

Full Gospel Business Men's

05-86
VOICE

buck knives:
tempered
and tested

as told by Chuck Buck



To every hunter, fisherman, and outdoor enthusiast, the name Buck Knives, Inc. is well-known. In 1907, H.H. Buck, apprentice in a blacksmith shop in Leavenworth, Kansas, began making knives from discarded rasps and files. From that humble beginning, a modern knife manufacturing company, located in El Cajon, California has emerged. The plant, with more than 200,000 square feet under one roof, is run by Chuck Buck, President and Chief Executive Officer. This is his story and how it relates to the world-famous Buck Knives.

buck knives: tempered and tested

AS TOLD BY CHUCK BUCK

Q *What is the position of Buck Knives in the world of knife manufacturing?*

A For the last six years, the dealers have rated us number one in the area of hunting knives. I believe that we are the largest sporting knife manufacturer in the U.S. There are two larger knife manufacturers, but they have also been manufacturing kitchen knives for so many years that their total volume is greater than ours. But we have the largest sporting knife volume, including hunting knives, pocket knives, fillet knives, and survival knives. We produce about two million knives annually.

Q *Is it true that an article recently appeared in The Washington Post naming your company as manufacturer of the finest hunting knives on the market?*

A Yes, I did hear that from one of our people in the American Cutlery Association in Washington, D.C. He sent me the article from *The Washington Post* indicating that, in the writer's opinion, Buck is the best hunting knife made. We also just had an airing on PM Magazine picked up nationwide. We were on the 700 Club in January. It seems like recently we have had more positive publicity

than we have ever had. I praise the Lord for it, because every company likes exposure, especially positive exposure.

Q *Are your knives sold internationally as well as nationally?*

A Yes, 95 percent of our sales are national through about 23,000 sporting goods dealers. Five percent, of course, are sold in about thirty different nations primarily in Europe and Canada.

Q *What type of sales volume has*



In a series of key executive interviews with leading businessmen from around the world, Chuck Buck (left) gives a tour of the Buck Knife manufacturing plant to Steve Shakarian, MBA, chief operating officer of FGBMFI (center), and Jerry Jensen, Ph.D., Litt.D., editor of Voice magazine (right).

Chuck Buck is president of Buck Knives, Inc. He and his wife Lori have two grown children, Chuck, Jr. and Marilyn and two grandchildren. Chuck and Lori attend La Mesa First Assembly of God Church where they teach the Young Marrieds Class. Chuck serves on the church board.

Mr. Buck serves as director of San Diego Youth for Christ, director of the American Cutlery Association, and director of the local Boy Scout Council. He is vice president of the El Cajon Chapter, FGBMFI.

Buck Knives seen over the last few years?

A In 1985, our volume was between 29 and 30 million.

Q *How many employees do you have?*

A Right now Buck Knives has about 350 employees, and we have another corporation that has about 50. So we have a total of 400.

Q *Do you produce all your knives here in El Cajon?*

A Yes, all the knives are produced right here. We are working toward producing the parts here and sending them to a company in Germany to have them assembled there for the European market. That way, we can make the price more competitive over there and beat some of the tariff policies that we are up against.

Q *The decline of the dollar is helping you, but there is a pretty high ratio to foreign exchange. How are you able to compete?*

A Not very easily. It helps when we buy cutlery equipment in Germany and Switzerland. We have to do this since it's not available in America. But when the ratio is high, it does hurt us in sales. A knife that retails in the United States for about \$40 sells in Europe for about \$125.

Q *Why is a customer in Europe willing to pay that difference?*

A There aren't many that will. So, our sales are considerably down. However, the word is getting out that Buck is a quality knife and that we always stand behind that warranty. Some European customers are willing to pay the money. But we need to get that price down so that it will hit the major segment of the

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market and not just the very rich.

Q *Tell us the history of Buck Knives, Inc.*

A My grandfather made the first Buck knife around 1907 in Leavenworth, Kansas. He was working as a blacksmith's apprentice and trying to find a use for all the files and rasps that were thrown away. Brazed versions were excellent for holding an edge and would last almost indefinitely for him. He thought that maybe these could be used for knives, so he made some in the shape of knives, hollow ground them, tempered them back and softened them. He started giving them away to friends and using them himself, and they held an edge. After a while it got to the point where he was running out of files. His friends kept bringing him more files to make knives, and soon he began charging. That's how the business began.

My grandparents moved to San Diego, California in 1946, and my grandfather continued making knives. After my grandfather died in 1949, my dad kept the business going through the fifties. They sold by mail order and probably made three or four knives a day, selling for five or six dollars apiece. In 1961 we were incorporated, and that's when I became involved. I've probably been at every level of the company, from the assembly line and sweeping the floor to being president.

Q *So you're the third generation involved in this family company?*

A I'm the third, and my son, Chuck, Jr., represents the fourth generation. He is currently in charge of special projects,

and I am hoping that he'll be president when I retire.

Q *Tell us more about your plan with regard to knife sales in Europe.*

A We plan to have a German knife company assemble our knives for sale in Europe. We will actually produce the



Chuck and Lori Buck

parts of ten of our most popular knives here in our plant. We'll do all the heat treating and other processes so that we can control the quality aspects such as making sure the blade is hard enough to hold an edge. We'll then send the parts to Germany and other parts of Europe at a greatly reduced tariff rate. They will produce them, and we'll set up a warehouse and distribute from there into England, France, Germany, Holland, and Italy.

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As far as the eye could see, Pacific ocean waters sparkled in the clear, Hawaiian sunlight. A warm breeze stirred the ship's flags as I walked thoughtfully across the deck. The massive, seagoing vessel gleamed spotlessly white, her engines rumbling powerfully. Soon she would sail forth in the service of the Lord. As an FGBMFI member and practicing attorney in Kona, Hawaii, I was part of her exciting, promising future!



FROM DEVIL'S ADVOCATE TO GOD'S ATTORNEY

Max Crittenden / Kailua-Kona, Hawaii

The *MV Anastasis* (which means "resurrection" in Greek) is a 12,000-ton, 522-foot passenger cargo vessel. Operated by Youth With A Mission (YWAM), she functions as a mercy ship. Don Stephens, director of the ship, describes her ministry as "two helping hands reaching out—offering provision and proclamation of the gospel."

The *Anastasis* is staffed by qualified volunteers who make sure that she functions properly. The ship carries medical teams, food supplies, and construction workers. God has set her course to meet the immense needs of mankind.

So why would such a wonderful, peaceful vessel need an attorney? And why me?

In 1981, the *Anastasis*' crew was rendering emergency aid following an earthquake that devastated the city of Megara, outside Athens, Greece. They distributed free clothing and canned food, as well as ministering to the victims' emotional and spiritual needs. During this endeavor, they met a sixteen-year-old young man named Kostas Kotopoulous.

Kostas, accompanied by his father whom he lived with, had talked with the ship's crew a number of times. On one of his visits, Kostas asked for a Living Bible New Testament in modern Greek, which the crew gladly provided. The young man

hungrily read the story of God's Son and subsequently gave his heart to Jesus.

But the story did not conclude with that happy ending. The boy's mother, estranged from her husband, began to make it very clear that she did not want anyone from the *Anastasis* to see her boy. Her wishes, although unreasonable, were honored by the ship's crew members.

Nevertheless, the angry woman went on to file charges. She felt that her son's conversion had "ruined" Kostas. "He doesn't get drunk like the other boys his age," she complained. "And he doesn't have a normal sex life."

Obsessed with the matter, Kostas' mother cited an obscure Greek law. Soon Don Stephens and two other Christian missionaries were arrested. To the shock of millions of Christians, they were subsequently convicted and sentenced



(Left to right) Don Stephens, director of the *Anastasis*; Alan Williams, ship chaplain, and nineteen-year-old Kostas Kotopoulous

to three and one half years in prison. And for what crimes? "Proselytism and attempted abduction..." stated the legal documents.

It seemed a high price to pay for giving away a Bible!

When I heard the story of Kostas, I thought about my own Christian conversion. I had successfully practiced law for twenty-five years in Seattle, Washington and for five years in Kona, Hawaii. Throughout those years, I had tried to find the Lord through a process of intellectual reasoning.

