



# THE ENCOURAGER

Help for Sunday School Teachers— Dedicated to those who take the Word of Life to Children Everywhere

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## KEEP PRESSING ON!

EXTRACT FROM: Sandy Bay Good News Letter — March 2009 Written by: Becky Kew [beckykew@hotmail.com](mailto:beckykew@hotmail.com)

Once again people are asking if I am here or if I left my body! That means it's time to write a report.

Have had some sad times out here lately; a little girl who was in my classes passed away in a house fire. It made the news. I am sure she was saved and will look for little Hope when I get to Heaven. I was able to sing a Gospel song at her memorial. The memorial was predominantly Catholic. The priest did his priestly job and preached everyone into Heaven. You know how it is.

This weekend a man by the name of Barry Roulette died of a cocaine overdose. I had hired Barry to do my flooring at my house. He had taken literature from me but I do not know where he is now. Hopefully he cried out to the Lord before he took his last breath. All of his kids, I knew well and are regulars at the center. Most of them are in High School now and they can use your prayers.

Last night at the Center, I caught four kids smoking up right behind the building. They were inside then drifted outside to the back. I was so shocked, because they are four of the least likely that I thought would do such a thing. Totally sweet kids, all under the age of 12. They took off running, but I was able to phone most of their parents and let them know. You can be sure I will be seeking them out to talk.

Last week Avrell Bowden came to spend the day with me. It was wonderful to have a visitor. One of the things that came up while we visited was how do you deal with the sad stuff which is always happening. Well, I look at it like this. When you go outside into a snowstorm because you have to — you bundle up, right? Well, when we as Christians go out into this world doing whatever we have to do, as God leads...WE GOTTA BUNDLE UP AND PUT OUR ARMOR ON!!!! Without the armor you will be shot down, and one of the weapons Satan likes to use is depression, and doubt, I believe. So by the grace of God, I am plugging along, learning lessons, seeking to walk with my God and have my amour on!

One of the things I realized when I began to live here over two years ago, was that the people gather to one of two things. Drugs/Alcohol/Gambling etc or else sports. There is nothing to do out here for the people, absolutely nothing except for these things. So I have decided to reach out in the sports area. (Be all things to all people, right?!) My Alcohol days have been over for 15 years, praise God! So this is not an option!

One of the ideas the Lord gave me was to have the Portage and Winnipeg Christians come out to play the guys out here. So far so good, they have had two games and I don't think the Sandy Bay arena has ever had so many Christians in it before. I hope that eventually relationships will be built and witness made for the cause of Christ.

Secondly, I am seeking to hold a "First Annual Good News Volleyball Tournament." Lord willing, it will be this Saturday. I am getting the students from the school to help and it is a fundraiser for the school, but at the same time, I am in charge and will be handing out goodie bags for all of the players who enter. The bags will have Gospel literature, a Gospel CD, an Indian Life Newspaper, plus gum, bottled water, pen and paper and things like that! I have invited many reserves and have had trophies made and inscribed. I hope it will be a good thing. The Word will go out and people will be busy and keeping out of trouble during this time. Please pray for this Saturday! Thank you!

### SANDY BAY FIRST NATION LOSES A LITTLE FRIEND



Plans are in the works for the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual **Biblelicious Day Camp**. The last two weeks of July, DV. **I am looking for help!** Please let me know if you can help in any way. [beckykew@hotmail.com](mailto:beckykew@hotmail.com)  
 First week: Grades 4-6      Second week: Grades 7-9. All Sandy Bay youth  
 Trusting in the Lord of the Harvest to send labourers!

Another Idea the Lord has given me, (I have shared this with the Chief), is that I would like to sponsor a Sandy Bay Hockey Tournament. But in return, I would want to see the players and their wives/girlfriends come to the center and be involved. The hockey teams right now are busy fundraising so that they can go to their tournaments. I would love to be able to encourage 'non self-abusive behaviour', and at the same time, see more adults come to the center and spend time with their kids while being under a Gospel influence. The Chief thought this was a great idea. So I will wait to hear what the players think.

