



# LIGHT BEARERS

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2005 YEAR-END REPORT

# LOOKING BACK . . . A



Ty and Sue Gibson

This year has been a big deal for Sue and me (8.5 pounds big), because we became grandparents in March. Shocking, I know, since we're really too young to be Grandpa Ty and Grandma Sue. But facts are facts, and we thoroughly love this fact. Baby Mason is a smiley, cuddly, chubby delight of awe-inspiring Creator-design, and we love the little guy more than words can express. You get grandbabies early when you get off to an early start. Sue and I have had a great life together. We married when we were only eighteen, the same year we gave our lives to Christ. Leah, the youngest of our three kids, left home for college this last July. The nest is now empty, and we're both happy and sad. Happy, because being alone with Sue is great fun, and because it gives us immense joy to see our children independent and responsible and to have them as close adult friends. Sad, because we pretty much can't tell them what to do anymore; we have to wash our own cars, load the dishwasher and do all the mowing and weeding; and especially because we don't have the great privilege we once had of enjoying their company all the time. There are tears sometimes with the laughter now.

My greatest relief in 2005 was the realization that James was out of the cancer woods for sure, with a clean bill of health. Praise God!

The most enlightening discovery of the year for me was a fuller grasp of the "seal of God" and the "mark of the beast," which will be shared in a forthcoming book (if I can ever carve out the time to write it). Here's a hint: there is a direct line of cause and effect between belief and becoming—we become what we believe about God's character.

In April, while in Australia, a shock came my way. An unusual email came from James. It began, "Ty, a miracle has occurred." I love miracles and was eager to read on. James continued, "I'm willing to move the ministry." "What!" I shouted at my computer screen. "A miracle indeed!" The subject of

# ND AHEAD

## A PERSONAL NOTE FROM TY



Baby Mason Lee Beldin

relocating in order to facilitate reaching out more extensively to the world has come up a number of times over the last ten years or so. James had always been totally opposed to the idea, and for very good reasons. We live in a mountain paradise. It's a great place to live and raise kids, and it has served in many ways as an excellent ministry base. But it also has a number of downsides when it comes to conducting a worldwide ministry. There are staff needs, power and facility needs, and semi-truck-access needs that simply cannot be met at our present location. After long and futile efforts to hire much-needed personnel, James concluded that God may be leading us to a better situation to fulfill the mission He has set before us. Then, in rapid succession, some very convincing providential openings further persuaded James that we ought to relocate. Miraculously, a door opened that will enable us to make this extremely costly move at no expense to Light Bearers. It is hard to image the circumstances coming together any more perfectly. So as God has indicated His leading, we're moving forward. According to the timeline we have roughed out, we should be relocated by March.

Light Bearers' board of directors just met a few days ago to look at reports for 2005 and consider plans for 2006. With one part of my heart, I don't want 2006 to open and move on into 2007. How sweet it would be to see Jesus return and end the nightmare of suffering that continues in our world. And yet, with another part of my heart I can feel God's longing in these words: "The Lord isn't really being slow about His promise to return, as some people think. No, He is being patient for your sake. He does not want anyone to perish, so He is giving more time for everyone to repent" (2 Peter 3:9, NLT).

So there it stands. The only reason Jesus has not yet returned is because He loves people. I pray that His love for people and His desire for them to encounter the gospel will

reflect in my heart and life and in my tangible actions to reach out to a lost and dying world. I know this is your prayer as well.

Revelation 18:1 is perhaps the most significant of all end-time prophecies: "I saw another angel coming down from heaven, having great authority, and the earth was illuminated with his glory." The fulfillment of these words lies within the power of our choosing. It is our awesome privilege and calling to dispel the dark lies that envelop our world, by flooding hearts and minds with the true knowledge of God's character. For all intents and purposes the world is over, and we are living moment by moment on borrowed time. Only one agenda item remains to be fulfilled—enlightening the whole world with the glory of God.

Right now, as you read these words, ground is being broken in Jasper, Oregon, for our new publishing house. We are anticipating many new developments and opportunities for ministry once we get situated in the new location. Our goal is to pull off the move with twenty days or less of downtime, which is a tight schedule for disassembling our entire publishing house and putting it back together. Please pray for this endeavor.

Light Bearers' annual convocation will be held at the new location in Jasper, Oregon, July 11-15, 2006. Mark it on your calendar. We would love to have you come visit and share this time of spiritual refreshing with us. If you live in the East and can't make it out West, we will be conducting our Eastern Convocation again at Southern University, in Collegedale, Tennessee, from July 24-29, 2006.

We sense that God has big plans for the future. Thanks so much for helping to make 2005 such a great year. Your prayers and support are much appreciated. Imagine what it will be like some day to gather under the tree of life and hear the stories of all the men and women who came to Christ through our partnership. What a day of rejoicing that will be!

# LOOKING BACK . . . A

A PERSONAL NO



James, Risë, Jeiel and Kierra Rafferty

Who would have thought that by the end of this year I would be moving my family to Oregon? Not me. In January of '05 that idea was nowhere on my radar. What was on my mind around that time was finishing a new Bible study outline on the gospel message in the book of Revelation called *Preludes of Hope*, which is now completed and available in our Resource Center and on our website.

