



The Trinity Times

August 2012

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Little Characters with Big Lessons A Man Who Rose to the Occasion

If I were to say the name, ‘Edgar Rice Burroughs,’ would you know who I was talking about? Maybe, maybe not, but you do know what he’s done. Burroughs is the author/inventor of Tarzan. In Tarzan (a series of 24 novels), he introduces us to such characters as Kerchak (leader of the great apes), Kala (Tarzan’s adopted ape mother), and Korak (Tarzan’s son, who was never called ‘Boy’ except in the movies). Describing his motivation to write, Burroughs said: “...if people were paid for writing rot such as I read in some of those magazines, that I could write stories just as rotten.” I say all this to introduce this article’s main character, Shamgar, which is a name I feel would be perfectly comfortable in a Tarzan book. In fact, Shamgar’s deeds would be comfortable in such a work of fiction. We find Shamgar – only by looking for him – tucked away in the book of Judges. As an introduction, let’s look at the Bible’s description of what had happened to Israel in those days. “*The people served the LORD all the days of Joshua, and all the elders who survived Joshua, who had seen all the great work of the LORD which He had done for Israel. Then Joshua the son of Nun, the servant of the LORD, died...All that generation also were gathered to their fathers; and there arose another generation after them who did not know the LORD, nor yet*



the work which He had done for Israel” (Joshua 2:7, 8, 10).

Shamgar is one of the judges, the third mentioned, and he gets only one verse; Judges 3:31 “*After him came Shamgar the son of Anath, who struck down six hundred Philistines with an oxgoad; and he also saved Israel.*” He is referred to two chapters later in the song of Deborah (Judges 5:6 “*In the days of Shamgar, the son of Anath, in the days of Jael, the highways were deserted, and travelers went by roundabout ways*”). That is all the mention he gets.

Let’s start with Shamgar’s enemies. The Philistines are the people in what is today called the Gaza Strip – in fact, Philistine is the basis of our modern word Palestine, even though there is no connection between the two peoples. They are a people Israel never conquered. They were Greek-like in their civilization, and considered more civilized, sophisticated, and cultured than the Israelites. They were more advanced in the art and science of war. And of course, they didn’t think highly of the God of Israel. It appears at this time the Israelites didn’t either. The Philistines seemed to think of the Israelites as a backwards tribal people, and intended to rule over them. Based on what Deborah wrote, the Philistines controlled the highways. Perhaps they imposed tolls, took prisoners, or even killed travelers. We don’t know, but they greatly restricted Israel.

Enter Shamgar. We find a man of cour-

Photo of the Month



“Our mission is to proclaim the Word of God, leading people to a saving faith and a growing relationship with Jesus Christ.”

Say hello to the staff we sent up to 11-12 camp at Cocolalla Lake Bible Camp. All of them except Clifford are about to return for another week, this time for 9-10 camp. Between them, they served as Timothies, Cabin leaders, Programming Staff, and Horse Wranglers.

age. Israel as a nation was in retreat and hiding; Shamgar as a man faced the enemy. I presume he was a strong man; but I also presume he wasn't a warrior. An oxgoad is not a soldier's weapon, but a farmer's. I doubt Shamgar spent hours training to use it against soldiers; it was just what was handy when he needed it. I also doubt he went looking for this battle, but chose not to retreat when it came upon him.

We also find a man willing to sacrifice himself. One man does not do battle with 600 expecting victory. So why did he do it? Did they come upon him while he was herding cattle across the road, and he attacked in frustration? I don't like that option because it would be for his own sake, rather than to deliver Israel. Perhaps it was that scenario, except there were others with him, and he wanted to give them a chance to escape. I like to think that one way or another; he did it to protect others. Regardless, I doubt he expected to survive the encounter. He was willing to die for the cause.

Perhaps the most important thing, Shamgar was willing to stand alone. It is easy to stand with the majority. It is less easy to stand in the minority, but at least you have friends in arms. It is difficult to stand alone. It requires conviction, courage, and confidence. Shamgar faced a

serious threat from an imposing enemy, and he did it alone. This man's courage is impressive.

What a lesson he gives us. As our culture views us (Bible-believing Christians), we are the backwards people who need to be brought into line. Responding to how we are viewed by the world, many of our company are retreating, hiding, and compromising. Our young people, seeing our compromise, are choosing to join the other side. How we need people who will take their stand for God. It's significant that Scripture says he saved Israel. I think he did more than just win a battle – he showed Israel that battles could be won.

