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Compassionate Care for Today's Youth & Children

CNS INTERNATIONAL MINISTRIES, INC.

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NHBC College Days

Nations Harvest Bible College recently hosted College Days for prospective students. One guest was here from all the way across the country to attend. Several others came across the hall from their rooms in the high school dormitory. The distance traveled held no distinctions, however, once the weekend began.



All the students quickly found themselves at the same starting place on the journey.

A family-style gathering on Thursday night launched the event. Guests had a chance to meet students, faculty members, staff and their families. Friday included a taste of NHBC classes, along with a trip to a near-by high school with the Servanthood class. The elementary students at North Shelby School were begging the Bible College students to stay for lunch—and just spend the day—before the service project ended.

During one session of the weekend, Pastor Charles Sharpe spoke to the students about finding their own convictions to live by. He challenged them to stand spend a couple of years in Bible College discovering the truth—and then to spend the rest of their lives defending it.

Call 660-284-4800 for an NHBC info packet, or visit www.nationsharvest.org



A panel of NHBC alumni gave insight into what Bible College life is like, and how it has been part of building a firm foundation in their lives.



Students got to know each other at Thursday "family night" activities.

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HEARTBEAT NEWSLETTER

VOL. 4, ISSUE 1 • 2004

From the Nations, To the Nations

Visitors to the kindergarten classroom at Heartland Christian Academy may hear children speaking English, Arabic, or Bulgarian. And sometimes they throw in a little Spanish. This is not a study on cultures of the world; it is just real life. Children from at least three different nations are learning to read and write in this classroom. And they are becoming the best of friends.

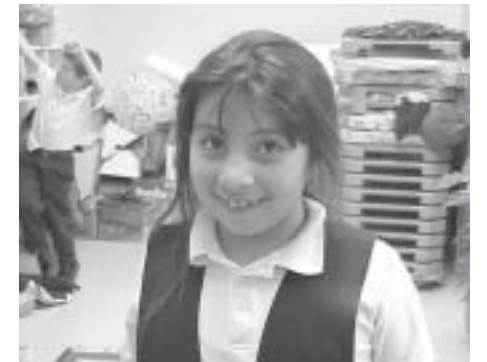
Such diversity might be fairly common in an urban setting. But it is rather unusual in the farming communities of northeast Missouri. For some reason, God has seen fit to call people from many lands and many cul-

tures together in this place.

This blending of cultures is one reason Heartland Community Church is committed to the work of missions. During this year's Missions Conference, the church was reminded that God is not calling disciples to take American culture into other lands. Instead, He wants the Kingdom of God to take over in our homes, our communities, our nation, and the world.

The culture of the Kingdom is based on Biblical truth. It translates into every nation, tribe, and tongue. And it changes every aspect of society. The need for such radical change is evident all over the world, and especially so in the United States.

Heartland Community Church is eager to see those changes come about. The first



step, of course, is for each individual life to come under the Lordship of Jesus Christ. During the annual Missions Conference, and every day in between, the powerful presence of God continues to perform that miracle—one life at a time.



MISSIONS DAY AT HEARTLAND CHRISTIAN ACADEMY



John and Grace Rieder share about their years as missionaries on the Ivory Coast.



In the traditional HCA "penny war", students raised \$755.14 for the missions fund.



International dress, food, and lifestyles were the topics of HCA student missions presentations.



Mark and Tina Shiveley from New Heart Ministries answer questions after sharing about their ministry to the people of Oaxaca, Mexico.



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Charles Sharpe

The Level of Our Spirituality

I am really concerned about the state of our nation right now, and especially about the state of our churches. Everywhere I go, I tell people to take a stand for what is right. And we have to define "right" by reading and studying the Bible. If Christians will simply begin to live according to the Bible, and then begin to speak to others about how God wants us to live, we could see a great revival.

One of my favorite sayings is this: The level of our spirituality is equal to the level of our obedience. When I meet a young person who tells me that they love the Lord, but they are still using drugs and living in sin with a boyfriend, I have to tell them the truth. I have to tell them that they don't love the Lord at all if they aren't obeying His commands.

In all my concern, though, I do have a great hope. I see it every day in the lives of young people who are taking a stand for Christ. In our school and our Bible College, I see young men and women who are discovering their own convictions—straight from the Bible. And they are making choices based on those convictions. These young people, and others like them across the country, are the hope of our nation. They are our bright future.

HEARTLAND YOUTH RECOVERY

From Sorrow to Joy

Customers shopping at the New Creation Country Store might find it hard to believe that their gracious cashier was once a hateful and rebellious child. Today, Grecia greets everyone with a sweet smile and an open display of the love of Christ. She is the first one to admit, however, that it has not always been so.

I grew up in a family of nine people, and my parents got divorced when I was only six years old. I lived with my mom most of the time and went to my dad's house every other weekend. There was always fighting. If it wasn't my brothers and sisters and I fighting, it was my mom and dad fighting about something. No one ever got along.

We moved at least ten times in those years, and I went to at least eight different elementary schools. I had a very deep anger, especially toward my mom, and I was a hateful girl. As I got into my teenage years, I began to try things such as a little drinking every once in a while and a little smoking here and there, because I just wanted to be cool. But I never got heavy into anything.

At the age of thirteen, I moved to Iowa with my mom, and I really started to hate her so much that I was doing everything possible to make life miserable. She brought my brother and I to Heartland in February of 2000, and in April I accepted Jesus. My life has been change so much in every aspect.



Grecia "on the job" at the New Creation Country Store—always ready with a smile!



Now I can tell my mom that I love her, and she knows that I do, because I act different.