I haven't started the Purity Outreach yet. I have gotten permission to have meetings with youth during the lunch break at school, once a week. But I am really stuck as to how to start this. I know what I want to do, but I want to make sure I go about it the right way. A friend of mine from the USA has heard about my weakness, so she is sending me outlines of the same type of thing a friend of hers had. I am waiting for this information before I start.

The Bible Teaching classes are still continuing. We are just finishing up Moses and the Passover. All of the classes from Grades 4 and up have shown great interest. I am not sure if I will continue with Moses or start something new. The Lord will lead. The younger classes are still going through the life of Christ. I have gotten some picture Bibles for all of the older classes I am in to keep in their classrooms so that they can keep reading about Moses. I still have over 20 classes a week. #

I'm on the way to the Center right now. But just wanted to drop a line to say God is good and thank you for praying and we will just keep pressing forward. God bless!

# I usually have about 6 classes a day—on Thursdays I have 7 or 8. Each class is 30—40 minutes. I sing with them and we open our Bibles / do a powerpoint and then I pray with them and move on to the next class. Then 5 out of 7 days I open the center in the afternoon or the evening .

**More from Becky's April Newsletter:**

The center was broken into again. This time the boys went right through a wall to get in. It is always the same young men and presently two of them are in jail. I am hoping to go visit them soon. They took the freezer, microwave, pool balls & cues and computer. Thank the Lord I have gotten it all back. I felt enough was enough, especially since I had been having these young men in my center daily and was continually showing kindness to them in a variety of ways. They do it over and over every weekend in the community and have been for years. Yet they are never put away and never sorry. Those boys know I care for them, but I sure don't care for their behavior! I am in touch with their siblings and gang friends, and I hope that when court time comes, I can persuade the judge to let them come to some assembly meetings for a certain time period, without missing, instead of doing more time. We will see what happens.

I wrote an article about Hope Richard (see page 1). I had this article laminated and placed on bulletin boards in different buildings on the reserve. Since this article was published, Hope's biological father has been in touch with me. Presently he is in Saskatoon Correctional center. He has requested my address and will be writing me soon. He told me that he has come to know the Lord, but carries a lot of guilt about his shortcomings as a father. He wasn't able to go to Hope's funeral. He asked me how I knew that Hope was saved and I was able to share with him a little about her faith and what I do. I look forward to hearing more from him.

Some of the hockey players come to the center. These are the ones that the Christian guys have come



**Day Camp Activities!**

out to play. They were visibly nervous, but after a time playing games with the students they were at ease and even shook my hand as they left! When they enter and see the Scriptures on the walls, I am sure they are thinking, "I didn't want to come to church!" Lord willing, the Christians will continue building bridges and relationships by playing baseball through out the summer with the Sandy Bay guys. Their hearts have been softened that's for sure.

Continue to pray for the 21 meetings weekly. Though school enrollment is down—precious souls are in each class (usually ten). Continue to pray for Alex and Bronson who are in jail as a result of their thievery. Pray for Agnes and Georgina, two ladies who help me with keeping the center clean. Agnes has Aids but hasn't gotten really sick yet. Pray for conviction of sin and reception of the Saviour! Pray for the work at the center and for the individual little one-on-one talks I may have. I thank the Lord for every opportunity I get to serve Him in such a dark place. Trusting for a bountiful harvest! God promises it!

**\* With regards to the Purity Classes. I have decided to take it up as one of the topics at Camp this summer. I feel that this would work better. That the environment will be more friendly and that the youth will be more free to open up.**

*'I am casting my bread on the water daily by the grace of God and I am trusting that it will return, some day, some way.'*

- Becky



It is quite possible that you do not agree with everything that Becky tries to do with these needy youth! However, we all need to ask ourselves, "What am I doing to reach a perishing world?"