As a lawyer, I was required to be dubious about my clients' stories. I had to test what they said constantly, for I could not always depend on them to be truthful and accurate. I frequently played the role of "devil's advocate."

I was a reasonably ethical person and

looked down my nose at the man-made religious institutions around me. I had little desire to align myself with those I considered hypocrites. I just couldn't believe in supernatural things or hold with the system of absolutes contained in the Bible. I could see large gray areas in life—no black and white answers.

Nevertheless, I began to hunger for the Lord, though I wouldn't have identified it in those terms at the time. Many people were praying for me. They knew that I attended church with my wife Virginia and daughter Amy, but had never made a personal commitment to God.

In August 1983 we attended a family camp led by Loren Cunningham, International Director and Founder of Youth With A Mission. The many prayers on my behalf finally took effect. I had come up to a dead end in my search for tangible proof that the Lord is indeed who He says He is in the Bible. I had to surrender my intellectual tests and ask the Lord in a childlike way to show Himself to me the way He wanted to—not according to my dictates. When I made this so-called "leap of faith," He honored it and became overwhelmingly real to me. I invited Jesus to become my Saviour and Lord. It was as if scales dropped from my eyes. I could "see" supernatural realities now as I never could before. The Bible made complete sense now—even to my lawyer's mind. The Lord didn't ask me to shelve that intellect—now He could use it in ways I never would have dreamed possible.

Five months later, through the ministry of Bob Trench, FGBMFI Director from South Africa, I was baptized in the Holy Spirit at the FGBMFI Hawaii State Con-



Max Crittenden with daughter Amy and wife Virginia

vention in Kona.

From that time on, I was truly hungry to learn, to grow spiritually, and to expand the spiritual dimension of my character.

"Honey,..." I looked at Virginia over breakfast one morning, wondering how she would respond to my next statement. "I think it's time we went to Youth With A Mission's Crossroads Discipleship Training School!" Crossroads is a three-month intensive study course for those over thirty-five who are considering a second career and have a burden for world evangelism.

With eyes sparkling, she quickly agreed and soon we were on our way.

After the initial three-month training, Virginia and I found ourselves in Singapore. It was there I first heard about Don Stephens and his trial. And the more I learned, the more puzzled I became. How could Don find himself facing a jail term for simply leading a Greek boy to the Lord? Greece, often called the Birthplace of Democracy, is a member of the United Nations and the Council of Europe. It is a signatory to many of the international treaties and pacts calling for the observance of fundamental human rights.

Based on simple legal facts, how could Don Stephens and his associates be looking forward to serving time in a Greek prison? I continued to ponder this question.

We returned to Kona, and one Sunday Don Stephens spoke at our church. His words confirmed everything I had previously heard. But beyond his message, I began to hear something else. The Lord Himself was speaking to my heart. I of-

International Mercy Ship M/V Anastasis



ferred to help.

How miraculously the Lord uses us—our gifts, talents, careers and life experiences. "But now God hath set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him" (I Cor. 12:18). As we submit and obey, He is able to work in, through and among us.

And so it was with me. Prompted by the Holy Spirit, I closed my law office in Kona and committed myself full-time to Don's defense, working as one of his attorneys to coordinate the activities involved with the trial.

The laws under which the defendants were charged had been established dur-

ing the Metaxis dictatorship in 1938. Since then, the Greek Constitution, adopted in 1975, has incorporated international laws and conventions as prevailing over domestic Greek laws.

Initially, I buried myself in fact-finding and research on the legal aspects. But after weeks of this, the facts remained as unbelievable as they had seemed during that first sketchy report in Singapore.

Then I went to Athens.

Along with two others, I arrived there on June 7, 1985, for an on-the-scene fact-finding mission. During our visit, we would also make the necessary arrangements with Greek attorneys.

Even before that journey, I had suspected that we were engaged in spiritual warfare. But when we actually arrived in Greece, I was overwhelmed. My spirit immediately sensed powerful occultic forces. Evidences of mythological and demonic influence were everywhere. No wonder my legal background hadn't prepared me to untangle the knotty, confusing threads of this disturbing case.

I was in the wrong arena!

The morning after my arrival in Greece, I went to the Lord in prayer, confessing my inadequacy and dependency upon Him. His response to my prayer was instantaneous. He gave me a renewal of His Holy Spirit so massive that I found myself laughing, crying and praising Him all at the same time!

Without that time of prayer, my effectiveness in the case would not have been possible. It could only be through the outpouring of God's Holy Spirit that I would be equipped for the task ahead.

Ephesians 6:12 and 18 state "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but

against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places...praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and petition for all saints."

Don Stephens' appeal trial is scheduled for May 21, 1986. But the battle will not be won or lost in the Athens courtroom. The "spiritual forces of wickedness" will only be defeated as Christians throughout the world agree in prayer.

As an attorney, I can testify that Don Stephens should not be sentenced for any crime. He has been unjustly convicted. I will use my best skills to change the course of his future and of the mercy ship to which he has been called. But as a Christian, my real "appeal" is to you.

On Don Stephens' behalf, will you agree with me in prayer? Let's go to our gracious Lord together. On May 21, the day of the trial, believers in sixty countries are uniting in a global day of prayer. Let's ask God to defeat the enemy of this world on behalf of our brother and his two associates. Let's take spiritual authority to bring about religious liberty in Greece!

By God's grace, I have decided to lay up my treasures in heaven, to allow God to use any and all of my resources here on earth for the work of His Kingdom. □

Max Crittenden is a lawyer practicing in Kona, Hawaii. Prior to that, he practiced law for twenty-five years in Seattle, Washington. Max received his B.A. degree from the University of Iowa and his J.D. degree from the University of Washington. He and his wife, Virginia, have a daughter, Amy, nine. They worship at Calvary Community Church. Max is a former secretary of the Kona Chapter of FGBMFI.

POULTRY KING



Kwabena Darko
Kumasi, Ghana, West Africa

As a ten-year-old, I lay in my bed and stared into the dark night. Phantom faces leered at me. I clutched the covers tightly around my neck to protect myself. But fingers gripped my throat, trying to cut off my breath.

I struggled, fought, broke free, fled my room and then the house into the dark street.

From the time I was ten until I was sixteen, these encounters with evil forces continued almost nightly. Sleep became a luxury. I grew lean, and my schoolwork was affected. Drugs and nightclub life (I sang with ballroom bands) became my escapist solutions. But drugs only triggered further demonic attack.

Then in 1959, when I was sixteen, a friend who recognized my problem told me about a miracle healing crusade. The Assemblies of God were holding open meetings in Kumasi.

I told my friend, "If our Methodist Mission School hasn't solved my problem all these years, I don't see how this can."

But he persisted. "Kwabena, let's go see for ourselves." I said, "Okay, I'll go with you."

We went to the gathering that night. The preacher quoted, "'He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.'



That's a promise from Psalm 91. God gives more promises in verses 7 and 8: 'A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee. Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked.'

The Scriptures caused my heart to leap.

He continued, "The Lord redeems you. He sets you on high and He honors you. God says that in Psalm 91, verse 14."

For the first time in my life I was challenged by the word of God, even though I had heard it before in the mission school.

When the preacher called people to the altar to receive Jesus Christ into their hearts I was the first man to go forward and was led in a salvation prayer.

Men with love in their eyes gathered around to pray for me. I told them I couldn't sleep because of the evil spirits taunting me. They laid hands on me and

prayed, "We rebuke this demonic oppression in the name of Jesus Christ."

The preacher then exhorted, "You have received Jesus Christ. You are now a son of God. Tell God your need."

I went home and quoted John 1:12 and 13 from the Bible just like the preacher did. "But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God."

Then I got ready for bed and said aloud, "I am Your child, God and I am going to sleep tonight. Take care of me." That night I slept soundly without torment. God had healed me. His word came true in my life.

