



Whilst we are now well established in our school year it is good to remember the significance of the task in which we are involved as educators.

About this time the initial enthusiasm for the year is waning and we begin to wonder if it is all worth the effort. And, there are months to go yet. Is not God gracious to have created breaks for us to recover? Just think of twelve years of unbroken effort – per child that is. That, of course, is why our vision and goal for Christian

education needs to be bigger than our situations, reaching out to the purposes of God for our families.

I was recently visiting a home education sympathising friend in the USA who offered a humorous offering he had made on his site. I do trust you will search out the funny side of this:

How does a home schooler change a light bulb?

First, Mom goes to the library and checks out three books on electricity.

Second, the kids make models of light bulbs, read a biography of Thomas Edison and do a skit based on his life.

Third, everyone studies the history of lighting methods, wrapping up with dipping their own candles.

Fourth, everyone takes a trip to the store where they compare types of light bulbs as well as prices and figure out how much change they'll get if they buy

two bulbs for \$1.99 and pay with a five dollar bill.

Fifth, on the way home a discussion develops over the history of money and also Abraham Lincoln, as his picture is on the five dollar bill.

Sixth, after building a homemade ladder out of branches dragged from the woods, the light bulb is installed. And there is light.

This Issue

We are able to include full details for the CHES program for 2013, including a new seminar at Gisborne, Victoria. We catch up on our overseas endeavours in Nepal, India and Peru, and in *Exploring Christian Education* we look at the problems and the blessings of diversity. In Health we reproduce part two of the article by Mary Jaqua (who writes on behalf of George Malkmus), showing how the body heals itself. There are some new curriculum editions and a swathe of new library books we trust you will find useful. And of course Evelyn shares the latest LEM Phonics news.

With a prayer that this issue will be a blessing as you seek to serve the Lord in education,



CHES

We are looking forward to another great season of CHES seminars. We are developing some exciting sessions for this year to provide background and inspiration for the task of home education. The CHES is a great opportunity to peruse and purchase from the wide range of books on offer.

CHES Seminars 2013

Adelaide	Saturday 11 May
Perth	Saturday 29 June
Gisborne, Vic	Friday 5 July
Melbourne	Saturday 6 July
Sydney	Saturday 3 August

Book Displays

In driving to the various capital cities from Canberra we pass through many regional centres where a book display of LEM resources could provide a valuable opportunity for local home educators.

There is no entry charge for these book displays and we bring a wide range of materials for viewing and purchase.

If you would like to host such a display please contact our office (details on back page). All we need is someone to book a suitable facility and be a contact person for us.

Flyers for individual CHESS seminars can be found at the link below. If you would like extra copies of CHESS flyers to hand out to friends please call and we will send them to you.

[Click here](#) for more information and flyers for all CHESS seminars.

International

India and Nepal

Evelyn Garrard spent the first two months of the year in India and Nepal. She writes:

I stayed in Pokhara, Nepal with Janaki and Sanju of Stars Montessori School, near Kumudini Homes School.

Janaki scheduled two and half hours of teacher training per day, because teachers have to teach for the remainder. There were endless holdups with electricity, late arrival of books and other interruptions, and we took two weeks to do the one course. Despite this the single phonogram workbook is proving to be a wonderful aid, connecting the teacher and child and giving them something to follow.

The second fortnight I was in Chitwan, doing two hours training in the morning and then teaching for an hour in the classroom with the children. Teachers came from four schools and there was only enough room for the sixteen teachers who were present. The interactive phonogram powerpoint show was a great help in learning the sounds of the phonograms.

I travelled by bus from Chitwan to Prashanti Vidh Agiri School in Jorethang

in the Indian state of Sikkim, where I conducted a course for the whole school. Ranjita Pradham, the principal, took a while to catch the vision but her husband is very eager to try out LEM Phonics.

