



The heavy millstone pictured above sits in the middle of the walkway to our International Plaza as a monument to the importance Jesus placed on children. It has motivated our vision to reach Every Child in Every Nation with the Gospel of Christ and teach saved children to spend meaningful time with God Every Day. Its message unites the CEF family as we work together to reach children for Christ, train others to do the same, equip teachers and children with materials, and support fellow workers to continue in the ministry.

Throughout Scripture God encouraged memorials to bring people's focus to Himself. They piled stones, built altars, gave offerings, sang songs, and celebrated special feasts. Their memorials gave testimony to who God is—powerful, protector, and provider; and what He has done—triumphed even through the lives of diverse, inadequate, limited people. They testify to people to live by faith and persevere in obedience. They are reminders that God should not be underestimated. After all, He "is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think ... " (Ephesians 3:20).

In this issue you can look back with me across the 81 years of Child Evangelism Fellowship and see many markers of God's power, protection, and provision. At times God's triumphs

"Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea." Matthew 18:5, 6



came unexpectedly, but often they followed the devoted prayers of His people. Year after year, God continued to open doors so more children could hear His Good News. As we remember these milestones in ministry, our hearts overflow with thanksgiving for all God has done and our resolve strengthens to reach Every Child, Every Nation, Every Day.

By the desk in my office sits a millstone as my reminder to do all I can to reach boys and girls for Jesus. And when I consider the miracles and milestones in this ministry, I praise the Lord for all He has done and anticipate the amazing things He will yet do. We serve a mighty God!

Yours for all the children,

Reese R. Kauffman

Please Pray

Godly men and women to lead *CEF*[®] ministry in every nation and state in the U.S.

2

God's provision of resources through His people for ministry worldwide

•-----

•.....

0

Gifted writers, artists, graphic designers, printers, translators, and proofreaders of CEF literature

4

North Korea—boys and girls can learn about Jesus at *Good News Club*®



TABLE OF CONTENTS

04GOD'S AMAZING PROVISION

Invest in Spreading the Gospel

O6 GOD BRINGS PEOPLE Together

Lives Are Changed

08

GOD MULTIPLIES Ministry

Foundations

10

GOD MEETS NEEDS TO SPUR ON GROWTH

Literature Impacts Lives

12

IN SEARCH OF AN AMAZING BOOK

ORDER YOUR "PRAY FOR THE CHILDREN IN NORTH KOREA"

WRISTBANDS FROM CEFPRESS.COM



14

REACHING TODAY'S CHILDREN

Online and Beyond Get On Board with the Every Day Initiative!

MARKING MIRACLES AND MILESTONES IN MINISTRY

Contributors: Debra Hane (Writer) SDPcreative (Design) All Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version $^{\circ}$ (ESV $^{\circ}$), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Impact (USPS permit #PE3155) is published quarterly by Child Evangelism Fellowship Inc., 17482 State Highway M, Warrenton MO 63383. Periodicals postage paid at Warrenton MO and additional mailing offices. Postmaster send address changes to Impact, PO Box 348, Warrenton MO 63383-0348.

GOO'S Amazing Provision

iracle after miracle marks the milestones in the ministry of Child Evangelism Fellowship®. When Founder Jesse I. Overholtzer began to share the Gospel with boys and girls, he also trained others to join him. This enabled him to move on to reach more children—his burden extended to children all around the world. As Mr. Overholtzer moved forward in his ministry there were many times he had given all he had but God's provision always came. Through 80-plus years of ministry God moved in faithful followers



to give—many times monies coming in at the desperate hour of need. Such testimonials have been collected in a book as a reminder of God's faithfulness to provide for the spread of His Gospel.

CEF HAS MINISTERED TO CHILDREN AROUND THE WORLD FOR 80-PLUS YEARS.

Jesse reached into his pocket and pulled out 35 cents—all the money he had.

He used it for bus fare to visit a friend who requested to see him. This friend knew nothing of Jesse's financial dilemma, yet had invited him so he could help him with his ministry. He handed Jesse \$1,000.



India has the world's largest population of children—over 540,000. There is desperate need for a training facility. This past Christmas, a church in Indiana took this on as a special project. Their generosity has provided the funds needed to get this project underway.

