

FIREFIIGHTERS FOR *Christ*

FALL 2005

"I was blessed more than I could imagine."

life changing mission

An FFC International team of four (Darryl Hebert, Jose McNally, John White and I) flew into Dublin for a week of outreach at the request of Robert Blair, President of the Northern Ireland FFC Chapter and his ministry team members, Gavin Lowry and Gary Patterson. Robert obtained written permission from the Fire Chief for us to be involved in their station life and training. Darryl, Jose, and I were assigned to ride along with Christian firefighters, who were on duty in order to enhance their witness. Robert and John would further augment our presence by visiting each of the stations.

By Jonathan Chew

The Northern Ireland Brigade has approximately 1900 Firefighters and serves an area of 5280 square miles from 60 stations. Most of our ministry centered around Belfast.

I rode along with Gavin Lowry at Ballymena (a rural station). While training throughout the morning, we compared our shift schedules, traded memorabilia, and fellowshiped over tea and scones. We even responded to a serious RTC (Road Traffic Collision) on a country road, which involved four vehicles. It was an interesting call, which unfortunately resulted in at least one fatality.

John White, President of FFC Intl., brought 100 nylon webbing straps, which he distributed to the firefighters and then presented a training class on application. This thirteen-foot piece of webbing became a symbol of evangelism for us. John demonstrated a myriad of uses for the strap including search, self-rescue, chest harness, ladder tie-off, and



FFC's USA team had a great time with the firefighters at Belfast Central. An extrication drill took place during their time together. Most important was the brotherhood they shared.

victim extrication. He would pepper his talk with personal illustrations of its effectiveness on the fireground and conclude with an invitation to learn more about our Savior, Jesus Christ. The firefighters were very receptive and appreciated the small gift along with so much applicable training. This was key for us, as the very nature of our profession involves

continual training. The Irish firefighters are no different. They responded to the talk and fellowship with genuine interest. Robert estimated that seventy firefighters received the presentation. Darryl and Jose also had excellent interaction with the crews at Westland, Springfield, Knock, and Cadogan during their respective assignments.

Many of the appliances (engines) were marked with dings and dents, although they were new pieces of equipment. This damage is due to rocks, bricks and bottles being hurled at the engines. I learned that many view the Fire Brigade as an extension of the government and that the firefighters are vulnerable to assault, particularly in certain urban areas. There are some neighborhoods which the Brigade will not respond to without a police escort. Shortly before we arrived, a firefighter was injured at a fire when a juvenile snuck up behind the pump operator while he was distracted and throttled up the pump. The firefighter on the nozzle suffered a broken back. On another recent occa-

Continued on Page 7

Anchor Point

What's for Breakfast?

What do you eat for breakfast at the firehouse—cereal, eggs, protein shakes? More than likely, whatever it is, it isn't made by Gerber's. Presumably, we all gave that mush up long ago soon after we had teeth and figured out that taste was a good thing.

God is very interested in our diets, especially the spiritual kind. While milk does a body good, particularly a young one, it was never meant to be the main staple for sustained growth and maturity. Like a new recruit who learns the basics in the fire academy, then hones those skills over years of practice and experience, so it should be for the Christian. Learning the elementary truths (spiritual milk-1 Peter 2:2) of God's Word is foundational to the Christian faith. However, just like we shoved aside the Gerber's when we learned there was "real meat" to be had, believers must move on from milk to "solid food" in order to fully mature in Christ.

The writer of Hebrews challenged his readers, calling them lazy, not ready to receive all God had for them in life. He was disappointed by their lack of desire to grow and their lethargic attitude toward holiness and doing the right thing. (Hebrews 5:11) Take a moment and ask yourself, "Am I wiser and more mature in the Lord today than when I first believed?" Are you growing more sensitive and aware of the difference between good and evil? Does your heart break when sin abounds; is it overjoyed when goodness reigns?

