



1957 - 2010

Child Evangelism Fellowship of Saskatchewan

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Open Doors of Opportunity!

Dear Friends,

January 2010

At the age of 7 our family moved to Dauphin, Manitoba where my dad took over my grandfather's farm. It was April and I would finish off my school year in a new school in a new community. The adjustment for me was a difficult one as each day I rode the bus back and forth to town. It was there that I was first introduced to First Nations children. They had a much harder adjustment than I did since they too were going to a new school in a new community, but maybe hardest of all, they had to leave their families on the reserves in northern Manitoba and spend the winters in Dauphin going to school.

Each year many of the same children would come to Dauphin for the winter from their homes on the reserves and over the years I got to know them a little better as we spent all day together in class. I have thought of them from time to time and wondered where they are now in light of the **open doors of opportunity** God has given us in reserves across our province. As a child, I did not fully understand how hard it must have been for them and now as a parent, I can only imagine how hard it was for their parents to send them off each fall. In many ways I grew to appreciate the First Nations children and found them to be much like the rest of us except for the hardships they were learning to live with.

In the past several years, God has **opened doors of opportunity** to many reserves to take the gospel to the children. Members of our family have also had opportunities to go to many of the reserves in our province to take the gospel and I will have to say, the more God **opens these doors**, the more love I have for the First Nations people.

About a week ago I was given an **opportunity** to go to **Shoal Lake Reserve** where God has placed a Christian teacher in the high school with an incredible love for the First Nations people and a desire to take the gospel to their reserve. We started talking about 6 months ago about the possibility of taking **Club DJ** into the school on the reserve, where the gospel would be given each day. He presented the **Club DJ** material to the leadership there and it was approved to be taken right into the school to be taught to the children. On January 19th, I spent the whole day on **Shoal Lake Reserve**. In the morning, I met with the teachers from kindergarten to grade 2. All three of these ladies were Christians themselves with a desire to share the gospel with the children on the reserve. As I shared with them our desire to win children for Christ and disciple them to have '**Hearts ♥ That Desire to Please God**', I asked if they thought it would make a difference if we reached the children while they were still young. I shared with them the important role they have to reach these young children for Christ and disciple them to have '**Hearts ♥ That Desire to Please God**'; it could literally change the whole reserve if there was a generation on **Shoal Lake Reserve** that had such a heart. It was like a light went on and they understood the opportunity that God has given them to teach, reach, and disciple the children. Later that morning, I taught a story in all 3 of these classes which included the gospel as I presented the children with the Wordless Book. I shared with them what each colored page meant. I was shocked as I turned to the black page which reminds us of our sin. I asked the children if anyone could tell me what sin was. To my amazement, they had no idea what I was talking about. As I continued on with the story and the explanation of the Wordless Book I shared how the little boy one night prayed and asked God to forgive him for his sins. In an instant, one little boy in the front row said, "I am going to do that right now," and

spun around in his desk and bowed his head and prayed for God to forgive him for his sin. In each class I concluded with teaching the children John 3:16 as it is the first [Hide'em in Your Heart](#) ♥ Verse they will memorize in [Club DJ](#). I asked them if [Shoal Lake](#) was in the world, to which they replied, "Yes." I told them that they could say, "For God so loved [Shoal Lake](#) that He gave His one and only Son . . ." then at the end of the session I gave each child a Wordless book of their own. By the end of the day it was decided that they would have [Club DJ](#) everyday in this school for 15 minutes with approximately 55 children from 3 classes, kindergarten to grade 2. Please pray for [Shoal Lake](#) that this **door of opportunity** would remain open, and that the teachers would be encouraged and the children would respond to the gospel.

Other opportunities in January have included a [Club DJ Workshop](#) in a church in Manitoba which is also wanting to start a [Club DJ](#) outreach in their community. In the last week, we sent 2 information packets to churches in the USA, one in Mississippi and one in Kentucky, who have heard about [Club DJ](#). Yesterday, I received a call from a lady in a church in Prince Albert interested in learning more about [Club DJ](#) and in the last couple of weeks we have received emails from a church in Spain and from a pastor in the Philippines saying, "I read your ministry in the internet being a pastor I am interested I saw that your ministry will have a lot of our ministry here in the Philippines."

Last weekend, I received a fax from a church who ordered 2 more [Club DJ](#) books with this note: "These two books are for Hindu children that say they want to come! My assistant director is eager to get the books and even pay for them, hoping it will work out at home for them to come."

Since our Christmas mailing went out near the end of December the mail has been pouring into our office from the children we have reached over the last few years. It is so encouraging to see so many lessons coming back from communities where we took the gospel through the 5-Day Club program. Many of these communities have no church or Sunday school for the children to attend. Please pray for the children as they do these lessons and learn more about God as we seek to disciple them through the mail.

As the new year begins we have started preparing for the summer ahead and are excited about the 5-Day Club ministry. In April, we will be hosting another Coordinator Retreat where we will meet with the 5-Day Club Coordinator's from across Saskatchewan. Last summer, we reached almost 4,200 children and were in 144 communities including 20 First Nations Reserves. Please pray for continued **open doors** in communities across Saskatchewan as we seek to take the gospel to the children of our province.

Once again we are nearing the time of year when we travel the province sharing the things that God is doing through these ministries in the hearts and lives of the children. In our letters I seek to share some of the stories but it is impossible to share all God is doing on these pages. I have included our Child Evangelism Fellowship of Saskatchewan Spring Banquets poster with the information of the banquets in your area. We would love to have you come as we seek to give God all the glory for all He has done. Please confirm if you are able to come by calling one of the numbers for the details of the banquet in your area. Maybe you could hang the poster in your church or invite a friend to join you at the banquet.

Once again I want to thank each of you for your faithful prayers and part in this ministry and trust you are encouraged as together we walk through the doors of opportunity that God continues to open to share the gospel with the children and youth of our province, nation, and world.

For the sake of the children,



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