1910s



1916

Mr. 0 began evangelizing children



INVEST IN SPREADING THE GOSPEL

After completing the Children's Ministries Institute®, I was nervous about being a CEF missionary. But God's Word says, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me" (Phil. 4:13). As Zimbabwe experiences economic hardships, the monthly Sponsor-A-National™ support enables me to cover ministry costs, take care of myself and my family, and reach boys and girls in many areas.

One day as I approached children in a park, some girls saw I was holding a Bible and asked me to give them a Bible study. Immediately I pulled out my Wordless Book and shared the Gospel message. They were amazed at the wonderful story of Jesus. With tears in their eyes, they received Christ as Savior.

66 I am grateful for the SPAN™ program which enables me to continue to minister to the boys and girls of Zimbabwe.

- MARTHA RAMBANAPASI, Zimbabwe



nationals are the ideal individuals to minister to children in their countries. They already speak the language, know the culture and can work where people of other nations are not welcomed.

Since 1972 the Sponsor-A-National[™] program has provided financial assistance to trained nationals who live in areas where it is difficult to raise support. Presently over 900 CEF national missionaries receive assistance through the SPAN™ program each month. This enables them to spend more time sharing the Good News about Jesus with the children.

1920s



1923

Home Bible Classes for children began

1924

Mr. O did open-air evangelism on the streets of Sacramento



God Brings People Together

an to man (or woman) moves the ministry through the milestones. Through relationships, God continually opens doors to reach more children. As Mr. Overholtzer traveled from city to city across the United States and Canada, and country to country through Central and South America, he passed on the burden to evangelize and disciple children. From year to year more have taken up this gauntlet of ministry so that it has spread through the nations

of the world. Partnerships with other ministries have produced even greater outreach. In 1997 Campus Crusade for Christ (now Cru in the U.S.) requested a book to give to Arab children waiting at Mediterranean ports in Europe to return to North Africa. The Wonder Book™ was produced. This 64-page, full-color, illustrated booklet has been translated into over 100 languages and has been distributed during the Olympics and World Cup and in some cities—door to door. To encourage

discipleship, CEF partnered with the Mailbox Club ministry to include a starter correspondence course lesson. It also became an integral part of the Arthur DeMoss Foundation Power for Living national media campaign in 1998. By 2002, over one million correspondence lessons had been mailed out. Tens of millions of The Wonder Book have been printed. It has also led to the development of children's devotional books and the Do You Wonder Why? crisis booklet.



Jesse's car bump along the Huasteca Jesse's car bumped Mission driveway to his first visit in Mexico in 1939. This was the first time he spoke through a translator and his message was well received. Missionary Janie Love agreed to represent CEF in that area. Jesse's



hosts in Brazil, British missionaries Rev. and Mrs. Harry Briault, became the first full-time CEF workers overseas.

1930s



1933

Mr. O devoted 10 weeks in Chicago to open-air work with children

1935

First national committee forms 1937

Child Evangelism Fellowship incorporates 3-day Conference in Whitehall, Michigan

1939

Mr. O visits Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Costa Rica



DeShawn entered the second grade on everyone's short list for trouble—especially since he'd spent most of first grade in the principal's office. After just a few weeks, it looked like this year would be the same. But then DeShawn began attending *Good News Club*. Three weeks later, his school teacher wanted to know what happened to DeShawn! His behavior had changed radically and he was no longer bothering everyone else in class. We were happy to tell them—DeShawn asked Jesus to be his Savior!

-South Carolina

When a friend asked 11-year-old Joshua* where he went to church, he replied, "Good News Club is my church." Joshua's Muslim family had knowingly registered him at a Christian school where the GNC™ is a part of his schedule. Joshua has received Christ as his Savior and is being discipled.

-Southern Africa/ Indian Ocean Region

After 12-year-old Pouya* attended the Children Reaching Children training, he returned home and shared *The Wordless Book* with 27 children. All accepted the Lord Jesus as Savior. Now there are four Good News Clubs in his village.

-Undisclosed Country

*name changed

had equal access to public school facilities for after-school programs. In 2017, 163,282 children were enrolled in 4,274 after-school *Good News Club* programs. Today Liberty Counsel represents *CEF* in many cases against religious

A most amazing victory came on June 11, 2001when the Supreme Court ruled *Good News Club*

discrimination.