From Sikkim I moved back to Mt Carmel Pentecostal School in Kalimpong, West Bengal. I had the same class as on my previous visit. It was good to be working in a Christian school, at last, and the accommodation, food and general atmosphere was very friendly. This time there was much more enthusiasm about LEM Phonics.

The following week saw me at Nabil's Memorial Secondary School, a Bahai faith school. The teachers with no background in phonics struggled to understand breaking words into sounds and representing those sounds not only by single letters but also combinations of letters. I had good conversations with the principal and her husband and he asked me to tell him how I became a Christian.

I felt the time was valuable there, but it remains to be seen what fruit will come.

Papua New Guinea

Whilst good progress is being made with LEM Phonics throughout PNG, there is still a 'war' in the education system of that nation. Whilst the government has committed to removing the Ausaid funded OBE program and installing a new program, vested interests are working feverishly to have the decision overturned.

We need to pray for the education situation in PNG because in essence we are seeking

to see a godless, destructive OBE system (the same one that ruined Australia's education system) replaced by a Christian-flavoured program.

Mesia Novau and his team are working to train teachers and assist in the implementation of the program. This, as you may imagine, is a huge and daunting task, but the future of PNG as a nation may well depend on their success.

Peru

Bob and Frances Relyea were again gracious hosts to me in February when we conducted two Christian education seminars. Here is their report of recent events:

Since the previous issue of *Light of Life* we have enjoyed the visit of Peter Frogley as we ran a conference together in Piura, Perú, a city of 400,000 people. We also participated in a further one in Lima, organised by one of the Christian Schools there. Both of the conferences were well-attended, but the factor which stands out most was the interest generated in providing a godly education. We also made some good, solid contacts. There was considerable interest in the LEM/AME and CMI materials for sale.

Peter's ministry regarding a Christian Worldview was well-received in the local Baptist establishment on the Sunday following the conferences, both in the services as well as with the youth of the church.

We appreciate very much the interest and support we have received from Peter and LEM over the years. LEM has been with us

as we carry the message of what the Lord wants for education to our Latin audience, and we also have the privilege of being amongst the forerunners of the modern Creation Science movement in South America.

We recently held our bi-annual business meeting and it was very encouraging to look back and see what the Lord has done over the past six months as well as being able to project and plan into the future. The 'indifference' we had noted in some quarters over the past few years is starting to fade away as we are being increasingly 'discovered' by various existing organisations and churches.

Encouragement, as well as the sale of materials, is at a very good level, enabling us to prepare several new and valuable translation, evangelistic and teaching projects for 2013, with confidence in what the Lord will do. We plan on continuing our monthly program of in-servicing our education/creationist team and we are pleased with their progress. There is a renewed interest at a national level in the Diploma courses that we offer. Even several people beyond our national borders have enquired about or are currently studying our courses.

AME has a goal of achieving independence from external funds by 2014. Be with us in prayer as we make the correct decisions to ensure a steady, independent income for the future ministry here. God is moving in South America. ■



No. 88: The Problem of the Blessing of Diversity

We are all delighted that our God is a God of diversity, in that He has made every one of our children different.

As delightful as this is, that same diversity causes a number of challenges for us in educating our children. Certainly it can make more work for us in fulfilling the perceived needs presented by children's individuality.

We all know that every person is different — in almost every way! So it is with our children. I'm sure we have all heard someone say 'I can't believe those two children have the same parents — their personalities are like chalk and cheese!' From this we may conclude that we must have a unique program for the education of each child. That is what many embrace, but a moment's reflection causes us to realise that such would be an impossibility and that there must be some compromise for the good of all. It is an interesting observation that many of our problems come from absolutising a particular aspect of education — in this case endeavouring to

cater to every individual difference. In the past children were put in a class according to age, which produced some problems for some children (although not as many or as great as some have imagined). Then experts decided that teaching should be closer to one-on-one, but then it was discovered that this was not viable financially and in addition this method often promoted self-centredness in children. Home schooling obviously gives children the best of both worlds, but even then each child is different and presents parents with differing challenges and opportunities. We will consider some of those in a hopefully helpful way.

