



Alberta



Child Evangelism Fellowship



Saskatchewan

"It is not the will of your Father...that one of these little ones should perish." - Matthew 18:14

Vision 2020 - A Future and a Hope!

Dear Friends,

February 5, 2020

Jeremiah 29:11-13 says, **For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon Me and go and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart.** One version starts out by saying, **"For I know the plans I have for you"** They say that hindsight is 20/20. When I looked this phrase up it said, "This is a saying which means that it's easy to know the right thing to do after something has happened, but it's hard to predict the future."



They also say that perfect vision is 20/20 visual acuity (the clarity or sharpness of vision) measured at a distance of 20 feet. If you have 20/20 vision you don't need glasses. As you can see in my picture, I no longer have 20/20 vision as I do wear glasses.

I have heard several ministries refer to this year as being one in which to launch a new vision for the ministries they are leading as '2020' is a term for perfect vision. Over the last few months I have had two key people make two similar statements to me regarding vision. Once person said this new building is designed for a person with a large vision and you are such a man. The second person was my interpreter in Cuba. He said, "You are a man with a huge vision. Have you made any moves in regards to who will follow you?" I did say I believe it is important for us to be thinking about that, but that I did not consider myself a man of vision. I believe that we are just following God's leading. It is His vision that is leading us, not mine or anyone else's, because God's vision sees tomorrow. We can only see what God has done in the past which shows us His faithfulness.

I often refer to this as '**memorial stones of what God has done**'. The Sedley property is such a great example of this.



In Proverbs 29:18 (KJV) we read, **"Where there is no vision, the people perish"**. This is a well-known verse to all of us. It is interesting that the NKJV says the following in the same verse, **Where there is no revelation, the people cast off restraint.** I decided to look up the word **revelation** which was used in place of **vision**. Here is what I found, revelation – **the divine or supernatural disclosure to humans of something relating to human existence or the world.**

I think that Proverbs 3:5-6 best describes what I believe our vision should be in 2020. **Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.** I believe it is God's vision that will lead this ministry in 2020, not mine. I believe that Jeremiah 29:11 refers to God's perfect vision which is so much better than 20/20 because He can see tomorrow as it says, **"For I know the plans I have for you . . . to give you a future and a hope"**.

In hindsight, we look back and see God's faithfulness this past year in so many ways. The ministry last summer through the 5-Day Clubs was such a great example of this, both in the outreach to the children as well as the young people who taught.

In the last few weeks I have heard from several individuals and churches about the impact the 5-Day Club ministry has had in their community. One church leader wrote:



“We just want to let you know how grateful we are for the teams you have sent to do ministry with us here in Wawota the last couple of summers. It has been a joy to see Paige blossom and to grow in ministry skills as she has connected with the children here in our community. We had a blessed week of ministry this July again with 9 children either confirming their faith or asking Christ to save them and come into their lives for the first time.”

Another family from northern Alberta wrote: “We are so excited for what God is doing through Child Evangelism Fellowship! Luke came to be our leader at 5-Day Clubs last summer and were so blessed by him! Our kids talked about him for weeks.”

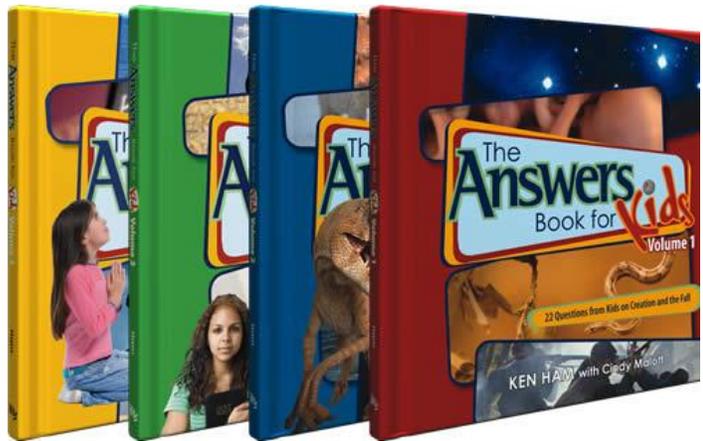
Another family wrote, “We held two 5-Day Clubs here in Spruce Grove. Loved it as we were able to invite unchurched families. Thank you for your ministry.”

We are so excited for the summer ahead as we launch another year of 5-Day Club ministry. We would love to partner with your church through a 5-Day Club/VBS or your family could host a 5-Day Club in your backyard as hundreds of families did last summer to reach their neighbourhood for Christ. We will be launching our new theme at the 2020 Vision banquets and in our next letter. Please pray about your part in reaching your community for Christ.

I wish you could see the stack of mail that comes in every day from the children as we seek to disciple them through the mail.

Just this week we purchased another \$2,000.00 in lessons and Christian books to send out to the children. For over 50 years CEF of Saskatchewan has been reaching and discipling boys and girls through the mail and if you think ‘snail mail’ does not work anymore you have not looked into our mailbox lately. I think the Sedley post office is going to wonder what has happened when the mail begins to arrive from the boys and girls across Saskatchewan and Alberta this spring! 😊

As we look ahead we are excited about providing books from ministries like Answer in Genesis to help teach the children about creation and to help equip them to know the truth from God’s Word to confront the lies so many are taught every day in school.