1940s

1940

Mr. 0 visited 21 South American and Caribbean countries

1941

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Briault, English missionaries to Brazil, became first full-time CEF missionaries to Brazil

1943

Arthur and Velva Phillips left for Mexico as the first missionaries sent from the U.S. Clubs began to be called *Good News Club* Spanish literature for children sent out

1945

Mr. 0: "We need at least one worker to go to each country." First Leadership Training Institute held in Dallas, Texas with 30 students

25-hour training sessions introduced

in Latin American countries

First lesson series with flocked figures published, "The Bible, the Word of God"

1947

10th Anniversary Ministry in India and Argentina First International Conference

GOD MULTIPLIES MINISTRY

illion upon millions of children have heard the Gospel through the years of ministry as a result of practical and effective training. CEF missionaries are not only trained to evangelize and disciple children, they are also taught how to train others. This provides training for many of the multitudes of volunteers who teach at Good News Club and 5-Day Club®. Trainers from Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America, and North America have provided training to other parts of the world. As the number of trainers multiplies so does the number of teachers, which results in the number of children reached to multiply. The astounding ministry growth CEF has experienced through the years can be seen by observing the number of children reached each anniversary year on the timeline below.

Early on in his ministry to children, Mr. Overholtzer set up a training school to teach Bible doctrine and methods for reaching and teaching children.





Training courses offered worldwide and online have prepared hundreds of thousands of people each year to effectively evangelize and disciple boys and girls.



The Children's Ministries Institute® offers one of the most innovative practical training programs available for leaders in children's ministry. This 12-week diploma program can be taken in one- or two-week modules. Students receive training in direct ministry to children, teacher training and ministry organization and leadership. Academic credit may be available through various colleges and CEUs can be granted through ASCI. Under the direction of the Education Department, Institutes are held on every continent except Antarctica! Regional education directors oversee Institutes in their region and help ensure that international standards are maintained for the quality and integrity of our training programs. CMI® also offers classes online through the CMI Online program. Find out more about CMI at cefcmi. com or about CMI Online at online. cefcmi.com.

1950s



1952

107 CEF missionaries serving in 45 countries

World banks introduced in GNC for weekly offerings for missions

CEF literature available in 20 languages

1955

CEF chapters in more than 1,000 American cities and 60 other countries Mr. O goes to be with the

Lord

1957

20th Anniversary

Leadership Training Institute in Brazil and Mexico City



Foundations

Lydia was 14 years old when she picked up a brochure from a ministry she'd barely heard of called Child Evangelism Fellowship. Someone had spoken at her Christian school about CEF and handed out brochures. This brochure, unlike many other ministry brochures, captured her young imagination and she knew, "God wants me to do this." That summer she attended her very first Christian Youth in Action® training and was hooked. At CYIA™ she sat in classes, learned how to share the Gospel with children, and took her newfound skills to Duluth, Minnesota to teach 5-Day Clubs. The CYIA staff began building a foundation of truth and skills in her life. Every year Lydia returned to CYIA she attended new classes, and grew in her experience as a teacher and, most importantly, as a Christian. Eventually she became staff, mentoring and building into students just as others had done with her.

A few years later Lydia was accepted for an internship at the CEF International Headquarters, received training at the Children's Ministries Institute, and then was offered a full-time position. God was still leading and directing Lydia and, through a series of events, she felt God calling her to work overseas. She's now in the process of raising support and preparing for her first term as a CEF overseas



missionary. But even in the middle of a very hectic season, Lydia still made time to go to CYIA as an instructor and worship leader. She's now teaching the classes that were taught to her as a 15-year-old CYIA student, building on the foundation of those who came before her and laying a foundation for the students she taught this year.

And the foundation-building will continue. As Lydia goes overseas, she will invest in the lives of others, helping them effectively share the Gospel. And as the groups of young people who will teach 5-Day Clubs this summer continue to grow and mature, no doubt some of them will become the next staff, instructors, and mentors at the same CYIA where they began.



1960s

1960

First 5-Day Club teaching material published First time Good News Club held in public school in U.S.





