

# THE CALVARY EXAMINER

FEBURARY 2006

VOLUME 3 NUMBER 2

## February Memory Verse

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast.  
~ Ephesians 2:8-9 NIV

## Examiner Online

The Calvary Examiner has a home at <http://www.cbcwarwick.com/examiner.htm>. It has the latest edition plus archived copies from the past year. This is your chance to catch up with the Examiner. Thanks to our wonderful Webmaster, Brent Norton, for doing a great job.

Now, you are without excuse! ☺

## CCA

The Academy will be holding its 3rd Annual Spelling Bee on March 3, 2006. A preliminary bee will be held in each class with the top three spellers competing in the finals. All are welcome to attend this event in the church sanctuary at 1:30PM.



On March 24, 2006, at 7:00PM, CCA will be holding its Annual Science Fair in the Fellowship Hall. Again, all are welcome to enjoy the young scientists' projects and experiments!

**Science fair "judges" are needed that day.** Each student will give a 2-3 minute project presentation that will be graded. Also, there is a set criteria form to be filled out. Lunch will be provided for all judges. For more info please call Pam Myhren, or call the school office (986-5437).

It is great fun and a wonderful opportunity to meet CCA students, and see how God has truly blessed them.



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February is a time to give hearts. “ Be My Valentine?” and “ You’re Sweet!” We use chocolate filled hearts to say how much we care. I used to think that was strange until I read Ezekiel. God gives us hearts too. What a powerful truth. He removes that which is stone cold and puts in its place a heart capable of love. He removes that which is dead and replaces it with life. As I was doing research on the death of the five missionaries in 1956, this verse pounded in my head like a literal heartbeat as I realized that their death was just the beginning to new life for those who had killed them.

I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. ~ Ezekiel 36:26NIV

## The Legacy of Operation Auca!

By: Kyra Joy Hamling

**“Rest in this - it is His business to lead, command, impel, send, call or whatever you want to call it. It is your business to obey, follow, move, respond, or what have you.” ~ Jim Elliot**

**And she bragged about her boys  
And how they're growing into men  
And how they learned to praise the Lord  
Old style Ecuadorian  
~ “All I need” ~ Caedmon’s Call**

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There are some dates that are unforgettable. July 4, 1776, April 15, 1865, December 7, 1941, November 22, 1963, January 28, 1986, and September 11, 2001 stick in my head as days that will forever stand still. Time stopped. I propose that January 8, 1956 should be included in that list of dates.

Fifty years ago five men made history by trying to contact an unreached people group in the middle of the Ecuadorian jungle. The word Auca meant “naked savage.” This term was not an understatement by any means. Sixty percent of Auca deaths were because of infighting. Their weapons of choice were the spear and the machete. Years after, one elder said if Rachel Saint and Elisabeth Elliot had not come the tribe would have killed itself off. Reporters may have said that their mission failed, however, 50 years tells another story. The story didn’t begin in 1956 nor did it end there.

On January 8, 1956 five men were martyred in Ecuador. Jim Elliot, Pete Fleming, Nate Saint, Ed McCully and Roger Youderian set out to preach the Gospel to a people who didn’t have a word for God in their language. They knew of evil spirits but not a loving or just god.

Jim Elliot and Ed McCully went to Wheaton College along with Dave Howard in 1945. Dave had a sister, Betty who also went to Wheaton. It was there where Jim waited on God for leading to go into Missions. There were fun guys who were deeply passionate about the things of God. There are two sermons that Jim delivered during the summer of 1951 archived on Wheaton’s website.(

<http://www.wheaton.edu/bgc/archives/docs/elliotsermons.html>) To hear him is like hearing a sixty year old seasoned preacher not a twenty four year old kid. He had what you would call a “preacher voice” in the truest form. On the other hand he was a wrestler, a jokester, and a real friend. He actually tried his hand at acting in a short film in 1948. ([http://www.plymouthbrethren.org/page.asp?page\\_id=545](http://www.plymouthbrethren.org/page.asp?page_id=545) – you have to scroll all the way down) When he was serious, he was serious. When he was at play, he was the life of the party.

Jim wanted a partner who would go on the mission field with him. He enlisted his friend Pete Fleming and made Ed think twice about pursuing law. Jim felt that he had to be single in order to take on the task of going to Ecuador. He loved Betty Howard at the time, but felt it best to whole-heartedly pursue God and wait for God to move. He convinced Pete to break it off with his childhood sweetheart, Olive for the same reason. This was very important to Jim, however, God had other plans. He wrote home and said that Betty was “deliciously satisfying company.” She felt the same. Ed married Marilou. They met at one of Ed’s preaching engagements. And when the time was right, Pete and Olive married. Looking back over fifty years, it was a good thing for these men to get married and have children. The mission did not end with them. The wives and the children continued it.