The Bible says that we must "train ourselves" by taking in the "solid food" of the deeper things of God. Only by their steady practice and "constant use" will we be able to distinguish good from evil, mature in our faith and live Godly lives. (Hebrews 5:14)

FFC in Israel

Five firefighters from FFC's FDNY chapter and two Orange County, CA firefighters were invited to Israel to meet and speak to the fire department. Jerry Sillcocks said, "Our hope was to reach some with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We brought stacks of give aways and lots of tracks and FFC Bibles. We met at a fire station with the fire commissioner and some high-ranking chiefs. After all the pomp and circumstance, we were able to get down in the trenches with the firefighters for a great time of sharing. Besides answering their questions about WTC and fighting fire in New York, we shared personally about the importance of a relationship with Jesus and how it made a difference in our lives." 🇮🇱



"Seven cops from NYPD, two pastors and several others from the USA were part of the team. One day was spent with the police dept. and two officers were assigned to us for our tour of Jerusalem. We even have videotape to prove that we were allowed to help in an overhaul after a top floor fire. God brought the press from all over the world to hear what He had done for us in NY after 9/11. Every opportunity was taken to share His love with the people we met along the way."



"As we traveled, we saw the Bible come alive. We stood and walked where our Lord walked. We prayed, worshiped and cried as the Lord met each one of our men and women personally as we journeyed in God's country. We saw how God's hand is still on the land and how He is working His plan for all to see. Praise God for bringing us there and returning us home safely. We're thankful for the friends we made and the lives that were changed."



News from Mike Ramsey in the Philippines:

"We began a radio ministry about one year ago with Pastor Chuck Smith's 'Word For Today' program. It was a small beginning as we edited CD's on our home computer and gave them to a DJ to play on a station that only reached a few listeners. Just recently, though, I signed a new contract with the most popular FM station in our city. Now for \$200/mo we are on five days a week! I never thought such a big door of opportunity would open to us by a major secular radio station. The response has been awesome. The Word of God is changing people's lives."



"Please keep this ministry in your prayers! A BIG THANK YOU to everyone who continues to pray for and support the work the Lord is doing here." Mike is a retired Corona firefighter who served on FFC Intl. Board as Treasurer. The Lord first called Mike to mission work when he was part of a FFC team working in Mexico. Now he and his wife Lorie, and children, Jillian & Joshua, are established missionaries in the city of Iloilo.

Leader's Legacy Remains Strong

By Mike Bell

When Orange County (CA) firefighter, Doug Wetmore, died suddenly in his home in October 2002, the flag bearer of the Firefighters for Christ Tape Ministry had fallen. His vision and commitment to the call of Jesus upon his life to make the Gospel available around the world, free of charge, had carried the ministry from a small number of cassette tapes, hand-duplicated in a Westminster fire station, to an army of volunteers working from his home and other locations, producing tapes and CD's and shipping over 100,000 copies a month all over the globe.

"Doug didn't have an exit strategy," tape ministry director Steve Jones remarked recently. "There certainly was some panic around here right after his death." Kim Wetmore, Doug's wife of 33 years, was understandably devastated. "We had a fairy-tale marriage; my husband was such a wonderful man. When he died, my whole life died too. Doug was my world." As the week of Doug's funeral came and went, hundreds reached out to Kim in love and support. "My house had over a hundred people in it the day he died," she said. "Everyone was so wonderful, especially the firefighters and Doug's chief Chip Prather." Come the Monday after the service, the tape ministry volunteers were there to continue the work.

"We were kind of lost for a while there," Jones said. Then Kim Wetmore bravely picked up her husband's flag. "This was Doug's legacy," she said. "I didn't know what to do, but I remembered Doug said once that if anything ever happened to him to hand the ministry over to long time volunteers Jones, Roy Bloom (retired firefighter/paramedic), Steve Greenberg and others." Turns out he did have an exit strategy.

"Steve (Jones) came to me and asked if they could keep it going in the house until Christmas, then he asked again to continue till July," Kim recalled. "Eventually I told them as long as they wanted to use my home for the ministry that the door would be open to them." And they still come. Under the leadership of Jones, Bloom, Greenberg and Brenda Weed over 100 people give their time to the Firefighters for Christ Tape Ministry.

It was important to Kim and FFC President John White to retain the essence of the vision established by Doug Wetmore. "John came in soon after Doug passed," Jones said. "He brought us together and prayed and encouraged us to keep it going." Roy Bloom, a retired fire-

fighter, has assumed the role of spiritual leader, while Jones, Greenberg, Weed and others attend to the operations.