500,000 children reached annually

First overseas : Leadership Anniversary

1966

Training

in Europe

Institute held

1967 1968

"Here's How" radio program aired

GOD MEETS NEEDS TO SPUR ON GROWTH

ore and more needs developed as the ministry spread across the globe. Many became burdened to reach their nation's children and yet were hindered by lack of resources. CEF ministries in developing nations struggled to purchase enough materials for their Good News Club programs. In 1999 people were encouraged to support the Boxes of Books program so that needy areas could receive a box containing a year's supply of teaching materials. As

these boxes were received, even more children were reached—the following two years showed 49 percent growth. But many missionaries struggled to support their families and continue to minister to the children. In 2008 a concerted effort was given to increase the Sponsor-A-National program to provide much needed support for those serving in areas where it is difficult to raise support. The past decade has shown 145 percent growth in the number of children reached.

Before Boxes of Books, missionaries in countries like Madagascar would spend their valuable time drawing pictures to illustrate the Bible lessons.



Our partnership with the Revival Movement Association provides teaching resources and children's devotionals to areas that need it most.



1970s

International Headquarters and Institute move to Warrenton, Missouri 1076 609,188 children evangelized in the U.S.

Over 1 million children reached

1970

Tel-A-Story® telephone ministry began First Treehouse Club television series airs 1971

Christian Youth In Action training for young people began

Over 351 missionaries serving in 67 countries Training Institute expands to Argentina,

Japan and Philippines

1972

Sponsor-A-National program began : 1975

45 languages

Total overseas missionaries : 40th Anniversary and national workers exceeded 500 CEF literature available in

1977

1978

CEF of Jamaica began The Children's Bible Club radio program

66 I can't believe these are the same kids in my class! When I taught with visual aids, they were clinging to the message and for the first time ever I experienced children responding to the message of salvation. The lessons became so alive to the

- CEF OF HAITI

children because

of the pictures!

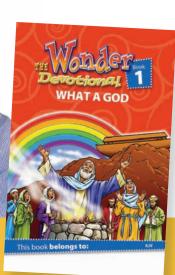
Literature **Impacts Lives**

"The 300,000 Wonder Devotional Books you sent in the Kirundi language have taken Burundi by storm! We have never seen such a tool to disciple children—it really is a wonder! Over 230 teachers showed up to distribute them. The children love it and we are praying for more since we have already run out!"

> -David and Eva Rehani, CEF of Burundi (Over half of the population in Burundi are children!)

"We are very grateful for these Bible lesson flashcards. They are a big help in teaching. The attractive colors and bright, clear images get children's attention, so when we present the Bible lessons they think it's a new story. The materials are light and easy to carry."

> -CEA worker from undisclosed country



CEF Press® offers a wide variety of children's ministry resources.

VISIT CEFPRESS.COM TO LEARN MORE.

1980s



More than 1.5 million children reached

1987 **Anniversary**



1989 Reese Kauffman became president

IN SEARCH OF AN

BY JENNA WEIS

ave you ever encountered that one book that had you hooked from the first page the book that you couldn't put down, that you had to finish NOW? But what if that beloved book was forbidden to you?

When six-year-old Rafik* picked up a New Testament in his uncle's book shop, he had a strong desire to read as much as he could. Rafik says, "I was fascinated to have this book in front of me—fascinated by the teaching of Jesus Christ about revenge, about fasting and prayer, about everything. It was so perfect for me!"

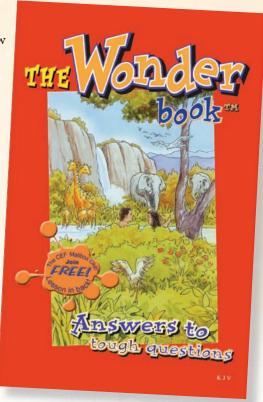
However, Rafik belonged to a conservative Muslim family. His uncle refused to give him the New Testament because it would cause problems with Rafik's father and family. But Rafik didn't give up. "It stuck in my mind to have this book. I looked for it in many libraries and book stores but I couldn't find it."

About eight years passed before Rafik had another opportunity to get a copy of the precious Word of God. His brother brought home The Wonder Book. Rafik eagerly read it and recognized verses from the New Testament.