As we look back over this past year we are thankful for the many new doors of opportunity that God is providing for us to partner with local churches to reach the boys and girls through Club DJ and our partnership with U B David & I’LL B Jonathan.



Just this past week I had the opportunity to train another church in Calgary who is starting up Club DJ in the next few weeks. They already have over 50 children registered and in talking to the pastor after the training he said how thankful he was for this program as it has such a strong emphasis on salvation and the discipleship of children. Just before the training I met with another church who picked up their Club DJ Director’s Kit and between the two churches another

Each lesson is another opportunity to clearly present the gospel and help the children grow in their faith. Just the other day Charlene text me a picture of another lesson where a child when asked, “Have you taken the Lord Jesus as your Saviour?” responded, “Yes today!”



70 plus children will be reached and disciplined through Club DJ this winter.

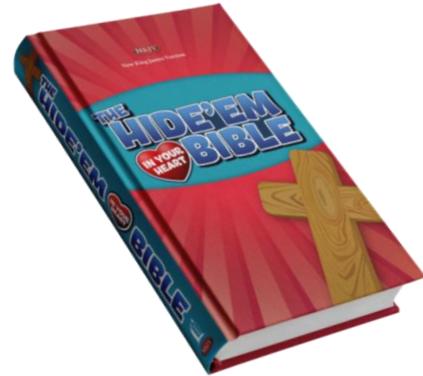
Reports continue to come in from Cuba and it is overwhelming what is happening there as the ministry continues to grow. One church wrote:

"Thank you to God for the great blessing that the Club DJ represents for us. Everybody we are very happy and grateful with this program, the children learn a lot from the Lord and they like to work on their notebook, memorize the verses and earn coins for the General Store at the end of the course. Teachers enjoy teaching as they see children learn and put into practice what they have studied. ! To God be the glory!"

Brian, the president of our partner ministry there, just returned and reported that the churches are growing at such a rapid rate. There are now up to three children using one book. He said we have to come and see what is happening as more and more children are being reached each week through Club DJ there. He went on to say that there are 1,000 churches now in Cuba wanting to start Club DJ in their church! Wow! Please pray for wisdom as we seek God's leading and **He directs our paths!**



The Hide'em Bibles continue to be placed in the hands of the children and I am so thankful for each opportunity to provide these Bibles for the children. Several other ministries continue to purchase the Bibles and over the Christmas season many parents and grandparents purchased them for children and grandchildren. On my last trip to Calgary one church purchased 64 Bibles for the children in their church being reached through Club DJ. If you would like to purchase some of these Bibles they continue to be available for \$12.50. We would love to hear from you!



We are already hearing from some of last year's Summer Missionaries who plan to return. We are excited to have them already thinking about giving another summer to God. In just the last few days we have been informed that the Canada Summer Jobs program is now available. I checked to see if anything has been changed in the requirements and what we have to agree to is the same as last year. In our recent provincial board meeting it was decided that unless there was a drastic change in direction of the program we would not be free to apply again this year. So again we find ourselves and the Summer Missionaries trusting God for His provision for the 5-Day Club ministry this summer.

Preparations are in full swing for the Vision 2020 banquets. As the ministry continues to grow we are looking for new opportunities to share what God is doing and invite families and churches to partner with us in reaching boys and girls for Jesus Christ.

There are two additions to the Vision 2020 banquets this year. One is in Regina where we have added a second banquet to make it possible for more people to join us as we continue to pack out the church that has been hosting it. Those there may now choose which night they would like to come. Secondly, we are excited about adding another banquet in Alberta in Red Deer, as we seek to expand the ministry in the Red Deer area.

We have enclosed a Vision 2020 Banquet Poster with all the dates and locations and hope that you are able to attend one in your area. **The cost of a ticket is just \$5.00 and includes a hot meal!** We need you to call the number on the poster to reserve your spot at the banquet you wish to attend so we know numbers for the caterers. This year we have set up phone message system to make your reservation. Leave a message stating the banquet you would like to attend and the number of tickets you need. You may also contact us and RSVP with an email to the address on the bottom of the poster.



Update: After a 5-hour surgery on Hudson's ear, the doctors were very pleased with the surgery. Hudson continues to have follow up appointments to monitor the progress of the healing and the impact on his hearing.

We have also included our new prayer card; we value your prayers as we seek God's vision for 2020! God bless you for your part in this ministry.

For the sake of the children,

Jerry Durston
Provincial Director



Donations may be made online at any of our websites!

Upcoming Events

Vision 2020 Banquets!

Please come join us at a banquet in your area. We would love to see you!

God bless you for your part in this ministry!

If you would like more information on any of our ministries, please visit one of our ministry websites.

Websites:

CEF of Alberta - www.cefalberta.org

CEF of Saskatchewan - www.cefsask.org

5-Day Clubs - www.5dayclubs.com

Club DJ - www.clubdj.com

Jonathan Sperry Sponsor a Town Project -

www.jonathansperryproject.com

Quiz Meet - www.quizmeet.com

Hide'em Bibles - www.hideembible.com

Summer Missionary Sponsorship Program

www.summermissionary.org



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