"We have such a wonderful group of volunteers," Steve Greenberg said. "Many of these people have been working with the ministry since it started in 1978." Every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, ministry volunteers occupy Kim's home. "Each group has its own distinct personality," she said. On Wednesday Vinnie Thomas, a chef from the Ritz-Carlton, prepares a gourmet lunch for the workers, just like Doug Wetmore did for so many years. The Friday crew takes the time to clean Kim's home, which blesses her after a long week of teaching first-graders in the public school, a job she has had for 31 years. "They're taking care of a widow, just as the Bible says...and they are getting blessed for doing so," Kim remarked. "It's a joy to be a part of this ministry and watch God do what He does," Jones said. "He gets the glory and that's the way we like it."

The new leaders of the Tape Ministry maintain the same vision as the founder, give the Gospel away for free. "People still ask how we do it," Jones said. "It's not a popular business model, but that is what makes it special. It is no one person...it is all God." The principle has never changed, according to Kim Wetmore. "Whatever the Lord brings in, that's what goes out."

Ever the innovator, Wetmore was on the cutting edge when he introduced MP3 technology to the tape ministry. Today, Jones said the internet is the single biggest element of the ministry. "We are getting 250,000 hits a month. We are one of the most visited Christian sites on the Web." Jones said over 25,000 titles are downloaded every month. Most of those are the Bible. "We will always have the tapes, but the Web is the primary direction this ministry is going. It is simply more



Lt. to rt.: Tape ministry volunteers Steve Jones, Brenda Weed, Vi Caffrey, Lexi and Roy Bloom, Drew Baker and Ed Beneda are among the faithful, who continue to send God's Word throughout the world.

cost effective and able to reach so many people with the Gospel." Firefighters for Christ Tape Ministry partners with several other ministries to accomplish its mission. The Blue Letter Bible.org, the Sewing Circle, the Billy Graham Crusades, Walk through the Bible and others are part of what Jones describes as the "tentacles" of the organization.

Tapes and CD's produced by Firefighters for Christ are being broadcast via radio in Uganda, Kenya, Nairobi, Nigeria and other African nations. Stations in India also play the sermons and Bible studies provided through FFC Tape Ministry. Messages are heard in prisons across America and provide material for English as Second Language (ESL) schools all over the world.

The torch has been passed and the work begun in a firehouse by a new believer over 25 years ago is as strong as ever, even in his absence. "I miss Doug so much, everyone does," Kim said. "But he is so happy now, being with Jesus. I'm sure God had to put a beeper on him to keep track of him; he was just so that way. But I also know God is in control; He is meeting my needs and continuing to bless the work of all these wonderful people who give their time to the Tape Ministry." 🚒

**YOU JUST NEVER KNOW WHERE YOU'LL SEE AN FFC STICKER!
KARL ARMBRUST, A PASADENA, CA FIREFIGHTER, HAD BEEN**

praying for many years about being involved with an offroad racing team. Well, early this year he was invited to navigate for a Jeep Speed Class racing team in the Barstow 250 Mile Off-Road race. The Lord abundantly blessed Karl and the team when they safely finished in 1st place out of 19 racing! Karl is shown here giving complete credit to the Lord of Lords, Jesus Christ!



President's MESSAGE

According to God's economy, He always brings the increase as we encourage firefighters to live their lives for Jesus Christ. He does exceedingly abundantly above all that we could ask or think according to His power that works within us. **EPHESIANS 3:20**

In 1975, Captain Dave Gilkison encouraged firefighter Doug Wetmore to meet his challenge. Dave would have five shifts to share his Biblical views and Doug would have five shifts to share his secular views. On the second shift, Doug realized the Bible was true and with Dave invited Jesus into his heart.

Doug said, "I became so zealous to tell my fellow firefighters about Jesus that many would run when they saw me coming." So in 1977, Doug started buying tapes with a Christian message and sending them to friends in

envelopes with no return address. At this time, Doug said to me, "John, how do you argue with a tape?" He was right and today millions continue to be reached for Jesus through the ministry Doug started almost thirty years ago.

