

REAL FAITH

WELCOME TO REAL FAITH

Hello everyone and welcome to this first issue of REAL FAITH, the newsletter. We are actually looking for a better name for this publication, but for now we will just call it a newsletter. If you have an idea, please let us know. The purpose of this publication is to provide further and continued encouragement for readers of REAL FAITH, the book. It is also to keep you informed as to how the book is being used to enhance the lives of God's people and to help expand His Kingdom.

In this newsletter we also plan to include articles about living by faith and modern day stories of faith in action, not only in America, but also from around the world. I know our



GFE team members in Kenya with their new copy of *Real Faith*

team members overseas have lots of them. If you have one, please send it to us. We would love to share it with our readers. Additionally, we will be sharing information about upcoming workshops and seminars on faith, as well as reports on those that have occurred. We will also share testimonies of how the book is affecting Christian's lives and benefiting them in their daily walk. If you have a testimony as to how the book has helped you in some way, please send it to us. We want very much to hear from you. Again, the purpose of this publication is to inform, encourage and inspire. Please pray with us that God will use it for His glory – and – welcome to REAL FAITH.

How the Book Came to Be...

REAL FAITH did not actually begin as a book, but as a series of lessons taught to our team in Kenya during a campaign in Nairobi in October 2003. I have said many times that in the things of God there is always a blessing on the other side of what we call "adverse circumstances." That certainly proved to be the case this time. Each day we normally start in the morning doing meetings so we can get in as many as possible during the day. But this time the Nairobi city government imposed a restriction prohibiting open-air meetings before noon. That meant we had nothing to do during the morning hours each day. Well, rather than waste the time, I decided to gather the team together for two to three hours each morning and teach them the principles of faith. They soaked it up like a sponge. I made notes every day and, as I did, the idea for a book began to emerge. I began writing down possible chapter titles and by the time we arrived home, the book was in progress. The original title was simply "FAITH", but as I reflected on the fact that there is so much false teaching on the subject, I decided to call it REAL faith. I was busy in the ministry and trying to work in the writing of a book was challenging. But with God's enabling, working on it as I could between campaigns, it was finally finished. I praise God that we were not allowed to do meetings during the mornings of that project. Otherwise the book might not exist today.

Study Guide Coming

I know we have been saying for some time that "the study guide is coming", but it really is. Our long time friend, evangelist Keith Cook, president of On The Go Ministry in Springfield, TN has been writing the guide and is just about finished. He has done a masterful job. He will be finished this week and then it goes to Sheila for editing. We are very grateful to Keith for his hard work. Because of his help we will have the study guide ready by the end of this year. I believe it will be a tremendous tool for use in group studies and Sunday school classes.

Website Under Construction

The REAL FAITH website is currently under construction. It will be www.realfaithbook.com and Jon says it will be up and running in a couple of weeks. This site will enable us to share with people around the globe the same information you are receiving in this newsletter and much more. It will present a lot of material on faith including the study guide and videos. Stay tuned, it will arrive soon.

Update on Real Faith

The first edition was published in May of this year and the second in August. To those of you who read the book and sent in corrections and suggestions as to how to make it clearer I say THANK YOU! You emailed us hundreds of corrections, which were made in the second edition. Thanks to you all and Sheila, we now have an almost perfect version. Still, however, if you find a mistake please let us know. We do not yet have a door open to us for national distribution, but we are trusting God to provide it in His way and time. I am confident He will. It is HIS book and He has HIS plan for it. I do rejoice to report to you in the meantime, however, that we are receiving wonderful testimonies as to how God is using the book to bless and help the lives of His people. Many people have ordered quantities of books ranging from 5 to 150 to give away to friends and fellow church members. It is also being used in some group studies even though the study guide is not yet ready to print. So, all in all, God is using the book and Sheila and I are very grateful.

Seminars Planned for the Spring

We had hoped to begin doing faith seminars and workshops before now, but all in God's time. We do plan, however, to begin setting them up for the spring of 2010. If you would like to arrange a

seminar for your church, study group or community, please contact us so we can get it on the calendar.