An interesting thing about Shamgar's standing alone – he probably wasn't the only one who felt the way he did, or the only one with the courage to do what he did. He was the man who found himself in that situation at that time. When put in the situation, he rose to the occasion. And, as the story has a happy ending, when he rose to the occasion he won the victory, because he really wasn't standing alone after all.

In the Library



by Judy Crowell

One book that will soon be in the library--I'm still reading it-- is called Not a Fan by Kyle Idleman, a pastor in Kentucky. It distinguishes the difference between being a fan of Jesus, and being a follower. Too often in today's world people tend to be fans of Jesus--those who know all about him but don't actually know him. The author asserts that "the biggest threat to the church today is fans who call themselves Christians but aren't actually interested in following Christ. They want to be close enough to Jesus to get all the benefits, but not so close that it requires anything from them." Sadly, many people who are just fans probably assume they are followers and would be surprised to be considered otherwise." This would explain the passage in Mat-

thew where Jesus said, "Not everyone who says to me 'Lord, Lord' will enter the kingdom of heaven...then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you. Away from me you evil doers.'"

In the Gospels Jesus said "believe in me" about five times, but "follow me" about twenty times. To truly believe is to follow. "There is no believing without following. Following is a twenty-four-hour a day commitment that will interfere with your life, not something you can do at night when nobody notices." Jesus described the Pharisees as "people (who) honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me." They were "professional pretenders." On the other hand followers live "with a continual awareness of the Spirit's

presence and a constant prayer to be filled with His power." "The only way to be filled with the Spirit is to empty myself of me." Too often the Bible verse that is used to attract new Christians is John 3:16 alone. The author feels that this should always be coupled with Luke 9:23: "If anyone would come after Me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow Me."

This book includes a lot of inspiring examples of how being a true follower of Jesus changes lives. I highly recommend it.



Heart Talk

by Mark Smith

Elton Trueblood, a highly respected evangelical leader of yesteryear, described the contemporary Christian scene of his day in this fashion:

"Perhaps the greatest single weakness of the contemporary Christian church is that millions of supposed members are not really involved at all and, what is worse, do not think it's strange that they are not. As soon as we recognize Christ's intention to make His church a militant company we understand at once that the conventional arrangement cannot suffice. There is no real chance of victory in a campaign if 90 percent of the soldiers are untrained and uninvolved, but that is exactly where we stand now. Most alleged Christians do not now understand that loyalty to Christ means sharing personally in His ministry, going or staying as the situation requires."

Not much has changed since Trueblood wrote this. Another has made this observation: "If we aim at nothing, we will hit it every time."

The apostle Paul had a target for his life that he was intentional about: "*I have become the servant of the church by the commission God gave me to present to you the Word of God in its fullness ... We proclaim [Christ], admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone perfect in Christ. To this*

end I labor, struggling with all God's energy, which so powerfully works in me" (Colossians 1:25, 28-29).

To become intentional about our Christianity, we will wrestle with four basic questions of life: Who am I? Why am I here? Where am I going? And, how then shall I live? Effective Christ-followers know who they are in Christ, understand their purpose in life, recognize their destiny in time and eternity, and live authentically as "full-time" Christians.

The foundation for all of this is God's grace – to recognize how intentional our Lord has been toward us. His plan in grace is to completely replace ALL that we try to do and ALL that we cannot do with what He FULLY supplies for eternal life and present-day godly living.

The cross of Christ is the place of grace. His death in our place is God's provision in grace, enabling us to give up our old life and, by faith in what Christ has done, receive His new life for us.

Grace goes on to deliver us from sin and evil in the present age. We call that sanctification – setting us apart for what God has in mind for us. We learn how to walk in grace through the powerful ministry of the Holy Spirit, developing an authentic Christ-like lifestyle. Through grace, God grows us and takes us to maturity as we cooperate with Him. Ultimately, Christ will present us to the Father for all eternity!



Dear family and friends,

Thanks for your on-going friendship and partnership with us in this ministry to the Muslims.

Here's a little update on our National Conference on Ministry to Muslims October 25-27, 2012, in Toronto, ON: The largest Chinese church in Canada is hosting the conference. I am encouraged that the vision to reach Muslims is spreading to churches of all types of ethnic background.

There are now 48 workshops. The variety is amazing, and covers foundational items to advanced. Some are in Farsi and others are in Arabic. Topics cover ministry to Muslim children, to Muslim university students, to growing mature leaders in fellowships of Muslim background believers.

The largest church in Canada is an Egyptian (Coptic) church. The leaders of this church want to become involved in reaching Muslims, and are sending some people to the National Conference.

