

Link Letter no.6 August 2012

**Very dear friends in prayer,**

*How important prayer is!* All the forecasts said that it would rain torrentially for our event on 3 August, "the Children Pray for Chile" day. This would have been a major disaster as the First Lady, Cecilia Morel, was going to be present and the plan was to surround the Palace with children who would pray for the nation. Yet all the Google weathers, Accuweathers, etc, shouted rain at us. So we prayed!

I even asked God for some sun as an added touch of His approval upon the event. Well, the morning was totally dry, the 800 children turned up and surrounded the Palace, the First Lady was delighted, taking part regally, backing up our right to educate our children according to the Bible. Once gathered in the Plaza de la Constitución, I told the children that we had

**Alf and Hilary Cooper**  
CMS mission partners  
**Chile**

Alf is an Anglo-Chilean who became a SAMS mission partner in 1975. Hilary is the sister of Terry Barratt (a CMS associate mission partner) and she and Alf have pioneered many initiatives in evangelism, discipleship and church planting in their years in the Chilean capital, Santiago. Alf is pastor of La Trinidad church in Las Condes, an upper middle-class area of the city; a man of prayer and action, he's a key leader in the country's growing evangelical movement. He and Hilary have four children, born between 1979 and 1990.

**Children from all over Santiago praying for Chile outside the Palace**



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**With Bishop Kalala who invited us to DR Congo; he wants a mega church and asked us to come and help us with the revival**



prayed that it would not rain (cheers from the kids!), and that I had even asked for some sunshine so that they should expect sun to appear through the clouds at some point during the event.

Blow me down if at that precise instant the clouds didn't break and the sun became visible and warmed us! How the children clapped at God's show for them! I guess it was one of those moments they will never forget. The good feedback has already come in and there is talk in

the Palace of doing it again next year. Praise the Lord!

To see children praying for the nation leaves an important impression at a time when abuse and danger of all kinds is affecting children in Chile. Recently a camera crew snuck into one of our children's retreats and managed to put together a very deceitful programme that insinuated we were brainwashing children into hating homosexuals. So we were particularly glad that official backing came with this event, establishing the right of children to be brought up as biblical believers.

This took place, just a week after returning from a mission to Kinshasa in DR Congo. Bishop Kalala while at the Haggai Conference last year had contacted me and had made good on an invitation. We flew on an unusual journey for us, Sao Paulo to Johannesburg to Kinshasa, arriving at one of the world's poorest nations, though paradoxically, one of the richest in mineral reserves. Lumumba had brought a revolution to Congo that

**First Lady Cecilia Morel with the 800 children outside the Palace on the "Children Pray for Chile" day**





**At the Kinshasa Conference where my son in law, Alan, preached.  
Over 200 leaders from all over Congo attended**

eventually chased away the Belgians. The attempts at African rule seemed though to go from bad to worse until today when Joseph Kabila has brought democracy and certain stability to the nation. Despite a war with Rwanda in the east, there is a sense of hope now that at last development might be possible.

The church knew a great revival in the 80s where they told me that 90 per cent of the Catholic Church emptied into thousands of small self appointed evangelical revival churches. However, due to a lack of biblically trained

and mature leaders, all kinds of abuses began to appear and finally the people went back to their "more serious" Catholic church. A good 40 per cent continue to meet in the small churches, however, and everywhere one can observe the signs of a revival past. Shops are named after biblical themes, now as a kind of superstition.

So when I was asked to share with 200 leaders at a Conference for revival, and hold evangelistic meetings at night (I preached 25 times in a week, often for over an hour!) I responded delighted. The results were that over 200 people responded positively to the gospel, that the 200 leaders received biblical teaching and a Holy Spirit anointing to "retake the revivals" and much blessing over the days in Kinshasa.

I was accompanied by Melanie's husband Alan who himself helped me greatly with the communications, the organisation, and even with some preaching.

During the week we were invited to the National Parliament in kind recognition of President Plñera's

### **A child in Kinshasha**



Chaplain. I had a good opportunity to suggest the setting up of cell groups in Parliament (like the Washington Prayer Breakfast do) as well as suggest bilateral relations with Chile! The government here owes me one!

September and October are difficult months for me as I have to organise several events in the Palace or associated to the evangelicals here. The difficulty arises from the division that exists among them. Please pray for our Evangelical Te Deum on 16 September and the Palace Ceremony I organise for evangelical leaders on 30 and 31 of October.

Our family is thriving. Mark is at present on another spiritual retreat, Jahnn and Ara are seeking God for their future work for the Lord, Melanie and Alan continue to develop their gifting in evangelism and discipling in the La Reina daughter church, and Ryan Mariana, Nico and Cata are developing now through the terrible twos. Wonderful grandfather experiences, kicking balls into pools and fishing them out again interminably!

Hilary accompanies me in rejoicing over all our blessings and adventures. We are particularly looking forward to going to the UK at the end of the year. Yes, via Nigeria! The miner again! This time we have been asked to go to the Holy Ghost Camp where, we understand, five million Christians meet together to hear the story! Please pray!

We send you all our love in Jesus, thanking you for your mighty praying!

*Alfred and Hilary*

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