

Soul Care

A Publication of
Of Cross Roads
Soul Care, Inc.

Fall/Winter 2008

GIFTS FROM THE HEARTS OF OUR CLIENTS...

We recently received these notes in our Christmas cards from 1 past and 1 current client. It is our hope that you will receive them with joy, as it allows you a glimpse into what is being accomplished through Cross Roads .

R ——— wrote:

"It's so enjoyable to sit down this time each year and think about special people who have touched our lives.

May you both be blessed beyond measure as we celebrate the coming of our King! Next time he comes it won't be in a manger!"

And...

"Cross Roads has been such a big help to me. Walking me through a lot of "stuff" that has caused me so much pain from the past, I couldn't move.

I am still traveling that path. Liberty has and continues to set me free. I know the Lord led me to this ministry...

I give thanks to Our Lord for this ministry.

Merry Christmas."

Love and Prayers, L

Special points of interest:

- What clients said
- On a Personal Note
- From the Director's Desk
- Books of Interest
- Web site has an additional 400 hits over the past three months
- Newsletters are now archived on our website



On a More Personal Note...

The Lord has worked in our lives personally over these past few months and we'd just like to keep you updated. Thank you for your continued prayers for M's health. She has been released from the doctor's care and is almost 100%! Pray she will be faithful in her home

exercise program. I've listened to some of my own advice (see the Summer 2008 newsletter) and taken a vacation of sorts. I realized that the pace I was keeping was pulling me down and I just needed to back off a bit. As many of my clients took R&R this summer, I closed the office

for a week and worked on a woodworking project. I was able to come back this Fall with renewed focus. Thanks for praying, God is working, even in me! For those who faithfully support us we sincerely Thank You ! Those who've been thinking about partnering with Crossroads would you please consider

a special end of the year gift of any amount. If every one who receives this letter would send in a gift our projected shortfall I'm sure would be met.

Thank You for what you can do.

Cross Roads Soul Care, Inc.

P O Box 2299
Oak Ridge, NJ 07438

Phone: 973-697-9636

E-mail: gordon@crossroadssoulcare.org

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We're on the web
crossroadssoulcare.org

From the Director's Desk: the importance of friendships in our lives

When God created human life, but he did not create us to be alone. As stated in Genesis 2:18 "...It is not good for the man to be alone..." God created us for friendship/companionship with Himself and others.

God's premise was to impress upon us that we needed Him and others to be strengthened on life's journey. Proverbs 27:17 states: "As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another." Again, the Lord is encouraging the nurturing of relationship even through differences that we may have with one another.

He chose to show the ultimate in how relationships were to work as taught in John 15:13 "Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends..." giving us Jesus the great relationship model. We may not be called to go the last mile and give our life for our friend, but every person is to make friends to the best of their ability. In doing so, we model for a broken world that God does care for them as individuals.

How these friendships develop, is

different for each of us. In today's world, you see many people communicating through emails, IMing, Facebook and many other electronic means. These ways certainly have a part in learning about one another and if we look closely at any good relationship it is built on communication.

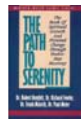
As time goes by, good communication can turn into a good relationship or friendship. However, nothing can be substituted for a genuine face to face smile, or being there to hug someone



Our friends from Northeastern Bible College days in the 1970's: Joyce & Chris Goppert at our home Spring 2008, before returning to Zimbabwe Africa

BOOKS OF INTEREST

Emily often comes home from work with an armful of books that she thinks would be of interest to me. She has worked at our local library for about 14 years and so enjoys opening the boxes of new books and peruses them as she prepares them to go out on the shelves, many catch her eye. She especially enjoys Christian Fiction with a mystery twist while I rarely delve into that genre. Recently, M arrived home with an unusually large stack that she just couldn't wait for me to review. I found many of the subjects intriguing and thought I'd pass some on to you. I've included some info. here to encourage you to delve into ways you can expand your horizons personally or reach out to a co-worker, friend or neighbor with some new information to help them in their daily lives. Oh, and if you haven't read the new allegory The Shack by William P. Young; M says it's a "must read"! You'll never look at the Trinity the same way again, just don't get her talking about this book if you want to get to your next appointment!



The Path to Serenity takes the abstract concepts of the Twelve Steps and reveals practical Christian ways for you to put them into daily practice. As you travel down the path to serenity you will find that the unique approach to spiritual and emotional healing demonstrated in *The Path to Serenity* will result in a happier, more peaceful life for you.



To Be Told takes you on a journey worth traveling, to know who you are, to make sense of your life. To discover the role God is giving you in His story. This book takes us to the deepest stories of all - our own stories, the ones that haunt us when they are kept secret and liberate when they are told and known.



The Wounded Woman brings hope and healing for those who are wounded. These real-life testimonies and proven, practical counsel will guide you to complete recovery and inspire you to press forwarding new found strength - not in spite of your wounds, but because of them.

when they are sad or happy! People come into our lives also for a season to teach us something or so we can teach something to them. Good communication is opening your deepest self to someone who cares. This type of sharing does not occur automatically. Time, trust, and safety are key ingredients.

During my college years I had the privilege of getting to know many individuals by spending time with and interacting with them. One of these men, Chris Goppert and his wife Joyce have served the Lord as missionaries in Zimbabwe 30 years; and Em and I have continued to be in touch with them over the years; in person, with correspondence, through my reading his writings, and by praying for them. Some of our friendships are as the old song says: make new friends but keep the old, one is silver and the other gold."

I trust you will seek to foster these type of relationships in your life and that God will show you what it means to be a friend and to have friends.