back, some people were only with us for a short time, yet EVERY ONE had a crucial role in the development of GRM, and were specially called to fulfill a unique position and implement a major element of GRM.

The last two decades of GRM are neatly divided. The first decade was full-time revival work. The second decade was developing our native pastor support program. I was taught by my mentors that spiritual awakening comes after revivals. The revival of '85 took us to the great harvest fields of the world, spanning many nations.

I wish I could thank all the special people God has placed in GRM one by one, but because of our recent move and my extensive travels, we decided not to include names and pictures, so that we would not inadvertently leave someone out. Apart from a very basic outline, I had very little to do with this newsletter. Lynn Bredice, our design artist, assisted by my wife Teresa put this anniversary issue together. God has done so much in this ministry, that we would have to publish a book to cover it all! So we decided just to cover some highlights. I hope you enjoy it and to God be the glory! This coming spring, we want to have an anniversary banquet and share with all our friends the great and mighty things the Lord has done.

I cannot neglect to thank our prayer warriors and financial co-laborers. Many of you have faithfully helped us, even when we could not communicate with you much. **You are the ones who will receive the soul winner's crown to lay at Jesus' feet, because without YOU I could not take one single trip, we could not build one single church, place one water well, open one library, reach a single tribe, save one little orphan, or help one native pastor. Jesus said "...inasmuch as you (John Musser, GRM) did it to the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me." Only eternity will reveal the truth.**

When I go over letters and receipts, my heart is often moved with emotion. Some of you have helped us every step of the way for all these 20 years. You will never know until eternity how your love and support have kept me, Teresa and this ministry going. We love you so dearly and thank God for your great faithfulness.

Where are we heading? The greatest challenge of our entire ministry is for GRM to plant a sending church with a Gospel library in every state of India by 2002. We are already advancing forward with aggressive plans. Simultaneously, we are using one state (Nagaland) to reach into Nepal, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Myanmar and China. We are still developing works in Malaysia and Singapore, with additional invitations to the middle east. A cluster of nations in northern Africa still weigh upon our hearts: Northern Nigeria, Niger, Chad, Sudan and Cameroon. We are seeing ENORMOUS progress in all locations. I'm TOTALLY convinced that equipping native pastors to reach the last of the lost is the most sensible, strategic, AND economical way to fulfill the Great Commission on this earth. Nothing else I've ever seen even comes close. We are with the native mission movement until Jesus comes.

Until ALL nations hear,

John

Matt. 24:14

Andaman Adventure

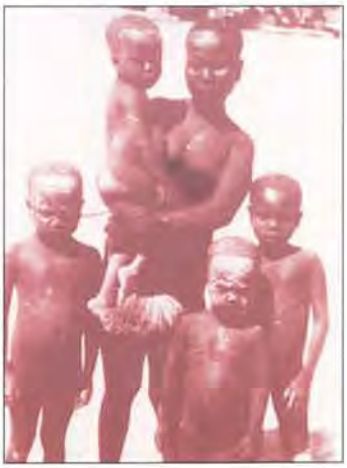
by Dan Baur

I can't help but be in total awe of how God has used John Musser and the ministry of GRM to reach into the lost tribes of today. Since I first met John in 1995, I have seen God open doors to move the Gospel to the most restrictive places on earth. I have come to really see the passion that God has placed in his heart for the lost tribes (Matt. 24:14). Being around someone with the passion John has, you cannot help but catch the passion and the vision yourself!

I have traveled with GRM and John Musser to many places over the years. To Ghana in South Africa, various trips to India including Nagaland, to Malaysia and to the Andaman Islands. Each time I am blessed to see how the Spirit of God never changes. I have witnessed His love for the lost, seen the multitudes that come forward at crusades to give their lives to Jesus, and have taken part in dedicating churches being planted. I am truly blessed !

On our last trip, John and I had an experience very few would ever have. We traveled to the jungles of the Andaman Islands for the purpose of seeing the savages that Sister Ruth has spent the past thirteen years ministering to. As we drove through the different colonies and groups of peoples on the island, the deeper into the jungle we went the more aggressive their actions became. The most interior group had spears, bows and arrows, hatchets, no clothing, only white paint applied to face, arms and body, giving them a very evil appearance. I can still hear John saying, "We didn't bring enough food!"

After getting to the end of the road, which is a port, we turned around and headed back. By this time it was getting dark, and we had to drive right back through those same evil looking savages. As we came to their settlement, John's only words were, "Oh-oh-oh-oh my," and the only thing that I could get out of my mouth was, "Don't stop, keep moving, don't stop!" The picture, if you can visualize it, was this tribe trying to stop our caravan of three vans, blocking the road by standing in front of the vans. One guy with a spear stuck his arm, which was painted white, inside our van, and Sister Ruth yielded something to him. Quickly, we were on our way again, and after leaving the jungle and arriving back at our hotel, we felt that the hand of God was with us in providing a way of escape from a potentially dangerous situation.



I am looking forward to what God has in store for GRM. I praise God for the new partners that are joining with GRM to expand the work of the ministry, and the loyalty of the old partners that have been faithful in supporting the work to date. Should the Lord tarry, what better way to grow old, reaching the last of the lost tribes for the sake of the Gospel and the love of Jesus Christ.

Dan Baur is a businessman and GRM Ministry Representative living in St. Joseph, Mo.

Letter From the Harvest Field...

Dear Evangelist John,

Indeed the year 2000 began with lots of difficulties (in Nigeria) and challenges to us...untold hardships and losses to many. Yes, this is the realities of our time. But I remember the battle of Jericho...and above all I remember the victory of the Cross. So I cheer up the brethren here to press on with courage. God delivered the Israelites, He can also deliver us.

I want to tell you what God has done for me through the books you sent me. The books brought me spiritual awareness and a new zeal for God to work in my life. I was about to quit the ministry as a result of hardship. I prayed and prayed and nothing seemed to be happening. But I got your parcel, even though I was not expecting anything from overseas. My eyes got opened and I asked God to forgive me. There is a new joy in me now. I need more of that. I want to remind you that I love you and I am praying for you.

I appreciate so very much your sincere love on behalf of this ministry. I am a good disciple of the Lord in very truth. Enclosed here is a photo of me with my workers. Thank God I have a man like you. May the Lord strengthen you the more in Christ's name.

Pastor E. A. Ishmael
Imo State, Nigeria

GOSPEL REVIVAL MINISTRIES

Address Service Requested

CELEBRATING OUR 20th Anniversary IN GOSPEL MINISTRY June 1980 2000

Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen. Matthew 28: 19 & 20

GOSPEL REVIVAL MINISTRIES

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The GRM mission is to enroll, equip, and enable Christian workers in their native countries to reach the last of their lost nations, tribes and people groups for Jesus Christ. This is accomplished through the development of partners and supporters of the ministry who underwrite and facilitate a five-fold strategy of; supplying Christian literature globally, training native pastors, establishing mission depots, preparing sending churches and supporting native workers to penetrate the mission field.

GRM provides mission field workers with money, materials and manpower to propagate the Gospel, care for the converts, teach the Word of God and relieve the poor and needy in their communities. GRM also sponsors church and school building programs, water wells, libraries, orphanages, vocational assistance and medical assistance programs through the support of GRM Ministry Partners.