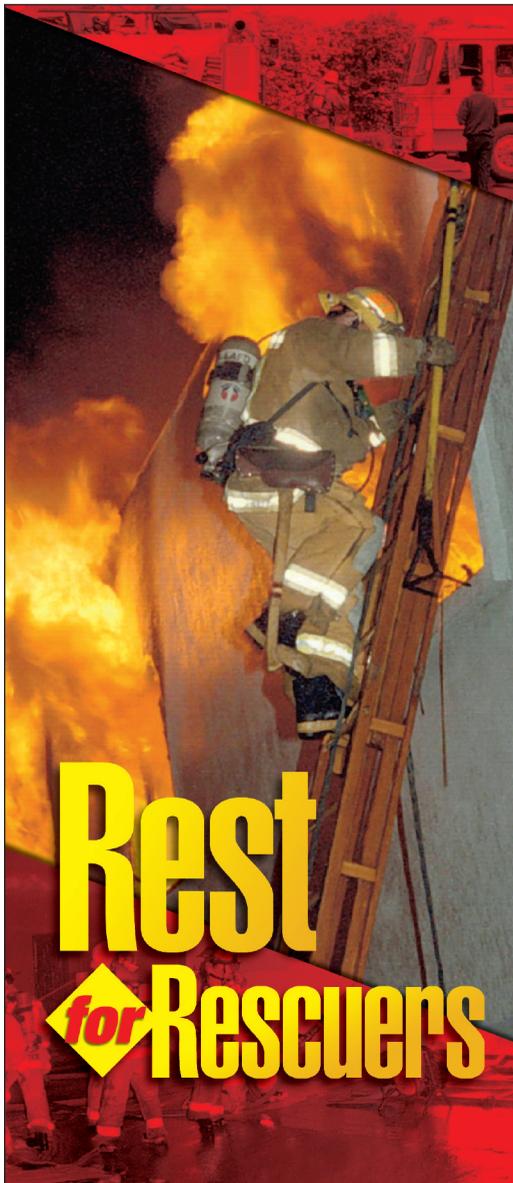
At his memorial service, Doug's life and legacy had a great impact on Mike Schroeder, Firefighter/Paramedic in Orange County, CA. Mike had worked with Doug during his last shift and had responded to Doug's home when 911 was called.

During the service, Mike thought, "What

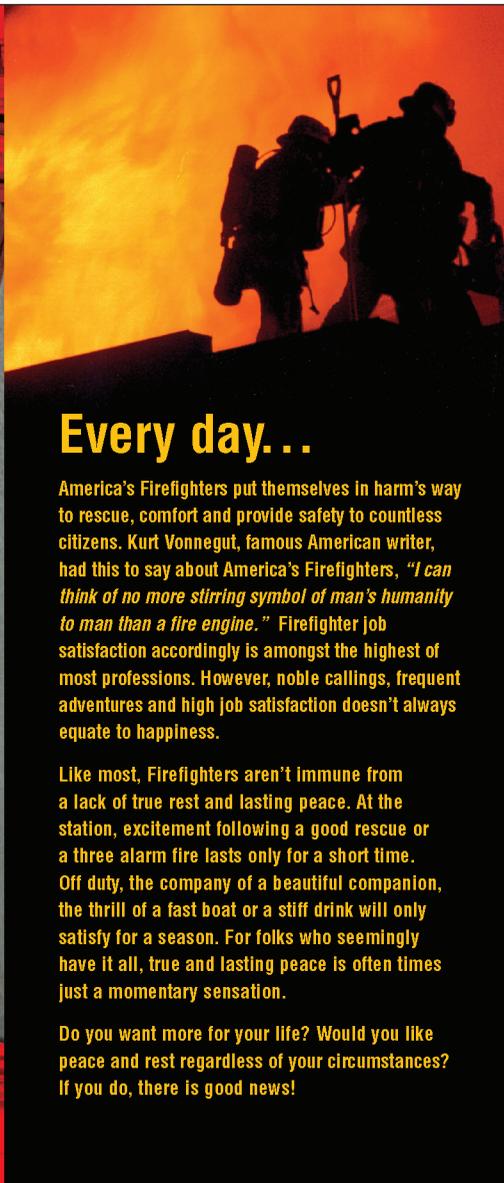
difference will my life make?" His query resulted in a tract designed especially for firefighters—**Rest for Rescuers**. During the last two years, thousands of Mike's tracts have been given out to firefighters around the world encouraging them to live their lives for Jesus Christ!

To God be the glory! Great things He has done and is doing! Let's keep our eyes fixed on Jesus and encourage each other to live our lives for Him.

Your brother in Jesus,
John White



Rest for Rescuers



Every day...