The next morning I rushed joyfully to the preacher's house and shouted, "God has redeemed me. I have given my life to Him and He has driven the forces of darkness from me!" The preacher beamed





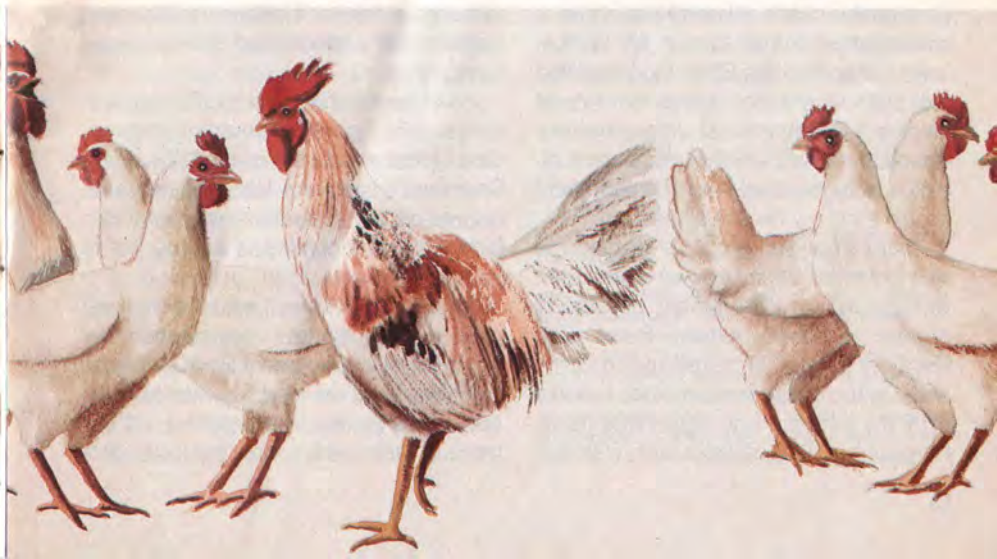
Staff prepare to feed the chickens at Darko Farms

and exclaimed, "That's the most important decision you have ever made." Thereafter he began teaching me. I excitedly drank the word of God like milk, joined the church and was baptized.

That same year the Lord gave me an opportunity to study on a government scholarship at Ruppin Institute in Israel. After three years of study there, I returned to Kumasi with a diploma in poultry husbandry and a potentially promising career.

For the next six years, I worked in the poultry business for my stepfather, F.K. Gyamfi, in Kumasi. When I started, we had about 5,000 egg-laying birds, which increased to 100,000 within six years.

In 1967 Morris Cerullo came to Kumasi for a two-week crusade. I asked my stepfather for time off so I could attend the meetings. He refused to let me go. I said, "I was only asking for two weeks of vacation leave that has accumulated for six years." I went anyway (for which my





stepfather subsequently fired me).

After the crusade, I participated in a three-day youth retreat where the Lord worked on my heart. Later Rev. Kesler, a Bible-school principal in Ghana, spoke at our church, seeking pupils for his school. He convinced me to attend, and I decided to become a minister of the gospel.

But in a quiet moment at night the Lord spoke to me. "I want you to be a businessman and to support My work."

As I searched the Bible, God revealed the truth to me about the ministry of helps in I Corinthians 20. I became convinced inwardly that all of this communication from the Lord indeed meant that I should start my own business.

That same year the Lord blessed me with my wife, Christiana, who was then working at the government hospital in Kumasi as nursing officer. Soon afterward my stepfather asked me to come back, with the agreement that I would work my own farm on a part-time basis. He gave me 1,000 cedis as well. With that



(Above left) Kwabeno Darko stands in front of complex headquarters

(Above) First row: Kwabeno Darko, wife Christiana, Bernice. Top row: Samuel, Vernon David, Jonathan, Maxine Abigail, Mercy Hudson

and our savings of 1,000 cedis, we acquired a five-acre plot on a fifty-year lease in 1967 and started a 900-bird, egg-laying farm.

I had heard about tithing. Taking God at His word, I gave my church 200 cedis out of initial capital as my tithe. We used Christiana's salary for food and rent and reinvested my full-time salary into our farm with my stepfather's and our farm profits.

About a year later, I realized that we needed more money. I approached the Agricultural Development Bank in Kumasi. They would not lend me money without collateral, and I had nothing but my lease on the land, which they wouldn't

consider.

I went to their head office in Accra, explaining my plight to the managing director. He trusted me and received my leasehold land as security for a loan. I knew that God had opened a door for me to enable the business He had promised. The director lent me 5,000 cedis for one year. (At the time, one cedi equaled one dollar.)

Within six months, I had repaid the loan from my profits with the result of the director trusting me even more. He exclaimed, "We like doing business with you and would be willing to lend you more money to expand your farm." In 1969 I left my stepfather's business entirely.

After I had repaid the loan, I borrowed one million cedis, which God enabled me to repay. He has multiplied our original nest egg of 2,000 cedis to around 200 million cedis.

The Lord expanded our poultry from 900 to 200,000 in sixteen years. We keep 100,000 birds for table-egg production and 100,000 breeders to produce day-old chicks for our farms and to sell to other farmers. Our company, Darko Farms, has produced about 30 million table eggs and 5 million day-old chicks. We also produce 4,000 pigs per year. We farm 2,000 acres of land, raising maize, ground nuts and vegetables and employ 420 people. God and I are partners.

In November, 1982, while I was vacationing in London, I received an invitation to speak at the Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship national convention in Accra, joining Christian brothers from the United States. I accepted and at that time the Lord gave me a vision. He con-

vinced me that these meetings were the best way to lead other businessmen to Christ.

In December, I established an FGBMFI chapter in Kumasi with a core of ten men. Within one year our chapter grew to 100 members and a meeting attendance of 400. Since then our chapter has helped to launch several more chapters in our country.

To celebrate the first anniversary of our chapter, we invited 500 people. One thousand attended. Many gave their lives to Christ, and 110 were baptized in the Holy Spirit.

I believe that this is the time to win our nation and continent for the Lord. As the Lord prompts, I have spoken at several other chapter meetings and have been the main speaker on airlifts to Sierra Leone and Liberia.

Christiana serves the Lord as national women's coordinator for Assemblies of God in Ghana.

The Lord saved and protected us. He has honored and lifted me up. In my country, by His grace, I am respected by many. I thank God that He has called me to be part of His kingdom. God has been true to His word. He can free a helpless sinner from the devil's grip and set him on high. Each day my life is a continuation of His miracle-working power. □

For twenty-five years Kwabena Darko has been in the poultry business, the last sixteen of it as owner of Darko Farms complex. He and his wife Christiana have six children: Samuel, Vernon David, Jonathan, Maxine Abigail, Mercy Hudson and Bernice. They attend the Assemblies of God church in Kumasi, where Kwabena is an elder. He serves as president of Kumasi Chapter and Ghana national treasurer for FGBMFI. Kwabena is currently treasurer, Pan African Council, and chairman, Ghana National Council on Poultry.



ON EAGLES' WINGS

Dale Black
Long Beach, California

*Focus on
Healing*

The Piper Navajo Chieftain skimmed the runway and soared upward through the clear, cool morning air. My love for flying always made my heart skip a beat or two during takeoff. But today the fluttering in my chest was for a different reason.

The sound of the engines seemed disturbingly out of sync. Instead of the familiar drone that promised harmony between the two engine rpm's, a strange fluctuating whine filled my ears. Within seconds, my discomfort had grown into a terrifying awareness: we were airborne—but something was horribly wrong.

At nineteen, although a licensed pilot, I was far less experienced than the two men who were actually flying the aircraft that day. I was along for the ride.

Neither Chuck Burns nor Gene Bain survived the explosive crash that occurred seconds later. The plane was shattered into thousands of tiny fragments. Ironically, it had crashed into a seventy-foot-tall cement and marble mausoleum outside Burbank, California dedicated to deceased aviators and called The Portal of the Folded Wings.

Although we hit the structure at 135 miles per hour, I never really remembered the impact other than in nightmares. But I fell seventy feet, landing on the cement walkway that surrounded the monument. My body was as shattered as the plane.

After a death-defying ambulance ride to St. Joseph's Hospital, I was examined and immediately went into surgery. The diagnosis was nearly hopeless. My back was badly broken; paralysis posed a real threat. Head injuries indicated a strong possibility of permanent brain damage. Probably I would be nearly blind in my right eye. And my disintegrated left shoulder and left ankle? The doctors were in total agreement—I would never regain the use of either one.

