

*Jewels  
for  
Jesus*

# Reflections

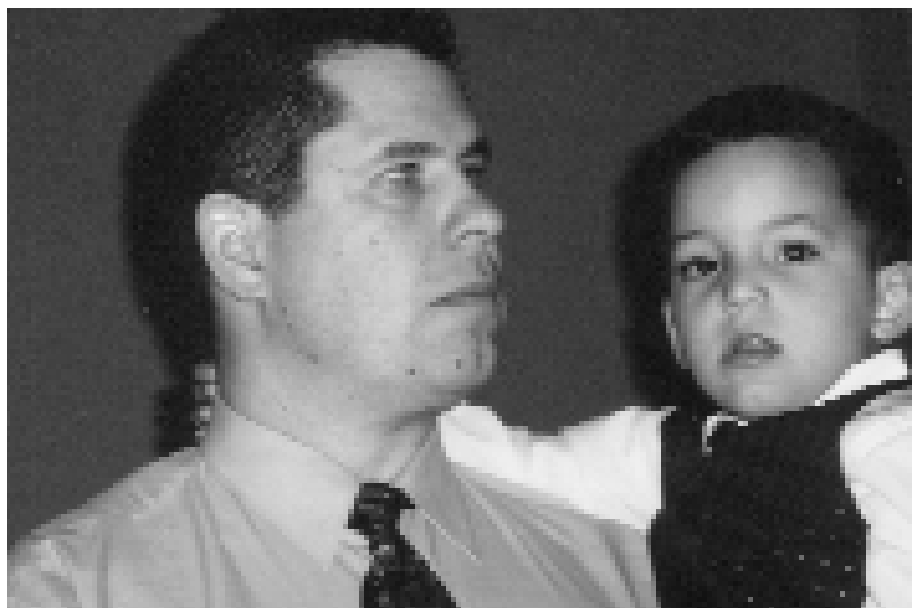


A Publication From Jewels For Jesus Mission Inc.

June 2004



**“There you saw  
how the Lord  
your God carried  
you, as a father  
carries his son, all  
the way you went  
until you reached  
this place.”  
Deuteronomy 1:31**



# The Rewards of Persistent Prayer

“Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.” Romans 12:12

Five years ago I met John for the first time. We were seated in a private meeting room within an Ontario prison. John knew exactly why I was there and he wasn't pleased to see me. His girlfriend, Kerry, was pregnant with his child and she had come to Jewels For Jesus requesting our help with an adoption plan. Between John and Kerry their backgrounds included abandonment, sexual abuse and violence. This had led them to alcohol and drug abuse, life in the streets and, in John's case, multiple incarcerations. Kerry wanted to free their child from a life within this context and she was convinced the only way to accomplish this was through adoption. John saw nothing wrong with the kind of life they could provide for their child and, in fact, showed no signs of changing his present lifestyle.

Throughout the months we spent planning the details of their son's adoption John remained firm in his contrary mindset toward adoption and, true to his character, he tried to change Kerry's mind. He tried to talk Kerry into smuggling drugs into the prison, and his misdemeanors within the prison cost him his parole which should have come in time to permit him to be present at his son's birth. These were definitely interesting days as I walked John and Kerry through the twists and turns of the plans for their child. I prayed a lot for John during those days. I also came to enjoy John's fun and wild personality, and to genuinely like him.

The last time I saw John was a few months after his release from prison. Not much had changed in his life and I had no expectations of ever seeing him again. But John has remained in my prayers over the years, as has Kerry. Whenever my thoughts have turned to them I've prayed, especially that one day John would come to the Lord and that Kerry would continue to grow in the faith she had eventually found.

Last week I received a call from John, from

halfway across the country. John was calling to tell me he had been alcohol and drug free for over a year and that it was his recently found faith that had given him the strength to get to where he now was. John felt that, with God's help, he was pulling his life together, and he was wondering if he could write his son and his parents just to let them know how he was.

What an amazing call. What an amazing victory in this young man's life. Our God is so faithful and our prayers are never ignored. May we always remember to “be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer” toward those God lays on our hearts.