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The Saints and the Youderians were already in Ecuador when the others got there. Each family was posted at a different station. Nate Saint was the pilot – the common bond. The group hardly knew Roger. He was working with another tribe who was known for shrinking human heads. He was like-minded about reaching the Aucas. Maybe one day we can tell them about Jesus. Another player in this story was Rachel Saint, Nate's older sister. She was working as a missionary in Peru and traveled to Ecuador frequently to meet an Auca woman who had escaped the tribe. If the men were passionate about sharing the Gospel to the Aucas, Rachel had them beat. Nate did not tell her about the mission because she would want to go with them.

All five families met up for Christmas of 1955. They discussed there plans and what they would do. They took guns with them, but they said:

“We will never kill the Aucas because they're not ready for Heaven and we are”

The five men started by giving gifts to the people and when they thought that it was safe enough they landed in Auca territory on what they called “ Palm Beach.” This was January 6<sup>th</sup>. They met three Aucas that day. Things were going along according to plan. They kept detailed journals, photos and video footage. They also were in contact with their wives over radio. On the morning of the 8<sup>th</sup> Pete radioed in “Pray girls, I' m sure this is the day.” They were supposed to check in the afternoon. They never did. Because this was a secret mission they wives had to act like everything was okay. They entertained company. It was not until the 9<sup>th</sup> that the world found out. For the five wives the 8<sup>th</sup> stood still has every noise on the radio came across with no word from the men.

Jim's wife, Elisabeth Elliot wrote about the mission in Through Gates of Splendor. Nate Saint's son, Steve, wrote End of the Spear. This is not a story of a mission failed. Rather God redeemed the situation by saving those who speared the five by using the wives and children. Two years after the murders, Rachel Saint and Elisabeth Elliot along with her daughter, Valerie, were invited to live with the tribe. Steve Saint and his sister got baptized in the same water that they found their father's body. Two of the men who were involved in the murders were the ones baptizing. If that's not a picture of repentance, redemption and forgiveness, I don't know what is. God used a seeming tragedy to proclaim His love, goodness and grace.

Steve saint is an advocate of raising up national believers. He says that they are more effective than having foreign missionaries there. The tribe is now called by their proper name Waodani because they are no longer “naked savages.” The Waodani feel like they are sometimes not capable to handle missions and churches. You can have all the missionaries you want on the ground but if you don't have a national teaching and preaching the mission

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leaves with the missionary. . Rachel lived with them until her death in 1994. Steve and his family went there in 1995. He handed the mission over to the son of the man who came and met his father on January 6, 1956. He commented that it was a complete circle. Recent press about this story focuses on the change of behavior of the Waodani more than the spiritual change. The guys who killed the missionaries are missionaries, now, themselves. They baptized the Saint children in the same water where they killed their father. They welcomed Elisabeth and Rachel to live with them. God not only changed their stone-age behavior, but also changed their hearts of stone to hearts of flesh. God changed 400 dead Aucas into living Waodani.

A friend of mine told me to reread Through Gates of Splendor in the beginning of January. Since then I have researched this story tirelessly. I first was introduced to Elisabeth Elliot as a must-read women's writer. She has so much wisdom concerning biblical womanhood. As I got deeper and deeper into her story I uncovered what was going on today. In 2004, Steve Saint and the five widows put together Beyond Gates of Splendor. It is a balanced look at both worlds – the Waodani and the missionaries. Just a few weeks ago End of the Spear came out in theaters. This movie was from Steve's point of view so it covered what happened after the deaths. It focuses in part of the men who committed the murders and how their lives have changed. I thought the film makers treated the subject with respect although I could see where they condensed the story. It is only one piece of the story .I would encourage you to read any and all of Elisabeth Elliot's work to really appreciate the intensity of this story. This article left out so many details. You can view pictures on [www.endofthespear.com](http://www.endofthespear.com). enter "Path of the Spear."

Also check out : <http://www2.ups.edu/arches/2004Fall/featureMysteriousWays.html> for information about Ed McCully's sons. There is an awesome picture of them with Mincaye, one of the six men responsible, and his wife.

## Pastor Craig Adams' Vision for 2006 and Beyond



### Some Stats:

- Over the last few years Calvary Baptist lost over 30 dedicated families.
- 2004 average weekly attendance was 247. 2005 it was 258.
- 9 adults were baptized in 2005. There are 15 in the Pastors' class.