During those first hours after the crash, I was in the slumbers of a semi-coma, blissfully unaware of circumstances. However, as I drifted I was being treated by the Great Physician.

The first miracle had been my survival. The next was different. As I slept, something new was being worked within me. A transformed person emerged from the coma—one who would never again be the same.

My first sensation as I awoke in the Intensive Care Unit was love for the people around me. I had grown up in a Christian

home and had accepted Christ into my life as a child, but that was the extent of my spiritual life. I had drifted away from the Lord during high school and my first year of college. My focus was on athletic attainment. I lived life for my own pleasure.

But now, I felt a surging of joy and peace. I recognized immediately that something had changed in my heart.

The following days revealed that almost everything I had treasured in the past had been cancelled by the plane crash. Flying, sports, and body-building were not likely prospects for my future. And with my shaved head, chemical burns and hideously swollen face, good looks were past history.

But God wasn't finished with me. The doctors had informed my parents that I would be hospitalized for eight months. Eight days after the accident, I joyfully drove home to Los Alamitos, California with my family.

"I'm going to fly over that monument on the first anniversary of the crash!" I announced with youthful enthusiasm. Such an unlikely prospect drew little response. It would be a wonder if I could walk with crutches within a year, let alone fly an airplane.

The internal injuries proved to be less serious than anyone had dared to hope. My brain seemed to be functioning normally, except for some temporary amnesia. The worst problems centered around my right eye (which had been severely cut), left shoulder and left ankle.

The love I'd felt in the hospital seemed to enfold my entire family in a warm embrace. My brothers and I were a year apart in age. For years we had com-

peted, living a rough-and-tumble existence in which sports and athletic prowess reigned. Now the bond between us became stronger daily.

No one could do enough for me. Mom took a leave of absence from her job to care for my needs. Dad was always available to help out. My brothers devoted themselves to assisting me. I was confined to a wheelchair and couldn't even feed myself.

During those weeks I questioned, "Why?" Why had my friends died in the plane crash? Why had I lived? I visited the site of the crash over 200 times that year, often at night. I was obsessed by knowing the reason for my survival.

A parade of loved ones had streamed through our home upon my return. But one night some very close friends arrived—Howard and Gini Dunn. Howard asked if he could take the time to read a Bible passage that had touched his heart after he heard about my accident. I said yes.

He picked up a Bible from our lamp table and rustled through the well-worn pages. After a moment he began to read the ancient words from Psalm 91.

Tears stung my eyes. Of course I'd heard the words before, but all at once a pale light of understanding began to dawn. It seemed as though the Lord had a purpose for my life, as I had been preserved.

My body continued to heal with amazing speed.

The biggest problem the doctor saw was with my left shoulder. The accident had stretched the muscle beyond its natural elasticity, like an overextended rubber band. During surgery nearly half the muscle had been removed. Now it ap-



peared that the remaining tissue would become useless unless it were again surgically tightened.

I checked into the hospital, dreading the ordeal. My roommate was a complaining, bitter, elderly man named Joel Green. I was unhappy with his companionship until the Lord spoke to me. "Tell him about Me," He said. Before that evening was over, a rebellious, seventy-six-year-old preacher's son had given his heart to Jesus.

When I awoke the next day from my surgery, Dr. Graham informed me that my shoulder was in far better shape than he'd expected. "You may regain as much as forty percent of its use."

"100 percent, Doc," I murmured. "God'll restore it 100 percent."

Thankful and drowsy, I was returned to my room. There the nurse quietly told me that my roommate had just died. I saw that my air crash had been indirectly related to Joel Green's eleventh-hour decision to meet Jesus Christ. Some of the "why" vanished...

In the weeks to come, a serious problem developed with my left ankle. Doctors wanted to remove the fragmented ankle bone. This would have shortened my leg and caused permanent crippling. My father and grandfather had vetoed the surgery. "God will take care of it," they had explained to the disbelieving medical team.

On the other hand, if the bone died as predicted, I would be permanently disabled with no further surgery possible. At first the bone had begun to heal normally, to the surprise of Dr. Graham, my orthopedic expert. Now it appeared that the healing process had stopped.

Somehow I knew that God wanted to heal my ankle Himself. I went to see my Grandpa Price, who had always been a courageous prayer warrior. "Yes, Dale. I agree that God wants to take care of this ...in fact, He's already done it. Just accept the healing by faith. Let God show you Scriptures that will speak directly to your heart."

My adventure in spiritual growth began. God placed a special Bible verse in my mind that very night: "Read Matthew 7." I obeyed, and there I discovered the beautiful words, "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For every one that asketh receiveth; and he

that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened" (Matthew 7:7-8).

So I began to put Grandpa's faith checklist into operation. I put my faith to the test by telling everyone that God had already healed my ankle. I even took friends to the doctor with me. But when the X-rays showed no improvement, I was devastated.

"You let me down, Lord!" I told Him in grief and confusion.

A friend and I were traveling to Colorado shortly after that. Our car broke down, and as my friend talked to a mechanic, a beaming, silver-haired woman came into the room where I waited. "Can I tell you what Jesus Christ has done in my life?" she asked cheerily.

As we talked, I explained that I too was a Christian. I told her of my faith for healing of my ankle, my recent disappointment, my questions and doubts.

"Now I know why God sent me here to talk to you!" she exclaimed. "My middle son was born with no ankle joint in his left foot. For two years I prayed for him every night and nothing changed. Still, I believed God wanted to heal him. Just past his second birthday, I was tucking him in bed. I said the same prayer as always. But that night as I held his little foot, it grew hot. I heard a crackling sound. Then something snapped. And from that day on *he had an ankle joint!*"

I went back to Point Loma College more determined than ever to see God's power in my life. I told my friends about my encounter with the woman. Soon we all piled in a car and headed for my next doctor's appointment. This time the X-rays *had* to be better.



The Black family: Paula, Kara, Dale, and Eric

We all stood around the X-ray room and prayed before the doctor put the pictures on the screen. We'd done the same thing the last time. This time the doctor hesitated even longer before he informed me that there was still no improvement. "And now, Dale, it's simply too late to operate. There's nothing we can do."

I returned to the college campus stormy and frustrated. I locked myself in my dormitory room and began to lash out at my heavenly Father. "Why didn't You do what You said You'd do? Now I'm going to be crippled all my life! What was wrong with Grandpa's checklist? All You had to do was heal me! Why didn't You? ... Why?" Finally I collapsed on my knees beside my bed and gave up.

He spoke to my heart in that moment. "Seek Me first, Dale. Me and My righteousness. All these other things will be added unto you!"

His righteousness. *His* righteousness! I knew instantly the areas he referred to. It wasn't the checklist that had been wrong. It was my motive for wanting the healing. I still didn't put the Lord first in my life. I wanted the healing so I could accomplish my goals. I hadn't truly committed myself to Him.

"God," I wept, "I know I'm on borrowed time, anyway. I should be dead! So if You want me to serve You from a wheelchair, I'll do it. I will. Just have Your way with my life. Forgive me for demanding things of You. I'm yours—just like I am!"

As I spoke those words, I felt the mighty presence of the Holy Spirit in the room. Peace poured over me like warm oil. An unfamiliar, supernatural warmth bathed my entire body, inside and out, as I was baptized in the Holy Spirit.

After my baptism, I gave up striving. I continued to pray for healing, but always with the understanding that God was free to do what He wanted. When I returned to the doctor's office two weeks later, I went alone. No friends, no rigid expectations. What I had was confidence that God would have His way, no matter what.

"Dale!" The doctor's usually inscrutable face couldn't hide his amazement. "This ankle has healed more in the last two weeks than in the last six months. I just don't understand it!"

As months passed, the work of God became more and more evident in my life. My shoulder improved so much I was able to play first-string baseball. Normal vision returned to my eye. I went from a wheelchair to crutches to being able to walk, and I praise God for this.

Then suddenly it was July 18, 1970—the first anniversary of the crash. On that day, as pilot in command of a small aircraft, I flew over the Portal of the Folded Wings.