Margo Semple

\*names have been changed for confidentiality

## We're in need of:

- an office palm pilot
- **Can you believe we still need these:**
- 4 drawer lateral file cabinet or 4 drawer vertical cabinet (prefer beige but any colour will do). Must have a working lock.
- 1 wingback chair (new or used) to match one already donated. Must be in good condition.
- new baby car seats (the easier to operate the better)

Thanks for the many gifts to our care cupboard over recent weeks. Keep sending us your gently used summer clothes, as we have an increasing number of moms visiting us each week.



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## Meet the Men in Leadership at Jewels For Jesus

We have a wonderful volunteer Board of Directors who provide spiritual and administrative oversight for Jewels For Jesus. This Father's Day we celebrate our Board and their families who support them in their service here.



Heinz Haischt, President of Patterson Industries Inc., is our Chairman. Heinz has faithfully and tirelessly served on our Board since January, 1981. When we have a problem, we call Heinz. He and his wife, June, and their two children, Andrew and Daniela, attend Bayview Glen Alliance Church.



Gord Dueck is our acting secretary. He has served with the Board since May, 1987. He and his wife, Carol, have recently moved to Beamsville and are attending Bethany Community Church. Gord has been our web master, keeping our webpage up and running.



David Ellis has been serving on the Board since January, 1998. He has helped out with a number of special events as well as ongoing monthly decisions at the Board level. David and his wife, Elizabeth, have two sons, Andrew and William, and attend Crestwicke Baptist Church in Guelph.



Mike Streun presently heads up the Personnel Committee on the Board and has been with us since April, 2000. Mike is the owner of Automation Alternatives. He and his wife, Terry, have two children, Matthew and Robin, and they attend Caledon Hills Fellowship Baptist Church.



Andrew MacLean is the newest member of our Board. Andrew is Director of Sales for Canada at Reuven International. He and his wife, Margaret, and their two children, Neal and Valery, attend The Meeting Place in Oakville.

Praise God for raising up these godly leaders for our ministry, and please pray for these men as they seek the Lord for key decisions in this ministry.

## A Word From Joan



A father to the fatherless, a defender of widows, is God in His holy dwelling. God sets the lonely in families...."  
Psalm 68:5, 6a

Dear Friends,

June is the month we celebrate fathers. One of the greatest blessings in my life is my Dad. I had the privilege of being raised by a godly, Christian father who loved me unconditionally and taught me by example to love the Lord, to memorize His word, to pray in all things and to love others as Christ loved me. This was something I took for granted while growing up, but I now realize what a rare gift it was and continues to be. I have met so many who did not have a good relationship with their father or did not have a father at all.

It is always amazing to me how God anticipates these failings of ours and, long before the rise of fatherlessness in our Canadian society, He declared Himself to be a father to the fatherless. And as His people, he calls us to the same thing. In Psalm 82:3, God calls his people to "defend the cause of the weak and the fatherless, maintain the rights of the poor and oppressed."

This month we have had many single moms through our care cupboard and have had the opportunity to assist their fatherless children. Others have let us pray with them over fathers who are absent, angry or abusive. They have

come for diapers, formula, clothing etc. but have stayed to share their concerns, their grief and their fears as we have asked the simple question, "Is there anything we could pray about for you?"

It is also our privilege to see children placed in Christian families, where they have the opportunity to grow up with a father through adoption.

Although we often focus on the young women we serve and counsel at Jewels For Jesus, there are the same number of men who are a part of each story. Some are supportive, some are searching for answers, some are absent, and others angry. More and more we are seeing young men come on their own to get help, answers and direction with an unplanned pregnancy or their grief in an adoption decision.

Please pray for the fatherless children in our society and continue to support us as we support them. Pray also for all the birth fathers we serve who are struggling - God does hear and answer our prayers on their behalf. Pray also for our adoptive fathers, that God would grant them wisdom and insight as they raise the children he has given to their care. And seek God for how you might fulfill His word, in your own life, to "defend the cause of the weak and the fatherless".

In the Father's loving care,

Joan Kosmachuk  
Executive Director

Dear Joan,

I would like to support the work of JEWELS FOR JESUS MISSION INC.

\_\_\_\_\_ making a donation of \$\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ receiving information on the monthly Pre-authorized Support Plan

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone No: \_\_\_\_\_



Spending of funds is confined to Board approved programs and purchases. Each gift designated toward an approved program will be used as designated with the understanding that when any given need has been met, designated gifts will be used where needed most. Gifts of more than \$5.00 are acknowledged and receipted with an official receipt for income tax purposes.

06/04