Not only are all children different, but every parent is different. Even (perhaps particularly) husbands and wives differ from each other. Some have even suggested that marriage is a covenant between two incompatible people.

It will follow that each parent will approach teaching their children differently. Even if they are teaching from the same instruction book and endeavouring to follow the instructions exactly, there will be significant differences in the outworking.

Even when people are committed biblical Christians, their understanding of what is important in education and how it should be handled can vary significantly.

So with this in mind we will briefly explore, under several headings, some of the challenges of diversity that may be found in Christian education.

Philosophy

It is the teacher's or parent's philosophy which carries the direction of their student's development and studies. I will particularly concentrate on the parent's philosophy as teachers often have to modify their own philosophy to suit the school at which they teach.

Our philosophy is our understanding and reasons for what we do and how we do it. In terms of education it is the reasons we have for educating our children, which may take the following emphases.

Evangelical

Some parents want to educate their children to ensure their salvation, fearing that if they put their children into a school they may compromise their children's opportunity to be saved.

Discipline

Some parents are concerned at the lack of discipline in many schools and teach their children at home to ensure proper discipleship. That is commendable but there must be a wider vision and understanding on what the children are to be taught.

Protection

Some parents educate their children at home because of the perceived poor behaviour of other children at schools and the likelihood of their child being bullied. This is also a noble idea but can be motivated by fear and thus lack in faith that God will protect our children. This balancing act is one of the most difficult parents face; when to shield and when to expose our children.

Biblical Training

Still other parents have been convicted of the biblical requirement to nurture and train their children in God's ways so that they might be useful to the Lord in building His kingdom here on earth. This is identifiable as a biblical position and is by far the best foundation from which to educate our children. From this foundation we can embrace all or some of the above motivations.

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come from absolutising
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Curriculum

It is not possible to write a curriculum that suits every teacher or parent, for each of the above philosophies of education will give rise to a different slant on the curricula and each person's differences will give rise to differing emphases in material presented. When writing curriculum here at LEM we find it a real challenge in the presentation of materials, recognising that a particular approach will not suit all people. Ultimately parents and teachers must choose a curriculum that suits their needs, even if not perfectly, and make changes along the way (if needed) to suit their and their children's needs.

Individual differences

Individual differences in children will often mandate quite varied approaches.

These approaches will be determined by factors such as the child's own personality and learning style as well as their ability to grasp concepts.

Whilst individual diversity is a real challenge in life, not just in education, we should not succumb to sameness or uniformity. It has been said that 'variety is the spice of life' and perhaps that thought can be something of an encouragement to us. Learn to rejoice in the differences rather than stifle them with a rigid form of discipline.

On the other hand we must be careful not to absolutise *individuality* so that it becomes *individualism*, which is the basis of selfishness and independence. Like everything else in God's creation there is a need for balance—in this case between the individual and the family. The parents' challenge is to identify what they perceive to be a godly balance and pursue that narrow line, trusting this to be God's will and plan for their family. Remember, 'the just shall live by faith' (Hab 2:4). Put simply, you can't get your own way all the time. There will be times—perhaps many—when a child's individuality needs to be suppressed for the good of the family and God's plan for that child.

Parents and teachers need to be aware of these two 'goalposts' and chart a course that will result in acceptable goals for their children. ■



How the Body Heals Itself: Part Two

As the body begins to heal itself, it will engage a cleansing process.

Poisons, parasites, and assorted foreign matter that has accumulated and lodged in the body over a period of years will be loosened and flushed out through the elimination system.

This detoxification process commonly causes people to experience headache, nausea, joint pain, irritability, diarrhoea, etc. This often discourages those beginning dietary change when they suddenly begin to feel worse than before. These symptoms which last 3–7 days are proof positive that the body is recovering.

Healing: A Personal Process and Priority

Those who adopt a natural, wholesome lifestyle with living foods and proper exercise find lasting, if not immediate, improvement in the quality of their health. The abuse the body has suffered over a period of years takes time to heal.

