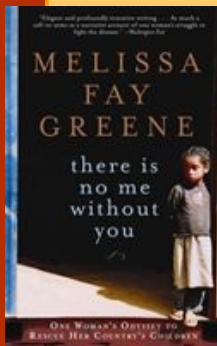


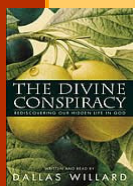
## From our Mission Partners



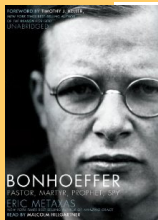
**There is no Me without You** by Melissa Fay Greene. Having always had a special bent towards orphaned children, this book resonated with my heart on so many levels.

In her darkest hours, the heroine of this true story, Haregewoin Teferra, allowed God to breathe life back into her soul by making her the "mother" of hundreds of Ethiopian orphans. After experiencing the gut wrenching loss of her family, Teferra decided her life was over, that she belonged with "the mourners...the dead." She had nothing left to give; everything that had given her life value was gone.

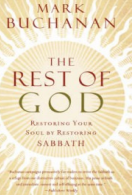
Life doesn't always turn out the way we hope it will. We experience inexplicable loss, disappointment, and failure to the point where we, too, may feel we have nothing left to give or wish to simply resign from life because of the pain that consumes us. I don't believe God wishes that kind of pain on us, but he does use death to bring forth life: to write a new story, to love us in our pain and despite our anger, and to give us a life we never dreamed possible. When approached by a local church and asked to look after one orphan, Teferra would have never guessed that one orphan would have become several hundred, and she a mother to all of them. —Nikki Horne



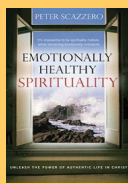
"*The Divine Conspiracy* by Dallas Willard. Understanding Jesus' message regarding the Kingdom of God (who, what, where, and why) is one of the most life-changing and faith-forming truths I've encountered in scripture, and Dallas does a great job of introducing the topic here. Have a great summer!" - Trevor Gingerich



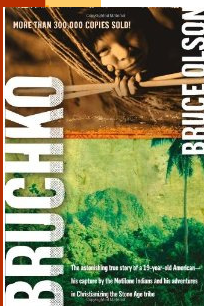
"The Horsts are back in Canada, settling into Waterloo for the year, with plans for Dale to visit Ecuador every 3 months. Dale's pick for a summer read would be *Pastor, Martyr, Prophet, Spy* by Eric Metaxas. This is a historical biography of Dietrich Bonhoeffer. Any biography is a good read, and Bonhoeffer's life is an inspiration." —Dale & Janet Horst



"Getting a book read has always been a struggle for me. However, I did just finish *The Rest of God: Restoring your Soul by Restoring the Sabbath* by Mark Buchanan. It has had a positive impact on how I view and act on "keeping Sabbath." I think it's worth the read, especially if you're inclined to lots of work and little rest." - Karl Gingerich



"*Emotionally Healthy Spirituality* by Peter Scazzero is the best/most important book I've read so far this year. It combines the ideas of spiritual disciplines and boundaries into a concept of an emotionally healthy life that pleases God. I can't recommend this book enough! READ IT!" - Nadine Feser



Much of Aboriginal culture is deeply rooted in their beliefs about the spirit world. For example, a cultural dance using the drum is not just a beautiful display of rhythm and regalia, but also has a spiritual meaning and purpose. Aboriginal Christians are deeply divided on what elements—if any—of native spirituality can be redeemed. Historically, the missionary movement in North America dictated that Aboriginals who became Christians leave their cultural expressions because they were considered evil, resulting in a disconnect between their faith and culture. In the last decade, however, a new generation of Aboriginal Christian theologians are answering the question, "What does it look like to be a Native North American Christian?" In global missions, working out the answer to this question is known as contextualization.