I radioed my mission to the tower—"I dedicate this anniversary flight to the glory of God!" That flight was the consummation of God's extraordinary restoration of my physical body. The healing was complete.

Driving home from college one night, I was communing with my wonderful Healer, when all at once, with the eyes of my spirit I saw the globe surrounded by

large jet aircraft. God was revealing to me the fulfillment of my dream of being a pilot, but also a businessman and missionary. The message was clear: God wanted to establish His own jet-airline ministry. I knew He had spoken.

I went to work as a pilot for TWA. My wife Paula and I found ourselves involved in numerous missionary projects. We started a jet-training and jet-charter business called American Eagle.

In 1982, while I was still a TWA pilot, the Lord instructed us to establish Eagle International Ministries, a Christian airline. In 1985 God indicated that it was time to resign from TWA and through American Eagle provide pilot training, aircraft management, and jet charter for the Christian community worldwide.

Today we are beginning to gather large, transport-size jet aircraft for Eagle International Ministries. The Lord's plan is for us to use a fleet of these jets to carry His people and His word around the globe.

The final "why" was, "God, why did You want me to live?" Exodus 19:4 says, "...I bare you on eagles' wings, and brought you unto myself." God has shown me that His purpose for my life is the same as for every other Christian. He says, "I want you to know Me. To love Me. To serve Me... I want to bring you to Myself." □

Dale Black spent six years with TWA as a pilot. He is founder and president of American Eagle and Eagle International Ministries. He has a B.S. degree and is working on his Master's degree in Theology and his doctorate in Aviation Business. Dale and his wife, Paula, have two children: Eric, ten and Kara eight. They attend Long Beach First Church of the Nazarene.

NOW AVAILABLE

Greeting Cards from Full Gospel Businessmen's Fellowship International and DaySpring

Blessings

from **PAT BOONE**

"I like to remember others with DaySpring cards—they not only convey my friendship... but my faith as well. Is there a greater blessing I can send someone than God's own Word, enveloped in my own love? Won't you join me in letting that blessing flow to others."



Embossed and foil stamped on textured paper.
2 ea. of 4 designs. \$6.95 per box, G5400

Front: Your love has given me great joy and encouragement;
Inside: Have I told you lately I really appreciate you.

Front: I always thank my God as I remember you in my prayers;
Inside: for God has blessed my life through you.

Front: There is a friend who sticks closer than a brother. I know who that friend is don't we? I'm also here if you need me.

Front: God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in him; Inside: Have I ever told you... I see God living in you!



Life Touches

\$4.25, 16 cards, 4 ea. of 4 designs

Simple, fresh and natural—three words to describe this exquisite line of embossed cards.

COLLECTIONS AVAILABLE:

G5407 Birthday

G5408 Get Well

G5409 All Occasion (shown)

Sample verse (Anniversary)

Inside: An anniversary filled with blessings and special memories, too, is what is wished for you today as well as all year through. Happy Anniversary. "Thou crownest the year with thy goodness."
—Psalm 65:11



4 1/2" x 6 1/4"

G5413
Num. 6:24
8 notes & envelopes

Raised Lettering

THANK YOU



G5414
Num. 6:24
10 notes & envelopes

G5415
10 notes & envelopes



Boxed Notes

Perfect way to say "Thank You" to business associates or friends.

\$2.25 per box



DaySpring

"When You Want to Share Your Heart and God's Love"

Q *How do you determine when a new model is needed in addition to your current eighty models?*

A There really is no set way to determine that. One fact that we know for sure: if we don't have new models, we're going to go backward. In fact, 60 percent of our sales are new models. Most of our ideas come in from the outside, from dealers talking to our sales representatives. Someone will say, "If Buck had a knife that did this or that or looked like this, I think it would do well." We'll end up with about four or five new models a year. The development takes about a year and a half from the time we get the idea to when it's manufactured for our customers. A new model costs about \$250,000.

Q *What is the situation with your competitors?*

A I believe that our competitors look at our new catalog to see what looks good, assess what dealers and consumers are buying, and then copy it. They sell it at a lower price because they don't have to expend the money to develop it.

Q *How effective is that strategy?*

A For them it's probably working well. One of the worst cases involves the duplication of our survival knife that was developed for the US Navy Seal Team. This knife had proven so successful that we had projected sales of about 20,000 for 1985. We ended up selling about 57,000 of them. Now there are four companies distributing this knife that they are having

made overseas. They cut the price in half, but the quality has disappeared. We're dealing with this problem of duplication.

Q *Is your manufacturing process becoming automated?*

A We'd love to have a huge box where we drop the parts in one side and knives would come out the other, but unfortunately we're a long way from there. We're pretty labor-intensive still, but we hope to have more automated manufacturing in about five years. Right now, we have entire engineering departments working constantly on time and motion studies, plant layout, and plant flow.

Q *Why did you decide to move into the kitchen cutlery business? Was that a natural progression for the company?*

A We have had this desire for a number of years, and it just became a reality this year. I believe this is a natural progression for a knife company—all types of knives should be produced. The sporting knife market is about \$250 million retail. Kitchen and gourmet ends up \$350 million retail. The kitchen line has a market. It opens the door to doubling our size. I'm not really pushing and striving to become the largest knife company in the world. But if the Lord wills it and I can use it for His glory, that's better yet.

Q *Is the particular attention you pay to the aesthetic part of the knife an element in your product strategy?*

A Yes, it is. The aesthetic part of the knife matches its functionality. We must have the right outer design and blade design configuration to fulfill the purpose

for which the knife was made. For example, we have a lock-back that locks the knife open so that it won't close on a hunter's hand if he's got it up in the rib cage of a deer and can't see it. With a regular pocket knife, if he accidentally hits it on the backside trying to cut the cord up there, it closes on his fingers. This is obviously dangerous; our blade being locked open makes the knife very safe. We developed this knife in 1963, and it probably is the most copied knife on the market right now. We didn't really invent the lock-back knife, but we did take about three knives that were on the market at that time and put the best parts together. We did invent the sides on the angle with the wood insert, and that's what everybody has copied as well as the lock.

Q *What is unique about the packaging of your knives?*

A We place a salvation message in each knife box (see page 31). Above all, I want whatever we do to be for the Lord's glory. It is the desire of my heart that people come to know the Lord through the gospel messages in the knife boxes. With two million going out annually, we get the opportunity to be one of the largest tract distributors in the world.

My grandparents were born again and baptized in the Holy Spirit in their hometown. When my dad was on military leave, he was also baptized in the Holy Spirit. When he was running the company in the fifties, he had John 3:16 stamped on the outside of the package. The salvation message was actually developed from an idea that my dad and I had in 1976.

Q *What prompted you to put the message in each box? How do customers react to it?*



A I started including the message since I wanted to give everything I had to the Lord because of what He had done for me. This included not only His dying on the cross, but giving me my wife back when our marriage was disintegrating. We get a tremendous response from the customers about the note. I could show you notes that came in this morning from people that have received knives as gifts. When people have questions about the message, they write to us. I have had people write me asking, "What do you mean having God as your senior partner?" I write back with God's plan of salvation, share some Bible verses with them, and tell them that I'm praying that they accept Christ as their personal Saviour. Out of the hundreds of letters we get each year about the note that are positive, we get about three negative ones from people who are very upset that we would have the gall to mix religion with business. This assessment of the message is exactly the opposite of what I'm trying to do. My motive is to share something very important with our customers. So I just write back and explain my intent to them. Sometimes they tell me things that hurt like, "I'll never buy another Buck Knife because you are doing this." But you know the Lord comforts me with the fact that they're a very loud minority. The majority of the letters that come in are positive.

Q *How did you find the Lord?*

A I was raised in a Christian home where we had devotions in the morning and went to church numerous times during the week in addition to Sundays. I ac-

cepted Christ at an early age. A real renewal of my faith came at a critical stage in my marriage when I almost lost my wife due to my infidelity. I am a living example of one transformed by God's mercy and grace.