It is a scientific, medical, and biblical fact that a proper diet heals the body from the inside out. Dr Joel Robbins informs us that the body heals itself on a priority basis. For example, injuries suffered as a child may need to be addressed before other more recent conditions can heal.

Likewise, digestive problems may need to be solved before a leg can heal, and heart attack victims may suffer 'phantom' heart incidences as the heart heals itself. Thus the road to recovery is often surprising and unpredictable.

Healing is a naturally occurring phenomenon that reveals itself over a period of time. Depending upon one's physical, emotional, or spiritual condition, restoration can be either quick, long-term, or a combination of both. Given time, the self-healing body can correct the vast majority of problems.

Healing: Paying the Price

Achieving optimum health through proper diet takes personal responsibility and dedication, since many times old habits die hard. Eating patterns and food addictions can take time to undo. In addition, family and friends can turn into foes in one's quest to become naturally healthy.

Healing God's way requires prayer, diligence, and humbleness of spirit. Amidst the battle, it is imperative to remain consistent and true to course with one's diet strategy both natural and spiritual.

Hope for the Unhealthy

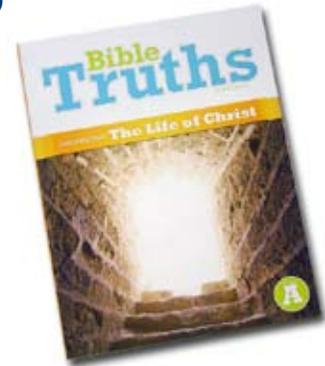
While the evolution of human misery has only compounded as the result of the

best intentions of medical practice, hope does spring eternal. In spite of hundreds of years of practice, man has proven that his solutions are still imperfect. Where conventional medicine fails, may its shortcomings compel us to seek God's ways and accept His alternative route to wellness! ■



Bob Jones University Press

Grade 7 Bible Truths (Level A): Learning from the Life of Christ (4th Edition)



This edition is a new layout with some revision to the text and a different format for exercises.

Student Worktext	\$26.15
Teacher Edition	\$69.30
Tests	\$18.25
Test Key	\$11.65

Bob Jones Bible Truths
Click to order

Grade 8 Science Earth Science (4th Ed)

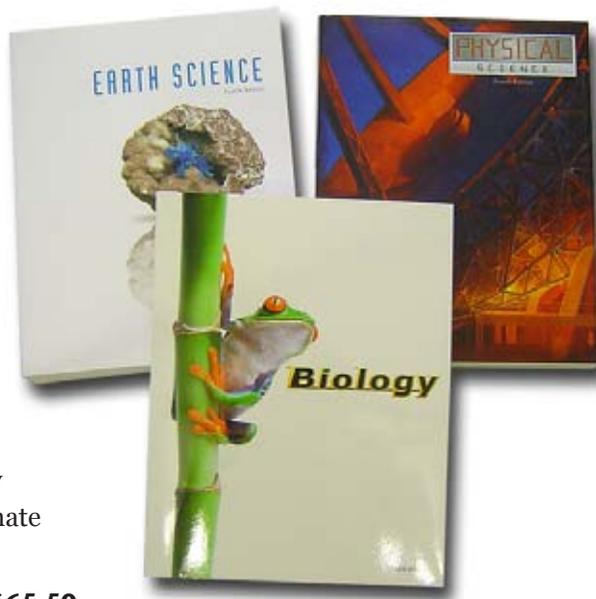
The previous edition was two volumes and included an activity section at the end of each book. The course has been edited a little using the same basic content, but the layout is new and it has been combined into one larger volume. These Bob Jones courses are quite comprehensive and well presented. Includes a delightfully balanced (and slightly politically incorrect) section on climate change.