America's Firefighters put themselves in harm's way to rescue, comfort and provide safety to countless citizens. Kurt Vonnegut, famous American writer, had this to say about America's Firefighters, "I can think of no more stirring symbol of man's humanity to man than a fire engine." Firefighter job satisfaction accordingly is amongst the highest of most professions. However, noble callings, frequent adventures and high job satisfaction doesn't always equate to happiness.

Like most, Firefighters aren't immune from a lack of true rest and lasting peace. At the station, excitement following a good rescue or a three alarm fire lasts only for a short time. Off duty, the company of a beautiful companion, the thrill of a fast boat or a stiff drink will only satisfy for a season. For folks who seemingly have it all, true and lasting peace is often times just a momentary sensation.

Do you want more for your life? Would you like peace and rest regardless of your circumstances? If you do, there is good news!

1 **God loves us and he sent his son Jesus so that we might have a fulfilling life on earth and life with God after death.**

God Loves Us

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son that whoever believes in him should not perish but have everlasting life" — John 3:16

Jesus Came To Rescue Man

"For God did not send his son into the world to condemn the world but that the world through him might be saved." — John 3:17

Jesus Offers A Fulfilling Life

"The thief does not come except to steal, kill and destroy. I (Jesus) have come that they might have life and that they may have it more abundantly" — John 10:10

Unfortunately, most never enjoy that life of abundance God desires for us.

Why is this?

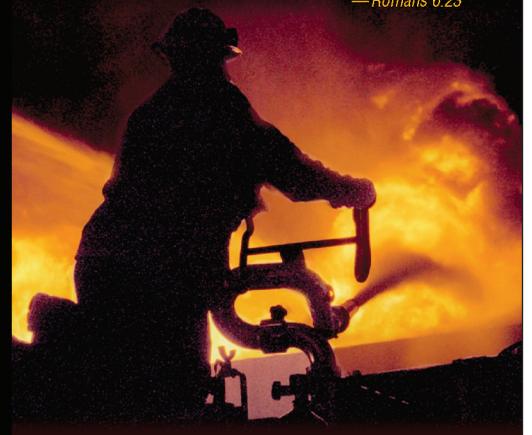
2 **Sin separates us from God and his peace.**

Man Is Sinful

"For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." — Romans 3:23

Sin Separates Man From God

"The wages of sin is death" (spiritual separation from God) — Romans 6:23





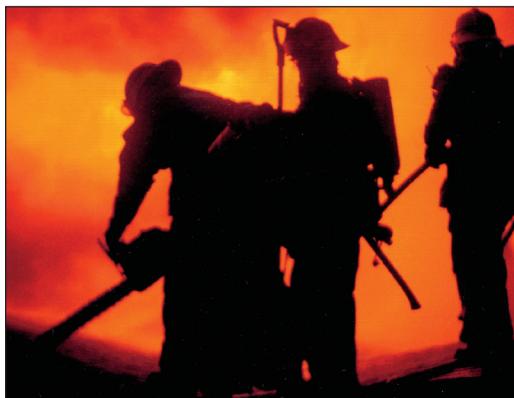
Learn more about Mike Schroeder's ministry at www.fireinsidemministries.org. He's an enthusiastic firefighter who is on fire for the Lord!

Firefighter Couples Retreat

NOVEMBER 4-6, 2005

"It's always an awesome weekend!"

Have fun being together with fellow firefighters and their spouses while you discover the resources of a marriage—lived in God's strength. Re-discover the romance you felt when first married and strengthen your commitment through speaker times, Bible study, and cooperative spiritual growth. Revel in Hume's various recreations such as biking, scaling the High Adventure Ropes Course, enjoying the paintball field and shotgun range—or simply take a romantic walk around the lake. For details: www.hume-lake.org/content/af-ffcouples.php



Despite our best religious efforts at pleasing God and being a "good person" we can never experience his peace due to sin.

Is there any hope?

3 Jesus is our only hope for having our sins forgiven and enjoying peace with God.

He Gave His Life For Us

"But God demonstrates his own love toward us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."
—Romans 5:8

He Is The Only Way To God

"Jesus said to him, I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the father except through me."
—John 14:6

How then can we be rescued from our sin and begin enjoying the life God desires for us?

4 We must each personally accept Jesus Christ into our hearts to be our LORD and savior.

We Must Each Receive Christ

"But as many as received him to them he gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe..."
—John 1:12

continued on next panel >



We Receive Christ By Faith

"...By grace you have been saved through faith and that not of yourselves; it is a gift of God, not of works..."
—Ephesians 2:8,9

Only Jesus brings lasting peace

"Come to me all you who labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest."
—Matthew 11:28

Jesus is ready to rescue you from your sins, renew your life and bring you true and lasting peace from God.