A book that has become a classic story of contextualization is *Bruchko*, the fascinating story of Bruce Olsen and his mission to reach the Motolone Indians in South America. The book has shaped my thinking and deepened my conviction in my ministry to Aboriginal Canadians to present Jesus in ways that connect with their culture. It is a very divisive issue, but one that I believe is important enough to make a stand on whatever the cost.—Terry and Brenda Martin

"We are working with the national church networks to provide equipping and resources, as well as coaching and strategic vision, to multiply the numbers of congregations in each of the six nations we are overseeing in the Mediterranean." - George and Eileen Werner

"Brett is back to being a full-time student, and Grace is 3 months pregnant and doing great! She has not had any morning sickness, and the baby is healthy. The official due date is December 19. These are going to be an interesting few months, so we would appreciate lots of prayer!" - Brett & Grace Ostrander

"Alyssa and Ashlyn will be returning to Canada from Sudan at the end of June, and Alyssa will face some culture shock and readjustment. Gordon will be in Sudan with a team until the end of June, and then has work in Kenya and Ethiopia. Pray for safety and wisdom in working with East African leadership, and for health and spiritual protection." - the Skopniks

"We're soon heading off to the summer day camp we help lead in Parkhill! Jesus + 140 kids + 36 youth volunteers + 25 adults + an excellent program = a community of 1600 being transformed by the love of God." - the Baumans

THE GLOBAL UPDATE

Global Ministries

# The Global Update

A Bulletin of The Embassy/Elevation's GMC

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 6

JUNE 2011

## Go, Werners, Go!

George and Eileen Werner recently moved into a 1400 square foot townhouse with three of their four university-aged children. Downsizing as kids start leaving home isn't that unusual. But this move is only a stepping stone to their next destination: Spain.

George and Eileen are preparing to move to Spain in the fall, to help churches in the Mediterranean grow and become strong. As Director of Home Missions for the past 10 years for the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada (PAOC), it feels like a natural career transition to George and Eileen. "Each experience we've ever had has been a stepping stone to the next," explains Eileen.

Their experience at Elevation is particularly relevant. George and Eileen joined Elevation when it was only six months old, and they have been a big part of Elevation's growth. George served on the Steering Committee for 8 years.

Even so, it is no small move to Spain. George and Eileen leave behind four grown children and three grandchildren, including newborn twins. And daughter Hannah just recently got engaged. In spite of that, they are eager to get started.

They will live in Barcelona, Spain, primarily because of the convenience of its transportation to other parts of Spain, Portugal, Greece, and Italy. There they will begin working with a group of 11 churches, which struggle with small size and lack of infrastructure. In January, George conducted a seminar there for the leaders about



church growth, where he outlined the changes he's seen in Elevation as it grew from 40 people to the approximately 300 that attend today. After he shared with the group in Spain, one man said, "This was exactly what I needed." George would like to see each of these churches grow strong enough to plant their own churches.

Though Christianity first spread through the Mediterranean, today only 0.5% of people there are born-again Christians. It is a strikingly secular society, with a growing Muslim population. Sharing the gospel is a challenge, and churches are small and struggling. Helping them become strong so that more people will know Jesus is George and Eileen's goal.

Over the summer, George and Eileen will focus on fundraising and learning Spanish. They will be working under the PAOC and Next Level International. They need to raise 75% of their annual budget before they are released to go, and are hoping to move in September or January. —Jeanette Duncan



## Summer is here!

Summer is finally here, and most of us will take time to rest, maybe with a good book. Some of our mission partners have shared with us their favourite and life-changing books for summer reading. I hope you will pick up some copies of these, and draw closer to God and his purposes for the world during this summer.

But not everyone will be on holidays. Elevation is pleased to introduce our newest mission partners: George and Eileen Werner. George and Eileen have been part of Elevation since almost the beginning, and they have provided much leadership as Elevation has grown, through the Steering Committee and many relationships in the church. Though we will miss them, we know they will be a great blessing to the churches in the Mediterranean. This summer, they will be working on preparing for their move across the ocean. As their church family, let's help them in any way we can, through our prayers, finances, and ongoing friendships. — JD



The architecture in Spain is rich in history and stories. What Christians first worshipped here?