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This shows that even though we have lost people we are still growing. God is still working here when some of our leadership moved away.

“Where there is no vision, the people are unrestrained, but happy is he who keeps the law.” ~ Proverbs 29:18 NASB

## Philosophy of Ministry:

- Ministry happens through relationship.- Remembering names and a hospitable heart will open many doors.
- Focus on Reaching Men – Culturally men are tougher to reach because they are taught to be independent and self reliant. This goes against the Gospel message of the Lordship of Jesus. Children usually follow their dads at about the age of 15. If the father isn't going to church the children will make excuses not to go either. By reaching men, we will in turn reach families. ( In the group discussion there was a question about reaching single mothers without male figures in the home. If we have a focus on men are we alienating some? – It is important to keep in mind that this is one part of the whole picture. The church has seen a need to reach men, and in no way will this focus detract from reaching women and children.)

## Vision – Build God's Kingdom.

### Effective and Efficient

#### 1) Plant Churches

- Desire to plant solid churches in the communities around us. It will be more effective to reach our neighbors if they don't need to travel 20 or more minutes away. When you cross school districts it is less likely to have people who you in contact with to come out. Its hard to build relationships with people when they live a drive away. Yes, church planting is scary, but if you plan for it - it will go smoother.
- *What is the process for the goal?* Grow to 350-400 and split. Send 100-150 people with the Associate Pastor and begin a new congregation. Hire another Associate and repeat.
- First Plant is in Northern NJ. ( Vernon)
- Church Plants need to start with Small Groups in the area. Build a presence in the area and have a core group.

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## 2) Small Groups – Not Just Bible Studies

- Small groups are miniature churches. They are informal and relational.
- They are smaller communities within the larger body where we grow together.
  - Study Together
  - Share Needs, Burdens and Joys. .
  - Pray for Each Other
  - Encourage Each Other
  - Fellowship Together
  - Spur One Another on the Christian Walk
- They are designed to spit as they grow to keep the intimate and “safe” feel.
- Accountability is an integral part of the group because it promotes an environment for growth.
- This setting is often easier for outreach. Relational outreach first invites people to *your* house and than *God’s* house.
- They are great places to bring others into the Kingdom while building those already in it.

## 3) Building

- Desire for a Gym and more Classrooms. This will undoubted help CCA which is a huge outreach in itself. These will also help the Sunday School to better meet the needs of its ministry.
- This will allow sport leagues to be an Outreach arm.
- The extension will draw people to the building who wouldn’t dream of stepping into a church building.

## 4) Outreach

**Acts 1:8** - ... be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. ~ Acts 1:8 NIV

2 Areas of Change: VBS and Missions Trips

- Mission Trips - 3 year cycle
  - Year 1 – Warwick
  - Year 2 – Nearby but *different* culture
  - Year 3 – Foreign Country

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- This year – Mission Warwick.
  - Jaws and Claws – Week of July 17. 4 nights – seminars – Planetarium
  - Old Fashioned Hymn Sing / Ice Cream Social
  - Possible Gospel Festival. ( this will require TONS of planning.)

Change VBS to Backyard Clubs – or do BOTH!

- Why? 80% of VBS kids are churchd! 80% of Back Yard Club Kids are Unchurched! Which is more efficient to reach the unchurched?
  - *What does it look like?* A host (with a backyard) invites neighbor kids. A team goes in and does a lesson, craft, ect. For a few afternoons. The goal is to have multiple teams going around at once.

**Wrap-Up: What do we need to do to accomplish this vision?**

**1) We need people who are committed to building God's Kingdom and willing to support this vision with a passion.**

- We need to use our gifts and talents together.
- We need to do the work each of us can do and not wait for others to do what God was us to do.
- We need people who are working on response to God's love for them.
- We need to strive to honor God and not self.

**2) Support Pastor Eric**

- It will be his to implement the vision.
- Pastor Craig's days are full of preparing to teach, dealing with problems, and administration. The day to day leg work will fall to Pastor Eric.
- Please be willing to help ***before*** he has to ask.

**3) Money**

- The outreach goals will take money. Some but not all is in our budget. God has blessed is.
- Mission trips – We have three years to save funds for foreign trips. Ease pressure. Local missions cost too.

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## Can you see it?



Pastor Eric's Response.

He is 100% on board with the vision cast by Pastor Craig.

He will be going most of the leg work. He needs help. If the church isn't on board – it won't work.

I asked him about the Small Groups and how they differ from Bible Studies. He said that there will be more of a focus on fellowship in the small group. Worship can be involved. Meals can be involved. They were be under the church, bit tailored to the needs of the poeple in the group.