Q *How did the reconciliation come about?*

A I kept the affair a secret for about a year after it ended. It was tearing me up, because I've always felt that a husband and wife shouldn't have any secrets from each other. I ended up telling my wife, Lori, everything and asking for her forgiveness. I thought that since a year had elapsed since the affair ended, it wouldn't affect her that much. But she reacted as though it had happened the night before and just about went crazy. She wanted to go back to her parents who lived in Arkansas. However, she wanted me to go with her because she was afraid to go alone—she felt very unstable. I couldn't get airline tickets because of a strike, so I informed her I'd have to drive her there. I feel the Lord put us together in that little car while we drove to Arkansas. On the way to Little Rock, we stopped at Oral Roberts University. She ended up breaking down emotionally and entering a hospital in Tulsa, Oklahoma for treatment. I was allowed to visit her a couple of times. But I seemed to come to the end of my resources and was unable to have any hope for the future.

Q *Did you seriously consider suicide?*

A Yes, I really thought about driving my car over a cliff while my wife was in the



Artist's rendition of the
Buck Knife with
the Fellowship logo



hospital. If there had been one handy, I would have; fortunately there wasn't one available. I now know it was God protecting me. I tried praying, but I couldn't feel the Lord's presence at all.

Q *What did you do to resolve this problem?*

A I went to the ORU prayer tower the next day and tried praying again. While there, I read a little book by Oral Roberts called *Point of Contact*. It opened up some areas in my mind so that I was able to have the faith to believe that God real-

ly did care for me, was hearing me, and would forgive me. While I prayed, the Lord reassured me that my wife would be okay. He communicated to me that I must hang in there with Lori, protecting and supporting her. It was a real breakthrough.

Q *What changes had to occur within you to enable this breakthrough?*

A I think the main thing was that I had to remember how much God loves us, that He is the only answer, and that I had to trust Him. I had to completely unburden myself to the Lord—verbalizing all my concerns about Lori.

I knew that God had forgiven me. I had asked my wife to forgive me, and she was in the process of doing that. But the final step had to be forgiving myself for what I had done. I was finally able to do that, and I haven't fretted about it since. The Lord gave me this concept of forgiving myself while I was in the prayer tower.

Q *How did God begin to restore your relationship with your wife?*

A My wife was released from the hospital after two days with some medication. We went on to see her folks and then went home together. We had some rough times through the next year when she would regress. She still wondered why I had done what I had done. I would have given everything if I could have had another chance, but sometimes you just don't get one. Lori experienced a great deal of fear and low self-esteem due to childhood trauma. It took a couple of years for her to begin to feel confident. The Lord revealed to her that she could trust me, and that was a great boost to

our relationship.

Q *How does putting the Lord first in your life affect your company directly?*

A I know the Lord has given us unique ideas and opportunities and has sent us the right employees.

Q *What have been the greatest business crises you've faced?*

A After our first three years of incor-

aged us strongly to pray about the situation. So we did pray that night, and a man's name came into my dad's mind. This man, O.W. Todd, owned a chain of sporting goods stores in San Diego. My dad called and told him what our situation was—that we were a healthy business with many customers but we had run out of money. He told him that we had prayed and Mr. Todd's name had come to mind. Mr. Todd's response was, "I really like your knives, and I've given a



poration, we started expanding and we ran out of working capital. I'll never forget when my dad walked in that night. We called a special board meeting and were really struggling. My dad encour-

aged us strongly to pray about the situation. So we did pray that night, and a man's name came into my dad's mind. This man, O.W. Todd, owned a chain of sporting goods stores in San Diego. My dad called and told him what our situation was—that we were a healthy business with many customers but we had run out of money. He told him that we had prayed and Mr. Todd's name had come to mind. Mr. Todd's response was, "I really like your knives, and I've given a

he did, and the bank president met us. He recommended we go out and sell a new issue of stock so that we could get some working capital, which we did. They then loaned us money on the receivables so that we would have some money to operate with initially.

Another crisis hit us in 1981. It was our highest year volume-wise, but we were expecting a great Christmas in 1981. It didn't happen. The economy started to slide, and people decided not to spend as much money as usual. We had built all this inventory up to ship at Christmas, and it didn't sell. We sold a lot, but nowhere near the volume we had anticipated. So all this inventory was sitting in the stock room, and we had borrowed three million dollars to pay for it. Even though we borrow at prime, that still is pretty expensive. We had a major layoff of 300 people in February and March of 1982. At that time we had 600 employees.

Morale was at an all-time low. It was so hard to lay people off, and we don't normally do that. But it was necessary, because we couldn't continue paying them and build the inventory. My dad and I were both very concerned because of the little note in the knife box; we didn't want anything to happen to Buck Knives. So we prayed about it and told God, "This is Your business now; is there something that You are trying to tell us?" It was a terribly critical time. At one of the FGBMFI meetings, a friend gave me a Bible verse because I had shared the crisis with him. II Chronicles 26:5 states that "...as long as he sought the Lord, God made him to prosper." I was tremendously encouraged, and I knew my

friend was prompted by the Holy Spirit.

Shortly after that, we started getting new ideas for knife models. We produced them; they really began to sell; we started paying that debt off. By December of that year, we had it completely paid off. We couldn't stop praising the Lord.

Q *How did those **times of crisis** affect you personally?*

A They really toughened and matured me in my walk with the Lord. Actually, the Christian life is really analogous to our process of making blades. The blade is put in the furnace, and it has to go through that 2,000-degree heat for forty-five minutes to an hour. It seems as though we have forgotten about it and left it to burn up. Then we plunge it into a 100-degree-below-zero container for three hours. After that, it's put in a tempering furnace for about one and a half to two hours at a low, steady, throbbing 800 degrees, and it really seems as though we've forgotten this little knife. Finally, it comes out and sees the light of day again, but that knife has been toughened to a 58 rockwell hardness and it's ready for anything. When a person gets saved, he or she thinks, "Now I'm a Christian and everything is going to be okay." But all of the sudden here come the temptations, here comes the persecution, and the person thinks that God has forgotten him. I was tempered through the trials I faced.

Q *Could you expand on the idea of God as your "Senior Partner" as stated in the gospel message included in the knife boxes?*



is in the situation and that He directs. I believe He then opens the doors.

Q *Do you feel that you really can compete and remain ethical in your business dealings?*

A Absolutely. I think the temptation is always there to take some shortcuts and maybe take more tax deductions than the government is allowing. But I really want to avoid that. It might involve a short-term gain, but it certainly wouldn't profit one in the long run. Also, we're exhorted in Romans 14:13 to not make our brother stumble, and that would. The people working for me are watching me. I've witnessed to every one of them and invited them to FGBMFI meetings. I've had the opportunity a number of times to say "no" when there were suggestions about doing something that might be a little bit unethical, and I know my employees are watching that.

Q *Do you feel that the image you have at Buck Knives not only makes a statement about your family, but about your beliefs concerning the quality of the knives?*

A Yes, but this image can't be maintained just resting "on our laurels." The quality actually has to be in every knife that people purchase.

Q *Is it true that you have a missionary assistance program?*

A Yes, we take our knife seconds, which are still very usable, and offer them to missionaries to take out and use as barter. We get letters from Wycliffe Bible translators who are giving them to

A When I run up against a problem, I actually ask God, "What is the answer?" I pray and give the problem to Him. I verbalize what the situation is, and then I have to exercise faith that I am going to be doing His will, because I've yielded to Him.

Q *How do you feel the Lord actually speaks to you?*

A He speaks to me mostly through my wife. Frequently, we feel impressed to help someone. I'll have a figure in mind and she'll think of the same figure. It's like we get this confirmation after it's all over with, but at the time I'm strictly going by faith and just praying that the Lord

the tribal elders and the chiefs who lead them through uncharted territory. The missionaries gain the tribe's acceptance by giving these knives as gifts. That's just part of what the Lord is putting together.

Q *Don't you have an FGBMFI chapter that meets on company premises?*

A Yes. Our chapter meets in the cafeteria once a month. It's really an ideal place to meet because you don't have to deal with having to meet in a restaurant, and people can stay as long as they want. We have a number of members from the surrounding community.