More resources are becoming available. There may be 20 different booths of all types of ministries, plus a resource table which we hope will include applications that can be loaded onto cell phones and laptops. Conference Registration is now going through O.M. (Operation Mobilization). This is one unforeseen significant change, that we have encountered recently. Check out the conference website for more info: <http://lovingmuslimstogether.org>.

Please pray for this conference! Someone once said, "the devil is in the details." We are experiencing all kinds of problems with details. Pray for more volunteers for the conference. Pray for those who should come to the conference, that they would be blessed and have a mountaintop experience. Pray for the organizers, and the speakers.

Margo and I need and appreciate your prayers as we face challenges from different sides.

We go forward on our knees.

We appreciate you all so very much. Hope you are all enjoying some good summer weather.

love,

Randy and Margo

Would You Like to Serve at Operation Christmas Child?



It's time to sign up as a volunteer in an Operation Christmas Child Processing Center!

Registration begins at 8:00 a.m. EDT on Monday, August 6. Spaces will fill quickly. If you, your family, or group would like to participate in this mission opportunity, please call 1-800-442-9120 to request a reservation.

We are blessed to have many volunteers who want to serve, so we appreciate your understanding and flexibility in scheduling as we try to accommodate as many people as possible. Please have multiple options of dates and times in mind when you call.

This holiday season, we anticipate 65,000 volunteers serving in our Processing Centers in Atlanta, Georgia; Boone, North Carolina; Charlotte, North Carolina; Denver, Colorado; Honolulu, Hawaii; Minneapolis, Minnesota; and Orange County, California. Volunteers must be at least 13 years old.

For more information about Samaritan's Purse and Operation Christmas Child, please visit our website or call 1-800-353-5949.

Together we can touch millions of hearts with Christmas joy and the Good News of Jesus Christ. Thank you for your prayers and support.



Praise the Lord!

* Cam had a good meeting with our Bafanji chief. He shared chocolate we brought from America, the Christmas story in Chufie', and a book for him to learn how to read and write Chufie'. He also got permission to use the Chief's picture on the front of the reading book, and together they wrote a forward from the Chief to encourage everyone in the village to read! It was a pleasant and successful meeting. Thank you for praying for this.

* Our family enjoyed almost a week in the village. It was nice to attend church there again, and to go to the village market.

* Dorota, a volunteer from the

Czech Republic, has been a blessing and is fitting in very well with our family. She is helping to type some stories (not easy when you don't understand the language you are typing in), and shadowing Cam in his meetings during the next couple of

weeks.

* The kids are in good health, and we have avoided malaria thus far despite a great increase in mosquitoes with rainy season.

Lord, we need You . . . in Bamenda and Bafanji

* Cam and Dorota travel to Ndop Friday (about 1 hr drive) to work with people from Bangolan. They will be able to use the six texts that he and Pastor Ezekiel have prepared over the past couple of months.

* Cam is also preparing for a presentation that he will make next month at a linguistics. This will be his first time to present at a conference.

* Valerie has been struggling with

some stomach/digestive issues the past couple weeks.

* Chantal, Pastor Clifford's wife, has finished her Typhoid medication, but still feels like the Typhoid is hanging on.

* The translators have been so busy with farming and other commitments, that they've had a hard time coming together to work. Pray against any hindrances to continuing their work together. Pray especially for Moses with heavy farming responsibilities, his wife due with twins any day, and possibility of additional responsibilities in the village that could pull him away from church and translation. The past couple weeks, he has been under great pressure to rejoin the village traditional religion. Pastor Daniel was also unable to come because his recently purchased motorcycle was stolen.

*Please pray that God will provide a solution for better internet and email.

Cam & Valerie Hamm

Quarterly Board Meeting Report

Elders Report—As a result of the June 24th congregational meeting, \$1,000 was sent to Cocolalla Lake Bible Camp to help with their roofing project, and \$10,000 will automatically be transferred to the Building Fund when the General Fund reaches \$30,000.

Deaconess Report—There is one ladies' Bible study going on; the Beth Moore series on Esther. There are ladies' prayer meetings getting together. There will be an M&Ms yard sale on July 20th with proceeds going to the Building Fund. A Baby(ies) shower will be held on July 10 for Maryann Scheiffele and Rachel Lacy. Bridal showers are being planned for Kim Hargreaves and Savannah Plasencia. Plans are being made for the Women's Retreat in September.

Treasurer's Report—\$3,000 that was reported as part of the General Fund is actually undesignated offerings for the Mission Fund, so the General Fund is under \$30,000 and no transfer has been made yet to the Building Fund.