"The Wonder Book said that I should read the Bible daily. I wanted this Bible!" Rafik thought the Bible was just the New Testament; he didn't know about the Old Testament. So Rafik asked his brother if the friend who had given him The Wonder Book could also give him a New Testament. Two days later Rafik was able to buy a copy of the New Testament for himself.

Excited to finally have his own New Testament, Rafik started reading it every day. "I read it all night and the next day. It was my joy to read it!" But he struggled to understand some of the concepts—how God could come to Earth in human form, how He could show love, how He could take the punishment for sin.

"I READ IT ALL NIGHT AND THE NEXT DAY. IT WAS MY JOY TO **READ IT!"**



1990s

1990

Teaching Children *Effectively*[™] courses provide consistent training worldwide



2.5 million children reached

Boxes of Books launched



1997 **60th Anniversary** Today's Child™ radio program aired 1998

CEF Mailbox Club (later called Truth Chasers Club®) moved to Warrenton The Wonder Book produced

THE AMAZING STORY OF THE STRUGGLES. TESTINGS AND ULTIMATE TRIUMPH OF THE MAN WHO FOUNDED THE WORLD'S LARGEST EVANGELISTIC OUTREACH TO CHILDREN.



Then Rafik found an online Bible study group that helped answer some of his questions. He understood that all his sins had been washed away by Jesus's blood and he believed in Jesus as his Savior!

When Rafik started college, he thought he might be the only Christian in his country. He tried to share the Gospel with his family and with his friends at college but they refused to listen. They told him the Bible wasn't a true book and argued that Jesus wasn't really God. Even though his life was changed because of Christ, they couldn't understand it. He fought with his father about faith and was no longer welcomed at his home. He was homeless for a while but Rafik recounts, "God was with me all the time and He gave me strength to continue."

After Rafik received his degree and began working for a company, things were looking better but he still lacked fellowship with other believers. Then one day while searching the Web he found a site for Bible studies that had different flags from all over the world; he found his country's flag, clicked on it, and heard testimonies from people in his own country. He was shocked and delighted!

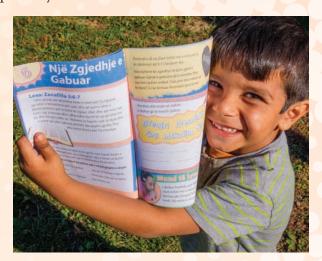
But Rafik soon faced another trial—he was fired from his job because he was a Christian. Even though his employer had noticed his good work ethic, he found an excuse to let Rafik go. This, however, gave Rafik the opportunity

to go to seminary and study theology. While finishing his studies, he met with the Child Evangelism Fellowship national director and discussed working with CEF. Rafik read the biography of the founder of CEF, The Indomitable Mr. O. It changed the way he viewed ministry to children. He realized there were many children in his home country

who needed to hear about Jesus. With God's direction he attended the Children's Ministries Institute with his wife and is now the CEF national leader of his country. He and teams of other Christians are working to reach the next generation with the Gospel.

Rafik's desire for God's Word as a child never faded. Now he provides children opportunities to know the truth of God's Word and its message about Jesus.

*name changed



2000s

Do You Wonder Why? booklet produced and Operation Wonder Why organized

Over 8.5 million children reached

U.S. Supreme Court decision—Good News Club given equal access to meet in public schools

CEF of Latvia began providing training and materials for religious education in public schools

Over 400,000 Do You Wonder Why? booklets distributed after Hurricane Katrina

2007

70th Anniversary

"Around the World in 80 Years" initiative began Ministry in 157 countries (All countries in Latin America Region)

Training available online—CMI Online (online.cefcmi.com)

2008

First major fundraiser for SPAN Ministry in Aruba, Seychelles and Turkey

Good News Across America® began with help from Brazil

MARKING MIRACLES AND MILESTONES IN MINISTRY PRESSING ON to Reach Today's Children

Ithough children today may have far more resources at their fingertips, they also face greater exposure to violence, sex, crude humor, and humanistic philosophies in this high-tech age. Much time spent on video games and phone apps hinder children from being engaged elsewhere. In other places around the world boys and girls are hindered by war and poverty. Conviction, commitment, and creativity drive the ministry of CEF forward to reach Every Child, Every Nation, Every Day.