Do you want that for your life? Will you call on him right now?

5 If you want the rest and renewal that only Jesus can bring, pray this prayer right now.

PRAYER:

Lord Jesus, I believe that you died on the cross for my sins, that you were buried but rose from the dead (1 Corinthians 15:3,4).

I ask you now to come into my heart and life and forgive me of all my sins (1 John 1:9). Help me to follow you and live according to the plan that you have for my life. Thank you Lord that you are now living within my heart.
Amen

Congratulations Christian!

Only now that you have made peace with God through Jesus (Romans 5:1) can you begin to experience the peace of God (Phil. 4:7) despite any worldly situation.

As your new life in Christ begins, you might be asking yourself...

So Now What?

1st Understand what just happened

- ☐ Your sins are forgiven (Colossians 1:13,14)
- ☐ You have eternal life (John 5:24)
- ☐ Jesus now dwells in you (Colossians 1:27)
- ☐ You are a new creation (2 Corinthians 5:17)
- ☐ God will never leave you (Hebrews 13:5)

2nd Don't depend on feelings alone

Christians trust God because of the promises in his word, the Bible—that's it. At first you might not "feel" any different but give it time. As you grow in your relationship with God, you will see and hear things like never before!

3rd Stick to the Christian ABC'S

- A** – Attend church regularly
- B** – Be in the Bible daily
- C** – Call on God in prayer
- 'S** – Share Jesus with others

Lastly...

Please E-mail: Mike@fireinsidemministries.org so we can send you some free information and encourage you in your new relationship with God.

"Whoever believes on him will not be put to shame."
—Romans 10:11



**FIREFIGHTERS
FOR CHRIST**

International Breakfast

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2006
8:00AM – 11:00AM**

NEW LOCATION *Irvine Hilton Hotel*
18800 MacArthur Blvd., Irvine, CA

Right across the street from the John Wayne Airport



Invite veteran, active & next generation firefighters!

\$17.⁵⁰ per person* — Reserved tables of 10 must be paid in advance.

Photography by Kenji Luster



COME FOR FFC'S INTERNATIONAL WEEKEND RETREAT!

Join us for one event or for the entire weekend.

Call 800.445.8667 for Hilton Hotel room reservations — \$89.⁰⁰ for Single/Double Occupancy

FRIDAY, February 10th	SATURDAY Evening	SUNDAY, February 12th
6 – 9 PM – FFC DINNER* \$21.00* per person ■ Hilton Hotel – 18800 MacArthur Blvd., Irvine	5 – 6:30 PM – FFC DINNER \$10.00 per person (Pay at restaurant) ■ Souplantation Restaurant, 2825 Main, Irvine 7 – 9 PM – PRAYER & PRAISE ■ John & Jane White's House – 60 Fairlake, Irvine ■ Directions available at FFC Breakfast	CHURCH SERVICE ■ FFC Service – Hilton Hotel @ 8:15 AM 9:45 – 12 Noon – BRUNCH \$12.50 per person ■ El Torito Restaurant ■ 18512 MacArthur Blvd., Irvine

* Firefighters for Christ must guarantee to pay for your reservations before the weekend, so we ask you to pay for each reservation that you must cancel after February 7, 2006!

PRE-PAID RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED & MUST BE RECEIVED BEFORE FEBRUARY 7, 2006

Please print on this reservation form and enclose your check for the total amount and mail to:
 Firefighters For Christ, International, 3000 W. MacArthur Blvd., Suite 429, Santa Ana, CA 92704
or register and pay at www.firefightersforchrist.org

	Price Per Person	Number of Reservations	Total Cost	NAME
FRIDAY, February 10th				_____
6 – 9 PM – FFC DINNER	\$21.00 per person	_____	_____	ADDRESS
SATURDAY, February 11th				CITY
8:15 – 11 AM INTL. BREAKFAST	\$17.50 per person	_____	_____	STATE
5 – 6:30 PM	FFC DINNER	_____	_____	ZIP CODE
7 – 9 PM	PRAYER & PRAISE	_____	_____	PHONE
SUNDAY, February 12th				EMAIL
9:45 – 12 Noon – BRUNCH	\$12.50 per person	_____	_____	FIRE DEPARTMENT
<i>Please enclose check for TOTAL AMOUNT:</i>				_____

Life Changing Mission

Continued from Page 1

sion, a Brigade delivery truck driver received an unprovoked attack in broad daylight by an angry driver. This has resulted in low morale for some of the firefighters. One of the Christian firefighters shared with me that his time with us helped him have a new sense of pride and appreciation for his job and a resolve to try to improve his attitude at work.