Trustees Report—Flooring will be replaced in the Youth Pastor's parsonage. Work is being done to move the garage, won't be moved until after the yard sale. There was a clean-up day in May. Three loads of gravel were spread on the parking lot (one load was donated by Mike Stormo). Church carpet should be cleaned later this summer.

Youth Pastor's Report—Josh had been checking out Northport making plans for the Youth Leadership mission trip in August. He intends to work at Cocolalla all July as Timothy Coordinator and night watchman. He's getting married August 25th!

Pastor's Report—Steve will serve as Dean at Teen Camp at Cocolalla. The Asia Mission trip team will report in church soon. A Memorial service will be held for Debbie Boleneus' mother on July 14. It is time to start promoting our baptism service.

Sunday School Report—VBS went well. A big Thank You to Fred Bell for cleaning church that week. Mark is currently working on a Fall Teacher's Meeting and Bible Institute classes.

Old Business—There was much discussion about the two-service schedule; especially after low attendance the previous two Sundays. Reasons supporting two services: 1) People couldn't sit together if arriving late, 2) the parking lot was too crowded, 3) If we are too full, we can't accomplish the Great Commission. Reasons supporting one service: 1) There is a lack of a sense of unity, 2) the services don't feel as positive with smaller numbers. No decisions were made.

New Business—We need to figure out who is authorized to use the church's safe deposit box. It is time to move forward from Building Committee to Fund-raising Committee.



Josh & Kim are getting Married!

August 25th at Noon at Cocolalla Lake Bible Camp!

Youth Stuff by Josh Cooper

I know I have told this story before, but with the summer Olympics here I would love to remind everyone of this great example of finishing.

You may have heard of John Steven Akhwari, the runner from Tanzania who finished last in the marathon at the 1968 Olympics in Mexico City. No last-place finisher in a marathon ever finished quite so last.

Injured along the way, he hobbled into the stadium over an hour after the last runner had crossed the finish line. All the spectators were gone, the stadium was closed, and crews were preparing for the closing ceremony when Akhwari gathered himself for a final effort and sprinted across the line. (I'm told that one of the workers picked up a torn finishing tape and held it across the track so Akhwari could break it.)

When Bud Greenspan, the official filmmaker of the games, asked the weary athlete why he put himself through

such pain, Akhwari replied, "Mr. Greenspan, my country did not send me five thousand miles to start the race. They sent me to finish it."

Paul reminds us of finishing strong, in fact at the end of his life Paul tells us, "*I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.*" Will we be able to stand before God and have that same thought as Paul did when we face God when we die?

Upcoming Events

August 5-10—Youth Leadership Mission Trip to Northport, WA.

August 29th—Awana leaders meeting.

September 9th—180° starts again. Keep an eye out for more info on the **first 180° event** of the new school year.

Church Funds

6/30/12

Building Fund	\$152,972.45
Benevolence Fund	1,076.82
Missionaries Reserve	2,100.00
Missions Fund	3,040.00
Scholarship	200.00
General Fund	27,587.92

Overall Total \$186,977.19

Church Camp-Out!

Join us for food, fun and fellowship on Friday, August 10th through Saturday afternoon, August 11th. We will host an on-site camping experience for the whole congregation! Bring your tents and set them up on the lawn; or if you can't stand the excitement, go home for bed and join us again in the morning.

Once again this year there are cooking contests—see if you make the best chili or cake. Don't forget the horseshoes contest!

For more information call Marie Plasencia for details. (725-7630)

Asia Trip Report!

Laurie, Bethany, and Katie will share pictures and stories from their recent mission trip to Asia during the worship service on Sunday, August 5th. Then, after the service, we will have lots of time to ask them for more details during our Coffee Fellowship!

A Party for Cocolalla

"Cocolalla Lake Bible Camp started in 1972, when Christians joined together with a common goal: Building a Bible Camp where the Gospel is proclaimed and God is glorified. These men and women gave generously of their time, skills, property, money, and prayers to turn a 12-acre hayfield into a marvelous camp."

"Mark your calendar for September 8, 2012, when we will hold a celebration BBQ for anyone who is a friend of the camp. This will be a reunion of former and current missionaries, board members, staff, and campers."

From their 40th Anniversary Announcement.

One Service!

Sunday School, 9:45, Worship Service, 11:00. Coffee Fellowship, August 5th! Enjoy the fellowship!



Now that TBF has returned to a single worship service at 11 a.m., we will have the time just before Sunday School to gather as teachers and resume our collective prayers for the classes.

I invite you to meet with me at 9:30 every Sunday morning. I welcome your participation in that special preparatory step towards opening God's Word in ministry to those the Lord sends our way.

