



THE INSIDE RUNNING

The team at Promise Keepers has been working flat out recently preparing programming and advertising for this year's *Leave No Man Behind* Events. This has delayed the June WiseChoices DVD because we wanted to include the brand new Event promo. By distributing the promo this way, many people who wouldn't normally see it will have that opportunity. Many men have contributed to the promo and therefore to the mission of Promise Keepers. Two men in the USA worked on it. Double Oscar winner Mike Hedges from Wellington worked on sound. Others from Dunedin to Auckland were involved. If you subscribe to the WiseChoices DVD, the promo is now in your hands. Who will you show it to? It could be one of the tools God uses to draw people to Him.

The "mission" theme is massive, as shown by the wide range of material on the DVD. It comes down to what each of us is doing regularly to build up others in faith and to build our own relationship with God. Please thoughtfully consider what people are saying through this newsletter and this DVD.

John

John

PS - The June and July mailings have been combined into this one.

MISSION

"Your mission, should you choose to accept it..."

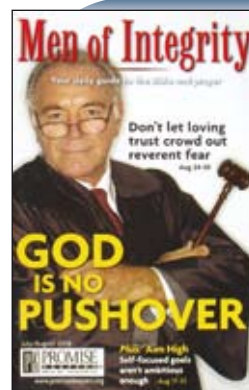
What comes to mind when you think about "missions"? Do you think of extreme mission, like going to places in Africa or Eastern Europe? The sacrifice of Jim Elliot and four others, martyred while trying to evangelise the Auca Indians in Ecuador, is a well known example of total commitment.

Today, the spiritual battle is raging more ferociously than ever. More Christians are persecuted and killed for their faith now than at any other time in history. The battle for souls is fierce, but the results are spectacular.

Many churches and organisations now send short term mission teams in addition to supporting permanent workers. These are great opportunities for people to bless others while experiencing what God is doing. Team members can be changed by God as much as the people they go to serve.

Not all of us will go overseas on mission trips, but there are endless opportunities for involvement right here in New Zealand. We are called to be salt and light in our community. Many positive changes have been made over the years by civic leaders and businessmen who are Christians. It is amongst our friends and acquaintances that we have the most impact because of the power of relationships.

This year Promise Keepers is prompting men to leave no man behind. We all know men who have fallen away from God, from church, from marriage and even given up on life itself. How can we prevent our friends from becoming casualties in this spiritual war? The key is to build strong friendships that are honest and transparent. Vibrant Men's Ministries and healthy Men's Small Groups can provide frameworks for friendships to grow. When we look out for the guys on the fringes and intentionally work with them and build friendships, then we will change lives and see great victories.



Men of Integrity Topics July/Aug 08

- Changing communities
- Radical Christianity
- Battling depression
- Fundamentals of discipleship
- Growing through suffering
- Teenagers
- Aim high
- Fear and trust in God

Not subscribed to this powerful daily resource?

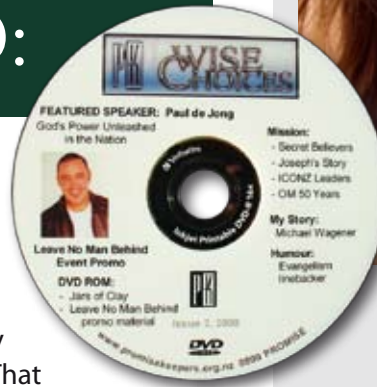
Then contact Promise Keepers to get your own regular copy.

PROMISE 7: A PROMISE KEEPER IS COMMITTED TO INFLUENCING HIS WORLD, BEING OBEDIENT TO THE GREAT COMMANDMENT AND THE GREAT COMMISSION.

INTEGRITY, COURAGE, ACTION

WHAT'S ON THE DVD:

Featured Speaker: Paul de Jong and his wife Maree pioneered LIFE Church (formerly CLCA). They have a passion to live and lead by example and see the church win back the right to positively influence their city and nation. That is why Paul's message here is so powerful – to see Christians working together to impact New Zealand is close to his heart.



What is the Value of a Short-term Missions Trip?

I asked Wayne Curham from Open Doors about his experiences. Trips can have a big impact on those going, but what about the impact on those you come in contact with? Wayne gave these examples:

A young man drove Wayne to the airport in Iran. He said he converted from Islam to Christianity but he didn't tell his parents. His mother soon asked him if he had become a Christian because his behaviour had improved so much! However, for his family, his conversion was a matter of dishonour. His father told him, "You are no longer my son". He was sent to prison for 4 years for converting. Wayne instantly regretted asking him what it had been like in prison when the young man replied, "There were unspeakable tortures". Then he said, "But you being here makes all the difference. Now we know we are not forgotten. Please pray for us."

Wayne's late wife Mary was visiting a group of 42 women in Mexico the night the word came that their husbands had been sentenced to 35 years imprisonment for a massacre they didn't do. There was a shriek of grief. Mary wondered what she could do. She realised she could hug them and pray with them. It was incredible that she was there at that crucial moment. The local church assured Mary that within 6 months the women would be far better, due to the support and love of the church.

Wayne has also witnessed the multiplication effect of giving Bibles where they are not generally available. The Bible does not just go to an individual, it often goes to a community. The impact is widespread.

Leave No Man Behind Event promo: We held back the DVD until this promo was finished because it is so important to inspire people about the Event. The team have invested a lot of effort. Please show this promo to your family, friends and church.

Healed - Michael Wagener: In his own words, Michael tells the story of his miraculous healing.

Funny: Evangelism linebacker takes a surprisingly unconventional approach to missions!

Mission resources: We have gathered several great videos showing the impact of different missions.

- ICONZ (formerly Boys' Brigade) shows how men can make real changes in youngsters' lives here.
- Operation Mobilisation 50 Years video looks at the worldwide influence of its ministry.
- Secret Believers (Open Doors) is the story of a Muslim terrorist who was dramatically converted.
- Joseph's story (Gospel for Asia) tells how an indigenous missionary overcame years of rejection and failure to finally break through and plant churches.

DVD ROM:

- **Leave No Man Behind** – artwork, brochure and poster files for the LNMB Event

- **Jars of Clay "This Road"** – Powerpoint and music track. Watch this moving presentation about the cost of Christianity in many nations.

Next Issue August 08
Sexuality



Dunedin	25-26 July
Christchurch	15-16 August
Tauranga	29-30 August
Wellington	12-13 September
Auckland	10-11 October