



LIGHTHOUSE BEACON NEWSLETTER

Message in a Bottle

Many years ago, while I was visiting ships, I came upon a vessel I had never seen before. It was from Portugal. After I climbed the ship's gangway, I made my way to the galley where I was sure that I would find someone aboard a seemingly deserted vessel. I believed that most of the crew were having an afternoon nap or had gone ashore.

As I drew near to the galley I smelled freshly baked bread and it made my mouth water. Once at my destination, I saw a short, well-rounded chief cook standing in the center of the room, cleaning bread bins. With big smiles, we greeted each other and I introduced myself as the chaplain coming to bring Good News. Before I realized what was happening, the cook approached me, kissed me on both sides of my face and gave me a bear hug. "Welcome to our ship, brother," he said.

After a few minutes the cook finished his duty and invited me to his cabin. I accepted, but when I reached his residence I noticed that it was rather messy, with many empty beer bottles lying around. It must have appeared to the cook that I was puzzled so he explained to me that the empty bottles were from the crew. He said that for each bottle he collected, he cleaned it and then placed inside a Christian Bible tract in the language of the country the ship would pass. This ingenious Christian Brother also showed me an impressive list of people who had found his bottles on beaches and then written to him. No one on his ship was interested in the Gospel, he said, so the bottle project was his way of sharing the Good News.



I called this faithful Brother "The BOTTLE EVANGELIST," a title that he liked very much. Perhaps, even today, somewhere in the world the bottles he sent out are waiting to be found.

Teus Kappers—Chaplain Emeritus

More inside:

- ◇ **We are All One in Christ (by B. Wong)**
- ◇ **Knowing the Sin...Knowing the Saviour (by R. Hanna)**
- ◇ **Prayer Porthole**



“Before long, the world will not see Me anymore, but you will see Me. Because I live, you also will live.”

(John 14:19)

WE ARE ALL ONE *In Christ*

Bill Wong, President

When I worked as an engineering consultant, I did a fair amount of international travelling. As a result, I've had the pleasure of meeting and working with people from different cultures and backgrounds. Normally, the things that we had in common were related to our work. However, every now and then, I would meet someone who was also a believer. In these cases, I discovered that, even though we had not met before, the fact that we were both Christians meant that we were children of the same heavenly Father, redeemed by Christ Jesus. Our common belief seemed to open a door to a deep, meaningful relationship and, often, we were able to share

our testimonies over a meal, pray and encourage each other. When I worked as an engineering consultant, I did a fair amount of international travelling. As a result, I've had the pleasure of meeting and working with people from different cultures and backgrounds. Normally, the things that we had in common were related to our work. However, every now and then, I would meet someone who was also a believer. In these cases, I discovered that, even though we had not met before, the fact that we were both Christians meant that we were children of the same heavenly Father, redeemed by Christ Jesus. Our common belief seemed to open a door to a deep, meaningful relationship and, often, we were able to share

ers on board cargo ships. An recent example of this occurred on an Indonesian-crewed ship. Onboard the vessel I met the only person present, the ship's second officer. While speaking with each other I found out that he held a non-Christian belief and was not receptive to the Christian message. But, after awhile, another seafarer came into the room. Immediately, the second officer pointed to him and said, "Christian!" This new seafarer introduced himself as the third officer.

When I told the third officer that I was from the Lighthouse Harbour Ministries, he shared with me that he had grown up in a Christian home and come to faith in Christ when he was a teenager. He also told me that, besides himself, there were three other Christians on board, including the captain. [It's rare to have more than 1-2 believers amongst an Indonesian crew!] While the third officer and I were (cont'd—page 3)

our testimonies over a meal, pray and encourage each other.

This reminds me of the passage from Galatians 3:26, 28 (NLT), where the apostle Paul tells believers, "For you are all children of God through faith in Christ Jesus...There is no longer Jew or Gentile, slave or free, male and female. For you are all one in Christ Jesus."

I've had similar experiences when visiting seafar-





(from page 2) having a vibrant discussion about our Christian faith, I noticed the second officer taking in what we were saying. Then, amazingly, the captain soon showed up and joined in on our conversation, after saying “good-bye” to three crew members who were signing off. [These three seafarers showed great respect for the captain, each shaking his hand and bowing to him before leaving.] I could sense the dynamics within the room changing with the arrival of two Christian seafarers; we were no longer strangers



but one in Christ Jesus.

My prayer is that the Believers would have a godly influence on the non-Christian crew members that they work with, based on their positions as officers on board.

KNOWING THE SIN...

...KNOWING THE SAVIOUR

“This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief.” (1 Timothy 1:15)

While I was sitting in the mess room of a car carrier ship, a young Filipino sailor came into the space and sat across from me. He had been assigned to (as the Filipino seafarers sometimes state) ‘entertain’ me. [This refers to a kind and mannerly Filipino custom of not wanting guests to be alone.] He told me that we had met before and said, “You talked to me about sin.” I told him with a smile, “Yup, you got the right person.” I explained to him that to understand and appreciate the Saviour, we need to understand our need for a Saviour; that is why I talk about sin. He agreed with me.

On another occasion, during my service at the seafarers centre, I spoke with two young Indian crew members. Initially, they told me of their belief that people are half-human and half-god. As I talked to them about sin in our lives, I relayed to them my feeling that, if I am half god, god is not very good. They agreed with me and this gave me an opportunity to talk to them about the Saviour of sinners.

As long as you think you can save yourself, any religion will do. But when you find out that you need a Saviour, the list is very short. There is only one and His name is Jesus (J.B. Nicholson)

Please pray for all of Lighthouse’s workers to be clear in presenting the reality of sin and the wonderful salvation provided through Jesus Christ.

- Ray Hanna, Senior Chaplain



"I call on You, O God, for You will answer me; give ear to me and hear my prayer." (Ps. 17:6)

Please praise/petition the Lord with regard to the following:

- ◆ Praise the Lord for His Word that is going forth among seafarers (Is. 55:11)
- ◆ For the Lord to bring to faith a Bangladeshi chief engineer who was *somewhat* resistant to the Gospel.
- ◆ That a personable Indian captain, not appearing to be open to the Gospel, to come to Jesus.
- ◆ For many Chinese seafarers who have heard the Gospel to put their hope in Jesus for life.
- ◆ For Christian seafarers, who are sharing God's Word aboard their ships, to be fruitful and protected.



Lighthouse Harbour Ministries

Our Mission

To love and honour God by serving the seafarers of the world in Word and deed.

Senior Port Chaplain

Ray Hanna

Chaplain Emeritus

Teus Kappers

Contact

1 - 260 E. Esplanade
North Vancouver B.C.
Canada V7L 1A3

Phone: (604) 988-5084

Email: info@sealight.org

Web site: www.sealight.org

FB: Lighthouse Harbour



Canadian Centre for
Christian Charities
ACCREDITED MEMBER

Methods of supporting the Lord's work at Lighthouse:

- Cash, cheque, credit card, PayPal
- Automatic debits to bank account
- e-transfers. Please send to: info@sealight.org
- Planned giving through wills, charitable bequests

To give on-line via LHM's secured web site: www.sealight.org.

Thank you for considering LHM.

LHM Stewardship Policy:

Spending of funds is confined to board approved programs and projects. Each restricted contribution designated towards a board approved program or project will be used as designated, with the understanding that when the need for such a program or project has been met, or cannot be completed for any reason determined by the board, the remaining restricted contributions designated for such program or project will be used where needed most.

**Soon to
Come:**

***"Blessed are those
who wash their
robes, that they may
have the right to the
tree of life..."***

(Rev. 22:14)