I'd also like to resume our "First Sunday" reports from the Sunday School. Be thinking of how you can introduce your classes (and students) to the larger congregation during the worship service. It's a way to let those who don't realize this ministry is available in on the "secret" by whetting their appetites.

Classes continue strong during the summer months. Our "college" group, led by Mike and Laurie Anderson, has morphed into a broader group of adults interested in learning how God's Word came together into the Bibles we use today. Pastor Steve's study of Job continues in the worship center. After an intensive series in Psalm 23, I'm finishing up a look at some of David's other Psalms with my class that meets in the library. The women's class led

Teachers Corner

by Annie Ricketts is on summer hiatus.

Those who teach our children and youth have been very flexible, willing to consolidate classes to allow vacation and ministry time away for their colleagues. I also acknowledge with appreciation those who provided nursery and children's church ministries for the 8:30 a.m. service during its run between February and July.

Thanks also to Leslea and Josh McLachlan, Deanna Fitzpatrick and Kristi Bell who are faithful "go-to" people when we need substitutes so that our regular teachers can have an occasional break.

Those having an interest in helping staff our Sunday School are invited to connect with me.

Our next teacher gathering is being planned in early fall (September), so stay tuned for the details. Let me know what's on your mind that you'd like to discuss or have training. Thank you for all you do in ministering through Christian education at TBF!



Trinity Bible Fellowship
P.O. Box 853
Davenport, WA. 99122

One Service
SS 9:45
Worship Service: 11:00
(until further notice)

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Thanks to Larry Davis

07-24-2000

ON THE PLUS SIDE, I'M CAUGHT UP WITH MY BURNT OFFERINGS FOR A WHILE



Not too early for Christmas!

Summer is a great time to buy cheap school supplies, which make great gifts in the shoe boxes we send! Start thinking, praying, and looking for gifts now!

Awana is just around the corner!

Our schedule for the coming year is still to be decided, but it's not too early to start getting excited!

Awana—Approved Workmen And Not Ashamed (see 2nd Timothy 2:15)

Cubbies—for boys and girls within two years of Kindergarten

Sparks—for Kindergarten, First, and Second Graders

Truth and Training—Boys T&T and Girls T&T for Third through Sixth Graders

Games, Lessons, Songs, and Cookies for all!

Missionary of the Month: Pastor Daniel & Mary Chittumuri

P O Box 421

Visakhapatnam, AP 530 004 India



SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:45 AM
WORSHIP SERVICE 11:00 AM

August 2012

Women's Ministry Leader: Wanda Bowman

Group Members: Deanna Fitzpatrick

Kelly Hensley

Denise Hayes

Carmelyn Choate

Lynn Hernas



Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

	<p>Pastor Steve on Vacation August 20—September 2</p>		<p>1</p> <p>Charles & Betty Turk</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3 Kim Hargreaves Bridal Shower 6 pm</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Ken Horner</p>
<p>5 Coffee Fellowship China Trip Sharing</p> <p>Karissa Rosenthal Mark & Marcia Smith Dick & Lorie Wandling</p>	<p>6 Mission Committee Meeting 9 am</p> <p>7 Katie Fitzpatrick</p> <p>Youth Leadership Mission Trip to Northport, WA</p> <p>Lana Nelson</p>		<p>8</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Aug. 5—10</p> <p>Joan Wintersteen</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Joe Bell Jeremiah Choate Delilah Plumb Mary Scharff Arne Seim</p>	<p>11</p> <p>August 10 & 11 Church Family Camp-out! Chili & Cake Cooking Contests! Horseshoe Contest!</p>
<p>12</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Steve Holzapple Angela Payne</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Sharon Coleman</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Tim & Teresa Karr</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Daniel Coriell</p>	<p>18 Savannah Plasencia's Bridal Shower 2 pm</p>
<p>19</p> <p>Jeremiah & Tiffany Choate</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Candace Manuel Spencer Tarbert</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Cal Gilmer</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Kurt & Julie Elledge</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Scout Sewall</p>	<p>25 Josh & Kim's Wedding @ CLBC</p> <p>Matthew Nelson Cameron & Valerie Hamm</p>
<p>26 Communion/Benevolence Offering</p> <p>Robert & Linette Vaughn</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Brilee Sewall</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Annette Lembcke Bruce & Dawn Dehn</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Michael Bell</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Kelsey Anderson Pastor Steve McLachlan</p>	<p>31</p> <p>Samuel Cain Levi Ricketts Michael & Kristie Bell</p>	