Unline and Beyond

BY YOLANDA DERSTINE

CEF of Europe has produced an animated video on Martin Luther and the rediscovery of the Gospel. Available on YouTube, Martin Luther: The Animated Movie can be viewed in English, German, French, Russian, and Swedish. The video was released for the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. The German version has had almost 116,000 views. On Wondersurf.com children can take an interactive quiz on the film, receive a response from a trail guide, and ask questions.

"God has blessed this project beyond our expectations," said Gerd-Walter Buskies, CEF regional director of Europe. "It has been shown in schools, camps, and other children's events. CEF of Germany produced a coloring book with the Luther video on DVD and has distributed it to 40,000 children. The movie is still viewed a few hundred times each day. We are thankful for this simple, effective, and inexpensive way to reach children in the farthest places in the world with the Gospel of Jesus Christ."





Nearly 22.9 million children

2010s

CEF of South Korea had 60 missionaries in 23 countries CityKids launched in Europe

2010

Ministry in Lesotho, Palau, Congo Brazzaville, Gabon, and Guinea Bissau

2014

194 nations (All countries in North America/Caribbean Region) 94% of the 2,900 missionaries are nationals Nearly 189,000 Boxes of Books shipped around the world After-school GNC held in over 3,500 public schools CEF of Cambodia distributed one million *Meet the King!* booklets

2015

A Better Life booklet designed to reach refugee children in Europe and Middle East

CEF of Brazil reached 23,810 children through World Cup outreach program

Christmas Across America[™] began in U.S. and spread across the globe

2017

80th Anniversary

REACH 100 MILLION **CHILDREN** per year

Why should children learn about the men and women of Christian history? Nathan Hamilton, CEF curriculum specialist, said, "Learning about Christian history helps children see that God's Word didn't stop impacting people after Bible times. Luther is a fantastic example of a guy who stood up for what was right and true. His desire to see common people know what God says and recognize the Bible as God's revealed truth started quite a stir that would eventually become the Reformation."

Martin Luther said. "The Bible is alive, it speaks to me; it has feet, it runs after me; it has hands, it lays hold of me." Because of God's transformation of Luther's life and the ensuing persecution he faced, Luther was the first to translate the New

Testament into German. Later he and others translated the Old Testament as well.

The purpose of the CEF Every Day Initiative is that saved children worldwide will spend meaningful time with God every day, learning to be obedient disciples.

GET ON BOARD WITH THE EVERY DAY INITIATIVE!

BY BRENDA HANSON

"The Every Day Initiative—what's that?" you might ask. It is the name for our increased focus on discipleship for children. The goal of this initiative is to help saved children around the world spend meaningful time with God every single day! We want these children to grow in the Lord, deepening their relationship with Him, not just on Good News Club days, but every day.

Child Evangelism Fellowship will never forsake the focus on evangelizing boys and girls. Believing in the Lord Jesus Christ as Savior is the first essential step in every child's spiritual life, but we must not stop there! God has commissioned us to reach Every Child, in Every Nation, Every Day. Praise God that we now have active ministry in most nations of the world! This is the time to put more emphasis on the next step—helping saved children all around the world grow spiritually Every Day.



Many children around the globe need access to God's Word in their own language. We are currently partnering with another organization to develop and provide daily Scripture-reading books on a monthly basis, with one or more books of the Bible in each book. The books of Matthew through Acts are currently being translated for use in three countries as a field test. We are also exploring additional Bible sources for children.

LOOKING AHEAD



FUTURE GOALS:

Ongoing Good News Club ministry in North Korea Every nation has readily available discipleship material for children in every language

Reach 100 million children per year



Child Evangelism Fellowship PO Box 348 Warrenton MO 63383

(800) 300-4033

IN THIS ISSUE:





SEEING Impact For the First Time?

Get your FREE subscription at **cefonline.com/subscribe**



HAVE A STORY?

Has God used *Child*Evangelism Fellowship® in your life? Send your story to stories@cefonline.com or CEF/Impact, PO Box 348, Warrenton MO 63383



You can follow us on Facebook by going to facebook.com/cefaroundtheworld