Anyway, it was improbable that I'd be thinking of moving to Oregon or anywhere, this year or ever. Back in January Risë and I were praying for more outreach opportunities in our local area. About that time I began a Bible study with Shirley and Chuck. During this year we've become good friends, and they have both indicated a desire to be baptized.

Then there's Jerry, Barb, and Dave. Jerry and I are friends from the "old days," and had recently started connecting every couple of weeks in Spokane. In October Jerry mentioned seeing his sister Barb, and the next thing I knew we were reconnecting with her too, talking about life and the Lord. I'd wanted to get Jerry into Bible studies forever, and now Barb opened that door. I hadn't seen her in 20 years, but she immediately asked for studies and encouraged Jerry and Dave (her boyfriend) to join us.

So here I was reconnecting with all these people and then having to move. My first thought was why? I now realize what a blessing it is to grow together with these friends before leaving the area. What if I had never contacted them? Besides, Barb is motivated to get through our entire set of 24 Bible studies before we leave, which (at this writing) is in six weeks. Wow! Now that's stepping fast.

And I can't forget the Larsen's. Two parents—Jerry and Cynthia—and six adopted kids. Cynthia came to the *Appearing*, presented by Shawn Boonstra via satellite at our local church, and one of her boys accepted Christ. Since then they've been to our home, we've been to theirs, and their four boys have connected with our son. More new friends who love Jesus, and we're moving! (We've already talked about coming back for Christmas to see them.)

# ND AHEAD

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# JAMES



Jeiel's baptism

Besides that, our son Jeiel had just recently made a decision to be baptized. And of course Jeiel wanted to be baptized in our local church by our local pastor and with his local friends, Luke and Steven (who also made their decisions to be baptized).

That is an interesting story. On the last night of the *Appearing Series* with Shawn Boonstra, Luke asked if he and the boys could talk with me and their dad Reed. "What are you guys scheming about?" I asked. "Jeiel spending the night sometime?" "No," said Luke, "we want to be baptized."

I was so surprised and happy I didn't know what to say. Of course the boys had all been through a set of baptismal Bible studies, but this series by Pastor Boonstra really brought them to the point of decision. Praise God!

So here we are, linking up with people in our area, and God moves us to another state. Why? The way I see it, He knows best. He knew long before this year that He would be leading the way for LBM to make this move. So He began banding us together with people before we leave. Now that we are linked to one another in friendship and faith, we can still keep in contact, but more importantly, we still have some time to encourage each other in the hope of the gospel.

The year 2006 will be spent settling into our new place in Oregon. The location is almost perfect, rural in its setting yet close to supplies and very accessible. The last time we were there, Ty asked about some large metal box-type units enclosed in wire fence on one end of the property. "Those are the units for T-I lines," we were told—right next door and just what we need for better internet access so we can update our web outreach.

Right across the street from our building site will be Laurelwood Academy and some awesome opportunities to involve young people in our mission. From office help to mission trips we hope we can incorporate many young people into the work of reaching out to the world with the everlasting gospel.

And just next door is a wood mill. Not the most coveted

of neighbors, true, but for us this touches on another essential need—power. We have struggled with the lack of adequate, reliable power for some time. The fact that the wood mill is running major industrial equipment means that we'll have plenty of power for the needs of our publishing equipment—especially for our new press.

This move also puts us in a much better location when it comes to LBM's personnel needs. While we will be in the country setting of Jasper, Eugene and Springfield are just 20 minutes away. A rural location that provides employees easier access to stores and schooling just makes sense. The closest Christian school to our present location is 50 miles away and the nearest academy is a three-hour drive. Future employees in Eugene will have an Adventist grade school 20 minutes away and an Adventist academy right next door.

Snow and ice on our road here in Malo has made shipping and receiving difficult. Our new location doesn't get the snow and ice that we have here, at least not for any prolonged periods of time. This should make shipping and receiving much more efficient.

And while our new location won't have a campus like Malo, the Laurelwood school grounds have been offered to us for camp meeting use. They are stunning, with well-engineered trails taking you over streams and past flower beds, orchards, a pond, a fountain, an inlet of the Willamette River, and other beautiful landscaping still in progress.

Eugene's milder climate and closer proximity to needed resources will place LBM in a position to grow and do more in the time remaining. Malo has been good for us in many ways, providing a great start in the work we were just beginning. Once we are set up in Jasper, our present output should be easily achieved, with greater probability of increasing our goals under more efficient working conditions. We believe this is what God wants for LBM, and we look forward to His continued blessing and your continued support. Together we believe 2006 will be a turning point in reaching the world with the everlasting gospel of Jesus Christ.

# LIGHT BEARERS

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# IN

2005 has been a very busy year for all of us hear at LBM. Many miles have been traveled and many smiling faces have been greeted. Here are a few highlights from our year.