I have this awesome, overwhelming joy that God has given me, and I am so thankful. I am confident in who I am in Christ, and I know that He is going to continue using me to reach out to my family. I love God with all my heart, and I really can truly say that whatever He wants me to do, I am willing to do. There is still a lot to be done in me, but God is faithful to complete that which He has started. I am not complete yet, but I am in the process.

JESUS IS THE ANSWER

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WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Sunday	9am	Sunday School
	10am	Morning Service
	6pm	Evening Service
Tuesday	7pm	Youth Meeting
Wednesday	7pm	Mid-Week Service
Tuesday and Saturday	7pm	Intercessory Prayer

"Straight from the Heart" TELEVISION PROGRAM

KTVO Channel 3	Sunday, 8:00 a.m.
WGEM Channel 10	Sunday, 10:00 a.m.
WTJR Channel 16	Tuesday, 8:30 a.m. Thursday, 7:30 p.m.

RADIO PROGRAM

WTAD 930 AM	Sunday, 7:30 a.m.
WGEM 105.9 FM	Sunday, 9:00 a.m.

Visit Us Online at

www.heartland-ministries.org

HEARTLAND ADULT RECOVERY

For the Sake of the Future

Many of the ladies who come to the Women's Recovery Program at Heartland are learning how their decisions affect their children. For the sake of the next generation, women like Tiffany have chosen to follow God and change their lives for the better.

My life before I came to Heartland was hopeless. I was angry, jealous, bitter, selfish. I was constantly comparing myself to others, wanting to be someone I wasn't. I needed Jesus in my life. Instead I allowed the enemy to come in and destroy me. He entered in by way of methamphetamines. The drugs gave me a false sense of happiness. They made me forget who I was and made me feel good for a little while.

I started using meth at sixteen, and I was married by the time I was twenty. During that period I got a good paying job and a nice car. I even managed to get off of meth, but I was still living in sin, drinking alcohol, and smoking. It was a life anyone wants in the "world". But there was still an empty place in my heart. I was still very angry, still didn't like myself when I get up in the morning. So I took it out on my husband—physically and mentally abusing him, while my child suffered through it all. I gave up instead of accepting all the love and help that was being poured out to me by my parents and their church and my husband.

I eventually left my husband and child and started using meth again. My husband divorced me and got custody of my child and I became numb; I didn't care. The drugs had taken over seven times worse than before. I spent all my money and time and energy getting high for two and half years. I wanted a higher high so I began injecting it intravenously. I got caught up in the viscous cycle of the drug world and before I knew it was picked up for shoplifting pills to manufacture. Even that didn't stop me. I hadn't hit rock bottom. I went from hotel to hotel cooking meth until my fantasy world ended when the hotel was finally raided.

I was desperate. I called my parents and they mentioned Heartland to me, as they had several other times over a two year period. I decided to attend a thirty-day rehab first, but it left me still feeling desperate. So I decided to accept the invitation to Heartland. I knew I needed help; I no longer

could take care of myself. Coming to Heartland has totally changed my life. I accepted Jesus as my Lord and Savior. I also completed the Women's Recovery Program. Through the program I learned the meaning of obedience. I learned that there is Someone that can help and His name is Jesus Christ. He is the only answer and all you have to do is open your heart to Him and enter into a personal relationship with Him. God has changed my life, and I now have hope and a future. I have purpose (Jeremiah 29:11). I know who I am and I am a daughter of God.

When I was without hope and desperate God was right there waiting on me to cry out to Him, so He could give me rest (Matthew 11:28) and fill the empty space in my heart. I allowed Jesus to take over when I denied myself and took up the cross and followed Him (Matthew 16:24-25).

I know that by my obedience to God and the way I live my life I am going to impact others. I want to lead others to a personal relationship with Jesus and let them know there is hope. Most of all I want to raise my child with the fear of the Lord. I want to make a difference in his life. I want him to see through my actions and the way I live that Jesus is in my life and that He is the only answer. I want my son to know that God's Word is life to me and that it will be life to him also.



Tiffany (back) and her co-workers at the Ozark Steakhouse prepare to serve guests at the Sunday buffet.

Simply Smile



Tass sharing the Light of the Word of God with Muslims in the Philippines.

Somewhere in the world today, Taysir Abu Saada is preaching the gospel in a Jewish synagogue, a Muslim mosque, or an American church—or maybe in all three places before the day ends. Last year, he took the Good News across the United States and into Iraq, Israel, and the Philippines. God is opening doors for Tass to speak to world leaders about the state of their souls, and the souls of their people.

And it all started with a smile.

Tass was a nervous busboy in a Kansas City restaurant when a customer paused one day to thank him and smile. The thanks and the smile both shocked Tass. He had never thanked a servant in his home country, and he had never expected to be thanked here.

Pastor Charlie's smile that day started a relationship that has endured for thirty years. It led Tass to the cross of Jesus Christ and is leading many new converts there each year.

And it all started with a smile.

I can do that.

So can you.

The story of Taysir Abu Saada's conversion is available in *Turning Points*, an autobiography of Charles Sharpe. To order a copy, visit www.heartland-ministries.org or call 660-284-6361.

Through the ministry of Hope for Ishmael, Tass is bringing reconciliation to Muslims and Jews, striving to reconcile them to the Father and each other. For more information, or to find out how you can get involved, contact Tass at:

www.hopeforishmael.org
P.O. Box 49, Newark, MO 63458
Phone: 660-284-6141

Thank You

On behalf of the children at Heartland, we would like to thank those of you who sponsored a child in the "Save America's Youth" program last year, as well as our new sponsors. Your gifts are making a difference in the lives of children from across the country.