Q *What are the keys to success of Buck Knives?*

A I was once asked that question by one of the members of American Cutlery Manufacturers Association in New York in an annual meeting several years ago. I replied, "We have a Man on our board that we go to when we're struggling. This Man knows everything there is to know about the industry, about the business, and He answers our questions." So the man asked, "Where did you get him?" I answered, "He's available to us; He's available to you." The man exclaimed, "He must cost a lot." "No, as a matter of fact He doesn't cost a thing." Wide-eyed,

Message Included with Each Buck Knife

If this is your first Buck Knife, "welcome aboard." You are now part of a very large family. Although we're talking about a few million people, we still like to think of each one of our users as a member of the Buck Knives Family and take a personal interest in the knife that was bought. With normal use, you should never have to buy another.

Now that you are family, you might like to know a little more about our organization. The fantastic growth of Buck Knives, Inc. was no accident. From the beginning, management determined to make God the Senior Partner. In a crisis, the problem was turned over to Him, and He hasn't failed to help us with the answer. Each knife must reflect the integrity of management, including our Senior Partner. If sometimes we fail on our end, because we are human, we find it imperative to do our utmost to make it right. Of course, to us, besides being Senior Partner, He is our Heavenly Father also, and it's a great blessing to us to have this security in these troubled times. If any of you are troubled or perplexed and looking for answers, may we invite you to look to Him, for God loves you.

Al Buck

he asked, "Who is he, how can I get ahold of him?" So I replied in a matter-of-fact way, "He's God, He's our Senior Partner." The man went off shaking his head. I think trusting the Lord, praying in the good times and the bad, being very honest with our employees, living the Christian life seven days a week and not

just on Sundays, maintaining high quality levels in our products, making sure that everything that is printed about us is really the truth, and most of all trying to do what the Lord wants us to do are the keys to success. I ultimately have to give the glory to the Lord for the success of Buck Knives. □

CONVENTIONS

CENTRAL CALIFORNIA REGIONAL

May 1-3, 1986

Assyrian American Civic Hall, Turlock
Write: Mr. Doug Dallman
1518 Dougfir Dr.
Modesto, CA 95350

MISSOURI MEN'S STATE ADVANCE

May 2-4, 1986

Assy. of God Camp, Rocky Mountain
Write: Mr. Dennis Bouselli
2921 Orton
St. Charles, MO 63301

BLUEGRASS REGIONAL

May 8-10, 1986

Farnham Dudgeon Convention Ctr.
Write: Mr. Charles Cotton
513 Shelby St.
Frankfort, KY 40601

NORTHWEST REGIONAL

May 15-17, 1986

Red Lion Motor Inn, Portland, OR
Write: Mr. Art Evanson
Box 244
Vancouver, WA 98666

NEW MEXICO MEN'S SPIRITUAL ADV.

May 15-18, 1986

Sacramento Methodist Assembly
Write: Col. Henry Godman
1808 Hubbard Dr.
Alamogordo, NM 88310

LAKE LOUISE COUPLE'S RETREAT

May 16-19, 1986

Lake Louise Chateau
Write: Mr. James Jarvis
Box 483, Westlock, Alberta
Canada T0G 2L0

NO. CAL./GRT. BAY AREA MEN'S CAMP

May 18-18, 1986

Woodleaf, Challenge, CA
Write: Mr. Mark Dougherty
1095 Stafford Way, #E
Yuba City, CA 95925

INLAND EMPIRE MEN'S ADVANCE

May 17-19, 1986

Riverview Campgrounds, Cusick, WA
Write: Mr. Pete Suter
W 2404 Seltice Way
Post Falls, ID 83854

28TH ANNUAL MIDWEST REG.

May 21-24, 1986

Amer. Bapt. Assy., Green Lake, WI
Write: FGBMFI, Mr. Eugene Bailey
6801 Seeley
Chicago, IL 60645

TENNESSEE MEN'S CAMP

May 23-25, 1986

Cumberland United Methodist Camp
Write: Mr. Joe Forrester
3745 Cedarwood Dr.
Nashville, TN 37216

ARIZONA STATE COUPLE'S ADV.

May 24-26, 1986

Sheraton Rio Rico Resort
Write: Mr. Frank Evans
5625 E. Burns St.
Tucson, AZ 85711

ABILENE / ANGELO REGIONAL

May 29-31, 1986

Abilene Civic Center
Write: Mr. Jack Yates
318 Bank of Commerce Bldg.
Abilene, TX 79605

CENTRAL VALLEY CAL. REG. ADV.

May 31-June 1, 1986

Camp Sugar Pine, Oakhurst
Write: Mr. Dean Whitlow
211 Merced St.
Fresno, CA 93721

IOWA STATE REGIONAL

June 5-7, 1986

Howard Johnson's, Des Moines
Write: Mr. Duane McLean
1668 13th St.
Cedar Rapids, IA 52405

CAROLINA MEN'S ADVANCE

June 13-15, 1986

Camp Lure Crest, Lake Lure, NC
Write: FGBMFI, W. Reidy Lawing
Box 9027
Charlotte, NC 28299

MARYLAND STATE CONVENTION

June 19-21, 1986

Western Maryland College
Write: Mr. Art Williams
Rt. 2, Box 154
Myersville, MD 21773

ONTARIO / QUEBEC MEN'S ADV.

May 30-June 1, 1986

Write: Mr. James McEwan
RR1, Hampton, Ontario
Canada L0B 1J0

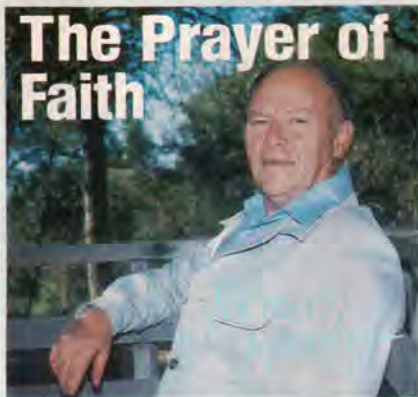
33RD ANNUAL WORLD CONY.

July 8-12, 1986

Mariott Resort and Convention Ctr.
Orlando, FL
Write: FGBMFI
Box 5050, Costa Mesa, CA 92628

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The Prayer of Faith



John Edgett
Pigeon Forge, Tennessee

As a locomotive engineer, assigned to run AMTRAK passenger trains between Oakland, California and Sparks, Nevada, I was preparing for retirement December 31, 1982. That was the reason I went in late October for a physical examination. All the tests showed that I was in good health. Dr. Kaku told me a report would follow after he had checked my X-rays.

I was surprised on my run to Oakland when the train dispatcher told me by radio to call Emma, my wife, as soon as I had completed the trip. Dr. Kaku had left instructions for me to go to a druggist and to telephone him for an antibiotic prescription. I was to return for more tests in two weeks.

What Emma didn't tell me was that the X-rays showed a fast-growing cancerous growth at the top of my right lung. I thought it was probably a bronchial problem that had bothered me some in the past.

To celebrate my retirement, Emma and I decided to go to the Phoenix Convention of Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship in January. I told the vice-president of the Sacramento Chapter that whatever the doctor was concerned about would be gone by the time I returned from the convention. Cleve hugged me and offered a prayer for my healing.

Every night as we retired, Emma placed her hand on my chest and prayed a prayer of faith.

Meanwhile, more X-rays had been taken and Dr. Kaku had turned me over to a lung specialist, Dr. Wong.

We rode AMTRAK to the convention, witnessing along the way to fellow passengers about the love of our wonderful Lord. The convention was a beautiful experience of fellowship, love, teaching and sharing God's word. Loving hands were laid upon me and prayers offered for my healing. I agreed that by His stripes I was healed (1 Peter 2:24).

For a period of time, the doctors at Woodland Clinic asked me to come back every six or seven days for various X-rays...until April 23, 1983, when Doctor Wong and Doctor Kaku told me, "We can no longer find what was on the X-rays in November of last year." □

John Edgett worked as a locomotive engineer for AMTRAK and retired in 1982. He and his wife Emma, have three grown children. He has been active in the Methodist church, serving on various boards. He served as co-chairman for the Railroad Christian Fellowship for three years. John was a charter member and secretary of the Auburn Chapter of FGBMFI. He organized and was president of the Roseville Chapter of FGBMFI. John and Emma now travel and minister.