Student Text	\$65.50
Teacher Edition (2 volumes)	\$70.85
Test Book	\$18.25
Answer Key to Test	\$11.65
Lab Manual	\$29.00
Teacher Key to Lab Manual	\$34.00

Grade 9 Science Physical Science (4th Ed)

The previous edition was in two volumes and included an activity section at the end of each book. The basic content of the course has been edited only slightly, but there is a new layout and just one larger volume. Another comprehensive and well presented course.

Student Text	\$65.50
Teachers Edition (2 volumes)	\$70.85
Test Book	\$18.25
Answer Key to Test	\$11.65
Lab Manual	\$29.00
Teacher Key to Lab Manual	\$30.25



Grade 10 Science Biology (4th Ed)

The previous edition was in two volumes and included a laboratory exercises section at the end of each book. The course has been edited using the same basic content, but with a new layout and now in one larger volume. Laboratory exercises are in a separate book. The Grade 10 course continues Bob Jones' high standard of content, teachability and presentation.

Student Text	\$65.50
Teachers Edition (2 volumes)	\$70.85
Test Book	\$18.25
Answer Key to Test	\$11.65
Lab Manual	\$29.00
Teacher Key to Lab Manual	\$30.25

Bob Jones Science
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Australian History

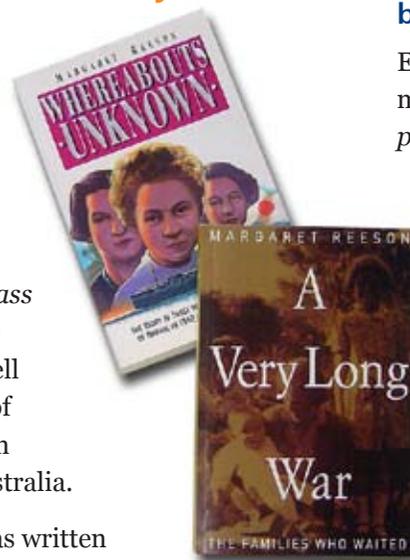
Margaret Reeson

Many will know of Margaret's books *Currency Lass* and *Certain Lives* that tell the stories of Christians in colonial Australia.

Margaret has written two other books which tell the story of over 1,000 Australians who disappeared during World War Two, when the ship *Montevideo Maru* on which they were being transported from Rabaul in PNG to Japan in 1942 was sunk by a US submarine near Luzon, Philippines. Less than 20 of the crew were saved.

In the first book *Whereabouts Unknown* Margaret tells the story of the fall of Rabaul and the capture and transporting of the Australians. The sequel *A Very Long War* chronicles the lives of many of the families left behind after the ship disappeared. These books are ideal for older students who may be interested in Australian history.

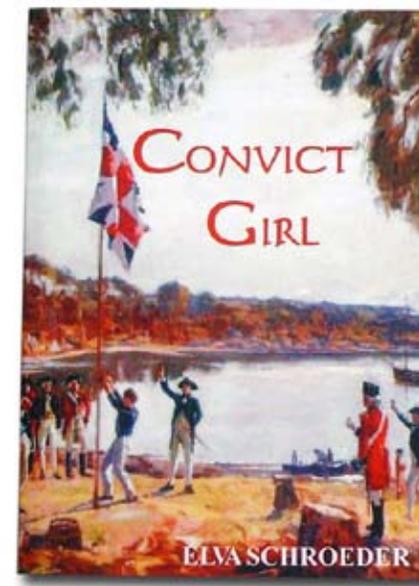
Whereabouts Unknown	\$20.00
A Very Long War	\$20.00



Convict Girl by Elva Schroeder

Elva has written several titles that we make available, including *Whatever Happened to the Twelve Apostles*.