## *WEBSITE*

If you haven't already visited our website, we would like to encourage you to do so. We have made some exciting changes that we think you will appreciate. You can now take advantage of our free downloads from some of our most popular messages. We have also made available for downloading, free of charge, our studies that are offered on 3ABN. And if you haven't browsed through our online bookstore, please do. We are in the process of adding new and exciting products for your edification.

## *3ABN*

Even though our 2005 schedule did not allow us to produce new programs for 3ABN airing, we are continually surprised at the great response we receive from the older programs that are still playing. Whenever a city gets connected to 3ABN for the first time we start receiving calls for the study guides. So far this year we have received approximately 1900 requests. New programming is in our future.

## *GENERAL CONFERENCE*

A ministry high point this year was the General Conference Session in St. Louis. A number of testimonies made it clear that Light Bearers literature is making a major impact around the world. Each night, as a designated Division of the world

field delivered their report, we were delighted and humbled to hear division presidents speak of the effect our evangelistic publications are having in their areas. We were awed to hear that Light Bearers literature is highly valued and is being used in a mighty way to win souls from the kingdom of darkness to the kingdom of light. Various church leaders came to our exhibit booth to express gratitude for the literature sent to their countries and to plead for more. One of them said, "In all my many years as a Seventh-day Adventist growing up in Africa and as a church leader now for more than twenty years, no organization has ever done for the church in Africa what Light Bearers has done. Soul winning has been taken to a whole new level with your literature. You have put weapons for spiritual warfare in our hands."

## *CONVOCATIONS*

This year we were privileged to hold our 21st Annual Convocation here at Malo. We had a great time of fellowship and spiritual refreshment. Besides Ty, James and Herb, we were also blessed by meetings with Steve Wohlberg, Dr. David DeRose and Gordon Pifher. Vonda Beerman joined us for the event to provide spiritually uplifting music.

We tried an experiment this year by moving our East Coast Convocation to another location. We opted for Southern University Church in Collegedale, Tennessee. And as many requested that we return again next year, we have already scheduled a week in. We were privileged to have Herbert Douglass, Skip MacCarty, Herry Mhando and our own Risë Rafferty added to the selection of speakers (besides Ty and James). And Michael Harris joined us to bring special blessings through music.



# ACTION

## PUBLISHING REPORT

We began 2005 with a budgetary goal to put out ten containers of literature. But we secretly, and sometimes openly, hate the restraints that budgets impose; so we prayed and worked toward a higher goal (someone has said that miracles only happen when we attempt what is humanly impossible). Praise God, as the year closes the budgetary goal is far surpassed. By the end of December a total of fifteen containers will be shipped, carrying to the world well over 26 million truth-filled publications. It is exciting to realize what this means in practical, concrete terms: millions of precious souls for whom Jesus died and rose again now have access to the gospel. Praise be to God, and a big thank you to all those who joined with us financially to make it happen.

<i>Ship Date</i>	<i>Destination</i>	<i>Literature Use</i>	<i>Quantity</i>
February 2	Liberia	Andrews University students' evangelism; English.	1,386,287
February 23	Zimbabwe	Distribution throughout Zimbabwe evangelistic efforts in small villages; English.	194,041
March 1	Ghana	Requested by General Conference for evangelism and Sow One Billion effort; English.	2,196,162
March 8	Sri Lanka	One-half container mixed in with building materials sent for Tsunami relief; English.	1,122,000
May 5	Mozambique	General Conference request for Sow One Billion. First load in the Portuguese language.	2,081,270
May 25	East-Central Africa Division	English materials for evangelism in Kenya (included books, misc. printed material, Dukane projectors, slides, children's material).	165,725
July 14	East-Central Africa Division	English, French and Luganda materials for evangelism in East-Central Africa Division.	2,118,830
July 21	Togo	French and Portuguese studies for evangelism in the Sahel Union of West Africa Division.	2,084,040
September 7	Martinique	French.	1,922,512
September 28	Philippines	VOP studies for 3 union conferences in the Philippines; English, Tagalog, Cebuano and Ilocano.	2,148,120
October 13	East-Central Africa Division	English, Swahili materials for evangelism.	2,009,920

*The following containers are in process and should be shipped before year-end. The shipment dates and amounts are approximate.*

November 16	Tanzania	Kibidula Farms shipment. Swahili Bible studies, tracts and personal items ordered.	2,200,000
December 15	Bolivia	Majority of the shipment will be Spanish Bible studies, plus some tracts.	2,200,000
December 15	Ecuador	Majority of the shipment will be Spanish Bible studies, plus some tracts.	2,200,000
December 20	Angola	We plan to ship Portuguese VOP studies as part of the GC/VOP outreach.	2,200,000

**Total Shipments: 15**

**Total pieces: 26,228,907**



# LIGHT BEARERS

**Planning an evangelistic effort?** Schedule one of our evangelists. Know someone who would be interested in studying the prophecies of Daniel and Revelation? Direct them to our *Lift Him Up* television series on 3ABN. Are you a missionary or church leader who needs outreach literature to distribute in your area? Make a literature request.

To learn more, write, call, email or visit our website. Ask to be added to our mailing list and you will start receiving our monthly newsletter, the *Mission Update*.

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