We visited the Belfast Training Center (BTC) and had the opportunity to share our faith and personal testimonies. Several of the secretaries attended our time of sharing and Saturday morning prayer breakfast. Steve Hind, a training officer, approached us after the presentation and told of the miraculous recovery of his daughter, Georgia, who suffered from cerebral palsy. Some of you have specifically prayed for him and his family through the FFC prayer



Lt. to rt.: North Ireland firefighter Keith Mitchell and Fresno, CA firefighter Jonathan Chew are close brothers in the Lord. After first meeting in 2003, they have been hosts to one another in their homes. Jonathan considers Mitch to be his "David". They have spent intimate time in prayer and mutually encouraged one another. Mitch is an evangelist and spoke at Fresno's FFC Chapter. Jonathan shared through video about Christian Accountability, which Mitch will show at a men's prayer breakfast in Ireland. They both play soccer and Lord willing, their families will join together in Germany to see a World Cup soccer match.

network. We prayed together before we left the BTC and Steve was visibly moved. Phil Scott is currently assigned to the BTC as a training officer. Rick Allen, another strong believer involved in FFC, is assigned to the same position and they are having an impact for Christ at the Training Center.

We also had the opportunity to meet the Brigade Fire Chief, Colin Lammey, during our visit to Central Headquarters. John presented him with an FDNY memorial bracelet. I made sure he received a Fresno patch too. We enjoyed a wonderful lunch reception with some of the Headquarters staff and received a tour of the dispatch center from Joe McKnight, a fellow believer and Director of Communications.

Nicola, one of the secretaries who gave her heart to Jesus during an FFC mission in

2003, was there along with Janice, Caroline, and Ann, other sisters in the Lord. It was a reminder that we never know whom we are going to reach.

On Saturday morning we joined together at the Rockmount Golf Club for a fellowship breakfast. It was a great turnout, the food was excellent, and there was a strong spirit of encouragement among the attendees. John White spoke and openly shared the love of Christ from scripture and personal testimony and gave an invitation to receive Christ. One secretary chose Jesus as Lord and Savior in response to John's invitation. She also presented John with a pair of beautiful photographs of the Twin Towers, which she had shot one week before 9/11.

Personally, besides the mission to Ireland itself, the "before" and "after" had a huge impact on me. The "before" included the invitation to join the team, the preparation for the trip, and the "being sent out." John initially invited me to join the mission, to which I enthusiastically responded. I didn't consider it a strong possibility, however, with two young children at home and my wife needing to juggle her work schedule. To my surprise, Jen told me, "You should go." A few days later, John called and said, "Buy your ticket." The time before the trip included prayer, fasting, and encouragement. For the first time, I sent out a ministry support letter to a small circle of friends requesting financial and prayer support. I included a description of the mission and a financial goal. In response, I received more than double what I asked for. Additionally, I genuinely felt the prayers of the Saints all week long, sensing a focus and strength that only the Lord can provide. I truly felt "sent out."

The "after" is the continuing effects of the mission in my own walk with Jesus. I came back with a renewed commitment to my own crew in terms of being bolder and intentionally



Firefighters For Christ North Ireland Ministry Team members and their families join for group picture with FFC's Intl. Team. Robert Blair said, "This past week will be taken to eternity with me. We have seen the good news given to so many firefighters in word and deed. We have been encouraged to live our lives for Christ. We have seen three snatched from the Fire and SAVED. We have seen another re-affirmed. We as a team have grown in so many ways. We have been joined in heart by four brothers who served us this week, who sacrificed time from their families to become part of our family. Father, we will be eternally grateful! I would like to thank everyone for your support in prayer and the part you played in this week of mission. It can never be stressed enough the importance of prayer and the part you played in that prayer."

sharing my faith with them, sometimes even using words! Time with John White was precious to me, as he modeled steadfastness and a passion to share Jesus with everyone. One pre-eminent thought I had as I spent time with John was, "Living for Jesus Christ in the firehouse CAN be done!" I think that we as firefighters can easily excuse ourselves from being strong by allowing ourselves to get caught up in the perceived fire service culture. Examples of this are gossip, coarse joking, watching certain TV shows, etc. I am now trying to focus on what pleases the Lord, not my peers.