This new title is the story of Becky, a thirteen-year-old girl convicted of stealing a loaf of bread to help feed her five orphaned brothers and sisters. She was transported to Botany Bay where she became involved with Australia's first minister, Reverend Richard Johnson, and his wife Mary. Together they faced the great challenges of Australia's first convict settlement. 145 pages, paperback. **\$12.95**



Australian History
[Click to order](#)

YWAM Publishing

International Adventures

Bruchko by Bruce Olson

The story of Bruce Olson who as a 19 year old ventured into the jungles of Columbia, South America where he was captured by the Stone-age Montilone Indians. He suffered through capture, disease, terror, loneliness and torture in bringing the gospel to these Indians. 200 pages, soft cover. **\$15.85**

A Way Beyond Death by Jemimah Wright

Edson and Marcia Suzuki devoted their lives to helping Amazonian tribal Indians change their practices of infanticide and suicide. Their commitment to the call of God has led to changes in laws to protect many indigenous children. 200 pages, soft cover. **\$15.85**

Taking on the Giants by Joe Portale

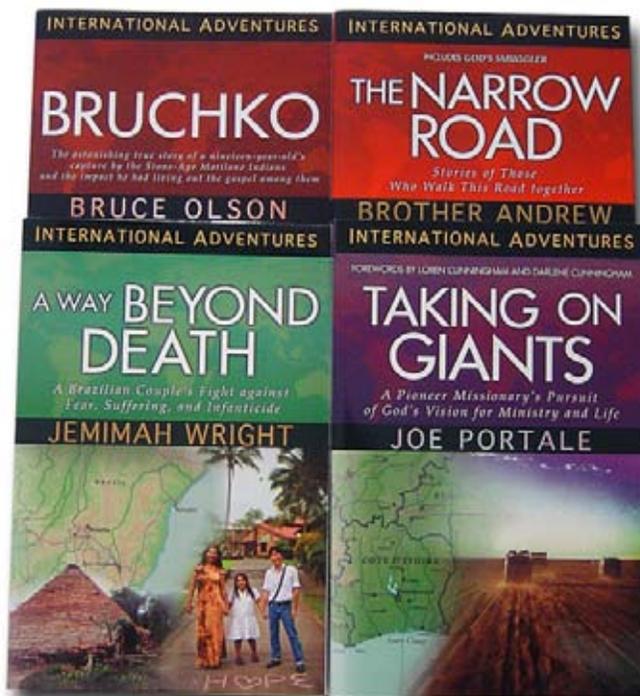
Joe Portale has demonstrated the fruit of a focused life and call to serve God. Joe pioneered YWAM work in the French speaking world — in France, Northern Africa and South-east Asia. Joe now trains missionaries at the University of the Nations in Kona, Hawaii. 240 pages, soft cover. **\$15.85**

The Narrow Road by Brother Andrew

This is the story of Brother Andrew's life and ministry, including the text of his best-selling book *God's Smuggler*. Through the Open Doors ministry he founded, Brother Andrew has smuggled Bibles and Christian literature into countries where Scriptures are outlawed. Many great and stirring stories. 330 pages, soft cover. **\$15.85**

International Adventures

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Heroes of History

Davy Crockett: Ever Westward

The story of one of America's best known folk heroes, Davy Crockett served as a frontiersman, scout, soldier and a politician in the US Congress. He died defending the Alamo, a steadfast citizen and heroic leader to the very end. 190 pages, soft cover. **\$10.20**

Milton Hershey: More than Chocolate

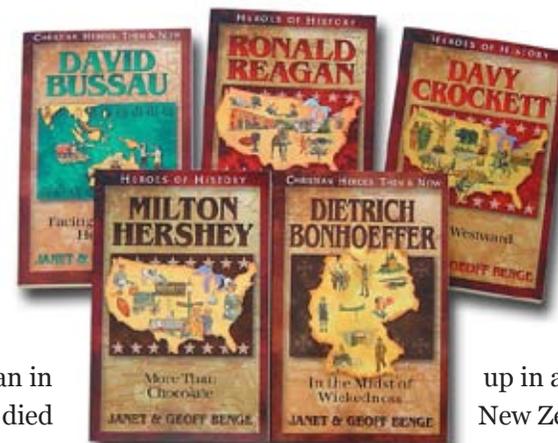
An inspiring story of the 'Father of American chocolate'. If you enjoy Hershey's chocolate you will enjoy this story of Milton Hershey, a man who spent most of his large amount of money blessing others. 190 pages, soft cover. **\$10.20**