I'll be looking for you in Orlando

Last year's convention in Dallas was such a spiritual triumph that everyone is excited about this year's gathering in Orlando. We are having the greatest pre-registration ever—from groups all over the world who will be in Orlando, July 8 to 12.

God has given us outstanding speakers and musicians such as James Robison, Bill Subritzky, "Big" John Hall, Dr. John Klem, Shirley Boone, Mike Murdock, Hon. Julian Carroll, the Rev. Karl D. Strader, Dr. John K. Graham, Gen. Fred K. Mahaffey and Richard Kiel.

Along with these Christian leaders there will be testimonies from around the world to the great and mighty works of the Holy Spirit.



bleu cotton photography

And because this is a time for vacations, Orlando is a perfect choice for its many attractions—Disney World, Sea World, the Kennedy Space Center, Cypress Gardens and many more sights!

God has shown me His power in salvation, healing and the baptism in the Holy Spirit in a very special way this past year. I will be looking for you in Orlando, and as we fellowship and minister together I know God will meet you every need.

Orlando 86

REGISTRATION APPLICATION.

Fill out and mail coupon with check or money order for total amount payable to: **FGBMFI / Orlando World Convention / P.O. Box 5050 / Costa Mesa, CA 92628.** 3204-05-6336

LAST NAME _____

FIRST NAME _____

MIDDLE INITIAL _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

PHONE NUMBER _____

() _____

Please attach separate sheet listing full names of all immediate household members included in your registration. List each name as you wish it to appear on name badge. \$10 registration fee required per household (or per single).

SPECIAL MEAL FUNCTIONS.

Order now to assure your seats. **Fill out this coupon and mail by June 16, 1986.** Prices shown include tax and gratuity. Refunds available up to 48 hours before time of meal. Mail this coupon direct to FGBMFI with your check or money order for meals and registration. Mail to **FGBMFI World Convention Dept., P.O. Box 5050, Costa Mesa, CA 92628.**

	NO. OF TICKETS	MEAL COST	TOTAL AMOUNT
Wed., July 9			
Breakfast (Z6091)		× \$ 8.00	
Thur., July 10			
Breakfast (Z6101)		× \$ 8.00	
Fri., July 11			
Breakfast (Z6111)		× \$ 8.00	
Fri., July 11			
Ladies' Lunch (Z6112)		× \$12.00	
Fri., July 11			
Men's Lunch (Z6113)		× \$12.00	
Fri., July 11			
Youth Fellowship (Z6114)		× \$ 6.00	
Sat., July 12			
Breakfast (Z6121)		× \$ 8.00	
Sat., July 12			
Noon Banquet (Z6124)		× \$13.00	

Forward application (including household names and check or money order for entire amount) to: **FGBMFI, Orlando World Convention, P.O. Box 5050, Costa Mesa, CA 92628.**

REGISTRATION FEE	\$10.00
Nonrefundable (3204-05-6330)	
TOTAL MEAL COST	\$
If any (3201-05-6318)	
TOTAL ENCLOSED	\$
In U.S. dollars	
SIGNATURE _____	
DATE _____	

NOTE: Applications must be postmarked no later than June 16, 1986 to enable mailing of name badges and meal tickets. **All applications postmarked after June 16, 1986** will be processed and available for pickup at FGBMFI Registration Counter, Marriott's Headquarters Hotel from opening date.

HOTEL RESERVATION REQUEST.

Complete this form and mail to hotel address shown below. **Do not send Hotel Reservation Request to FGBMFI.** Only reservation requests received at the hotel by June 9, 1986 can be guaranteed. Those received after June 9, 1986 will only be accepted as space is available. Changes in arrival time or desired accommodations requested after June 9, 1986 will only be honored as rooms are available. Reservations must be accompanied by deposit check or approved credit card number. Reservations may be made by phone, giving approved credit card number. Major credit cards may be used in payment of hotel rooms and incidentals upon arrival; however, only those credit cards listed below may be used to reserve rooms by phone. Full deposit is refundable if cancellation is made more than three (3) days prior to check in date.

HEADQUARTERS—HOTEL RESERVATION FORM

FGBMFI 1986 WORLD CONVENTION, JULY 8-12

LAST NAME _____

FIRST NAME _____

MIDDLE INITIAL _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE/COUNTY _____

ZIP CODE _____

HOME PHONE NO. _____

BUS. PHONE NO. _____

() _____

() _____

SHARING WITH _____

Reservations are not transferable and are held until 6 PM unless guaranteed by advance deposit or approved credit card. Check in begins at 4 PM, check out by 12 noon.

I will guarantee by:

Advance deposit American Express Diner's Club

Card # _____

Exp. date _____

Signature _____

Arrival Date / Time _____

AM PM

Departure Date / Time _____

AM PM

Please check type and rate of room desired:

Sgl (1 person)—\$63 Dbl (2 persons)—\$63

Trpl—\$78 Quad—\$93

One bedroom suite—\$250 and up

All rates subject to 7% room tax. If room or suite is not available at requested rate, nearest available rate will be assigned. Children under age 18 accompanied by an adult may stay in same room at no charge.

Mail this completed form to: **Marriott's Orlando World Center Hotel, P.O. Box 22165, Lake Buena Vista, FL 32830.** Attn: Front Office Reservations or make direct phone reservations by calling (800) 228-9290 or (305) 239-4200.

DO NOT MAIL THIS COUPON PORTION TO FGBMFI.

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The international directors listed on these pages give direction to the multifaceted ministries of Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship International in eighty-seven countries of the world. They also provide leadership in achieving the goals of the Fellowship.

Their names and addresses are provided as a point of contact for you to learn when and where chapters meet in your area, or to receive needed spiritual ministry.

They are also a point of contact for those interested in serving Christ through this organization, which includes men from almost every church affiliation, and employers, employees and professionals who love the Lord and who are committed to bringing the full Gospel to a needy world.

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6 STEPS TO SALVATION

*Men still cry, "What must I do to be saved?"
The Bible provides a clear answer.*

1. Acknowledge "For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23). "God be merciful to me a sinner" (Luke 18:13).

2. Repent "Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish" (Luke 13:3). "Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out" (Acts 3:19).

3. Confess "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9). "If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved" (Romans 10:9).

4. Forsake "Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; and let him return unto the Lord... for he will abundantly pardon" (Isaiah 55:7).

5. Believe "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16). "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned" (Mark 16:16).

6. Receive "He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name" (John 1:11,12).

Why not make your eternal decision now:

"Lord Jesus, I believe You died for my sins and I ask Your forgiveness. I receive You now as my personal Saviour and invite You to manage my life from this day forward. Amen."

Write us to tell of your decision. We'll send you a booklet, "Now That You've Received Christ." Our mailing address: FGBMFI / Box 5050 / Costa Mesa, CA 92628.

CHAPTER OUTREACH

Requests come in daily to start new chapters. If you have this burden laid on your heart and see the vision for your community, write for complete information to: Chapter Department / FGBMFI / P.O. Box 5050 / Costa Mesa, CA 92628.

As this issue was being prepared for publication, the following chapters were submitted as having been recently chartered. The president's name and telephone number are included for your information. Write for date and location details of a chapter meeting in your area.

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WHO WE ARE Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship International was founded in 1952 by Demos Shakarian to reach men for Jesus. One year later, God gave him a vision of the people of every continent, revealing that the ministry of the Fellowship would result in people everywhere being brought to Jesus and linked in loving community.

That vision is becoming a reality through the Fellowship's ministries, now touching eighty-seven nations and transcending denominational, racial and cultural barriers. Men interested in participating in this exciting end-time ministry are invited to write: Chapter Department / FGBMFI / P.O. Box 5050 / Costa Mesa, CA 92628.

CONTENTS

buck knives: tempered and tested



Like the refining processes a knife goes through, Chuck Buck, president of Buck Knives, Inc., has found his own life tempered and tested. The result: a life of quality with a special guarantee.

2

ON EAGLES' WINGS

At nineteen years of age, Dale Black had promising years ahead. But an accident with an ironic twist changed all that. He found himself struggling in physical therapy and questioning God, "Why?"

16

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