I hope that others will prayerfully consider going on a mission trip, especially away from home. The "mission-mindset" challenges us to place our trust in God on a moment-by-moment basis. As we serve, we are blessed and more importantly, we are fulfilling the Great Commission. Let us be obedient and be found faithful! 🙏

World Police & Fire Games

Paul Steusel, a member of the FFC International Ministry Team, retired firefighter for the City of Carlsbad, CA and now a firefighter for the Disneyland Resort, proudly displays his silver and bronze medals, which he won at the 2005 World Police and Fire Games in Quebec City, Canada. Paul won his silver medal in the grandmaster's indoor rowing and the bronze in the grandmaster's shotput. This year at the games, over 9,000 competed and over 60 nations were represented. Paul gives all the glory to God for the success that he experienced. Please pray about joining Paul and other Firefighters for Christ at the 2007 Games in Australia.



THE HOUSE THAT GOD BUILT

"Unless the Lord builds the house, you labor in vain..." Psalm 127:1

The view from the van window was of small wood dwellings, stray dogs and poverty for as far as the eye could see. The dusty dirt road leading up to the Valle-Olea property was bumpy and unpaved. The misty, gray day was about to unfold a new chapter in the life of this family who lived only 20 minutes from downtown Tijuana.

Firefighters For Christ International, in conjunction with YWAM (Youth With a Mission), assembled a team of 18 men, women and children to travel to Mexico on June 4-5, 2005 to give hope to this family in need. The goal was threefold: First was to construct a home for the family to live in, second was to build a relationship with them while working side-by-side in the construction process, and third, and most importantly, was to share the good news of Christ and His eternal hope. The Valle-Olea family (Rogelio, Mariela, Kenya-11



Please consider joining us on the next FFC "Homes for Hope" ministry trip in May-June 2006.

and Rogelio Jr.-9) were the anxious recipients of this "Homes for Hope Project". The family was chosen based on criteria established by YWAM, and the material and manpower for building the home was sponsored by FFC. The construction took less than two days to build.

On Sunday afternoon, once the house was completed, the team gathered around the family in front of their new home. The team had an opportunity, through translators, to share some personal thoughts about their experiences of working on the home. The family was then presented with the gospel and repeated the sinner's prayer, asking to receive Christ as Lord and Savior. The team gifted the family with a Spanish Bible, house supplies, food, toys and the keys to their new home.

"It was not about us," shared Jose Medrano, team leader and FFC Executive Director. "We were just the vessels to do His work. He accomplished much in the short time we were there." The children were included in the project as well. They helped paint, build trusses and hang drywall alongside their parents. It was a tremendous opportunity for the children to experience ministry first hand. "I want to come back!" exclaimed Gregory Laveaga, 10, as he hopped into the van to depart after the memorable and emotional weekend. Jerry White, San Diego City Fire, and his wife Jennifer, who have been on many YWAM homebuilding trips said, "This was the best house we have ever built. The best part was not the house, but that the whole family prayed to receive Jesus!" After arriving home from the long car ride from Mexico, Nathan Medrano, 10, said to his dad in a sleepy voice, "We are so blessed!" Blessed indeed... 

UPCOMING EVENTS



February 18-25, 2006

The World Fire Games will once again unite firefighters from across the globe as they compete in over 50 sports. Hong Kong is the first city in Asia to host the Games, which is the largest world event for professional firefighters. Pray about the possibility of going with a delegation of firefighters from FFC. For more information, contact the FFC International Office at 714 427-0007.



February 19-23, 2006

San Diego Convention Center—San Diego, CA
Firehouse World is the largest fire and emergency services event on the West Coast where over 6,000 Fire, Rescue, & EMS professionals attend each year. FFC Intl. will again be hosting an exhibit booth where hundreds of CDs declaring the gospel of Jesus Christ will be handed out. This is an awesome time together with other firefighters. Please join us by helping at the booth. Contact the FFC Intl. office for more information.



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FORWARD & ADDRESS CORRECTION

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