Ronald Reagan: Destiny at His Side

A man seldom appreciated by the media, Ronald Reagan was perhaps the best Christian President America has had. He achieved success as an athlete, sports announcer and actor, but enjoyed his greatest role late in life as President of the USA. Known as the Great Communicator, Reagan had the ability to reach out to the American people and leave a lasting legacy. 220 pages, soft cover. **\$10.20**

Heroes of History

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Christian Heroes: Then and Now

David Bussau: Facing the World Head-On

David grew

up in a boys home in New Zealand, quite unsuccessful at school

but very enterprising in business. As his business success developed he believed God would have him work to provide natural disaster relief and aid to the poor. His work continues today through Opportunity International which offers small loans to help the poor start and grow their own businesses. 206 pages, soft cover. **\$10.20**

Dietrich Bonhoeffer: In the Midst of Wickedness

Bonhoeffer was a German pastor, teacher and theologian caught up in the horrors of the Second World War in Germany. He was strongly opposed to Adolph Hitler's regime and this opposition led to his capture and final execution just weeks before the end of the war. His was a powerful testimony to God's love and grace in the midst of turmoil. 205 pages, soft cover. **\$10.20**

Christian Heroes: Then and Now

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LEM Phonics Corner

EVELYN GARRARD



Since my last LEM Phonics corner in *Light of Life*, I have been again to Nepal and India, this time on my own.

God definitely went before me, and the LEM Phonics programme was received very well. Now it remains to be seen how the schools involved actually implement it in the classrooms. I have found that teachers who have done the course have not been confident to implement it seriously, although they teach the phonograms. I believe that our best hope is to have a more permanent LEM Phonics representative over there who can get around and help teachers implement by observing the teachers and showing them how to do the things they are struggling with. If there are any takers for such a task, we would welcome talking to you about it!

I was warmly welcomed into the schools I visited and did not stay in hotels at all, rather living at the school or with the family of the principal. This presented a few challenges as life in those places is not necessarily as comfortable as we know it here, but I found it a rich cultural experience which also gave me some opportunities to

share parts of the gospel message to some people. In all places I was able to spread the aroma of Christ, through simply living the Christian life.

It has been very encouraging back on the home front to have a lot of feedback from parents and teachers regarding LEM Phonics. I would like to share one mother's letter.

I just wanted to let you know how pleased I am with your LEM Phonics programme.

I have two sons, one 12 and a half and the other 6 years old. The older son did not begin with LEM Phonics as I was using a different programme with him. I ended up terminating that schooling. I wish now that I had started with LEM, but now having changed over, he is doing wonderfully well. Praise the Lord!

My six year old began with LEM. What a difference! He has just finished Word List K and, boy, are we glad that he has had this opportunity.

Learning the rules for each phonogram has taught my son why we use the letters (phonograms) we do to write words. My husband and I are so impressed at what he can do. He is always reading something, from words on bottles to real books. He also writes letters to his grandparents and I am astounded at how he gets the spelling right.

My mother-in-law used to be a teacher and she also is very impressed what my son can do for a six year old.

I know so many parents whose children go to school and can't spell, read or write. I am so thankful that my husband and I have chosen to home school our children using LEM Phonics.

Feel free to send your own testimony of an LEM Phonics parent or teacher (however you have found it — good or bad) so we can continue to evaluate our effectiveness.

Blessings,

Light of Life

Light Educational Ministries is a faith ministry, working in the area of Christian education.

Our Ministry is to spread the vision and concepts of Christian education. Light Educational Ministries staff are available to share with and assist groups interested in or involved with Christian education. Our staff prepare and distribute resources and develop curriculum and LEM training programmes.

Light of Life is a non-subscription newsletter, published four times a year. We do, however, encourage donations towards the cost of production and distribution.

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