



LA LUMIÈRE

November, 2004

Dan and May Workman
Serving with Campus
Crusade for Christ



Celle-ci était la véritable lumière, celle qui, en venant dans le monde, éclaire tout être humain.

John 1:9

Un SOMEBODY COME AND PLAY

Silas watches Sesame Street at his Grandma's house. Once we saw one of their characters sing a song called "Somebody Come and Play." They were all alone, wishing for a friend, singing a lonely song. We didn't think much about it. Then we noticed that on days when his friends weren't around, Silas would start singing in his loneliness – *somebody come and play. Somebody come and play today. Somebody come and be my friend.* Oh how that tugs at a parent's heart! This image is magnified as we think of our pending move to Germany. Leaving friends and grandparents will certainly leave a heavy emptiness, and that lonely song haunts our minds. This fear makes us turn to the only one who can fill all the holes and gaps in our lives – Jesus, who was torn by every emotion we feel. Our earnest prayer is that the Lord provide a special friend for Silas in Germany and healthy relationships for us too.



Deux AIR TIME

During a visit to Montana, Dan's Aunt Carol was especially excited to hear about our vision for spreading the Gospel in Western Europe using the internet. One day Dan saw an email from someone new. He opened it up and this is what it said, "Carol Lacer gave us some information about your ministry. We would love to set up a 10 minute interview with you." It was from the producer of Today's Issues, a national program on American Family Radio. With millions of listeners their guests include authors, senators, and thankfully – missionaries! On November 9th, Dan had ten minutes to share about EveryStudent.com and our vision to bring the Gospel to Western Europe. What an amazing

opportunity! Aside from saying "um" a lot, it wasn't bad for his first time on national radio. You can listen to the interview online at http://www.afr.net/newafr/listen_live.asp The Today's Issues archive is on the left side of the page, then select November 9th.

Trois WORLDWIDE CHALLENGE

Campus Crusade has a bi-monthly magazine called Worldwide Challenge. It provides a unique connection with the ministries Campus Crusade is doing all over the world. In their latest issue they featured EveryStudent.com! We're attaching the article for you to read. It contains an incredible testimony of how one student's life was transformed by Jesus after typing the question, "Is there a God?" over the internet. There is also an interview with Marilyn Adamson, the director of EveryStudent.com, who worked with us to help the French create their own EveryStudent.com. She is our primary advocate as we take this incredible evangelistic tool to Western Europe.

Please pray...

- that God prepare a special friend for Silas (and his parents) in Germany.
- for our monthly support goals and 1-time special gifts.
- for us, Dan and May, that we make time to connect every day.

Enjoying and praying for you – His abundant blessings,

Dan & May

BEHIND EVERYSTUDENT.COM

Answers to some infrequently asked questions about this powerful Web site.

By Becky Hill
Worldwide Challenge Magazine

Campus Crusade for Christ staff member Marilyn Adamson directs EveryStudent.com from Orlando, Fla. She sat down with *Worldwide Challenge* staff writer Becky Hill to answer a few questions.

Worldwide Challenge: What is the purpose of EveryStudent.com?

Marilyn: Most unbelieving students today have no clue who God is. They think if God exists at all, He could be a pagan deity, Allah, Buddha, a tree, or themselves. And when they picture becoming a Christian, that means becoming very religious, angry and judgmental, with a dedication to force your ideas on others. It's a false view, totally missing what a relationship with God is all about.

Therefore, every page on EveryStudent.com is dedicated to helping a student understand who God is or what it would be like to know God. Every page is evangelistic, written in a comfortable, conversational style. The site covers a wide variety of topics: sex and relationships, racism, eating disorders, comparative religions, suffering, and evil. Through these and other topics, we talk about the value of a relationship with Christ, and how to begin to know Him.

WWC: You started the site four years ago. How has it changed and developed over time?

Marilyn: There are always ideas that come up—additional content and such. But most of the change has been in its accelerated use on campus, and its visibility in search engines like Google and Yahoo. The number of students visiting EveryStudent.com has doubled every year, and is increasing even faster now. We began at about 3,000 students a month visiting the site. That has steadily grown each month: Last year we saw 170,000 visitors in one month alone.

WWC: What has been most personally motivating to you?

Marilyn: Every month we have seen between 1 and 2 percent of visitors to the site indicate that they've received Christ while on the site. That's pretty amazing. And we receive e-mails telling us how God has used it in someone's life.

But honestly, if I didn't know these results, I don't think it would matter to me. The concept of being able to bring an in-depth presentation of the gospel to thousands of students, in a way that's comfortable for them—that's what motivates me.

WWC: Has EveryStudent.com developed in ways you didn't anticipate?

Marilyn: Absolutely. I didn't expect staff members in other countries to begin requesting that we build EveryStudent.com with them in their language. EveryStudent.com allows them to build an evangelistic site quickly, using our content, site design and Web hosting. With this as a jump start, they can add articles to their site specifically tailored to their audience. Sites such as these have been created in French, Spanish and Turkish. In process right now are more sites around the world, translating our content into Japanese, Arabic and Portuguese.

WWC: Campus Crusade is known for personal evangelism, yet the Internet seems impersonal. How does this seeming dichotomy work out?

Marilyn: The site is very up-front, clearly describing what's there, so someone can explore their own spiritual questions. Their search becomes very authentic. They can consider very personal, important spiritual questions comfortably and safely in their own room. As people sincerely search for God, He will speak to them.

WWC: Plus you have made personal interaction possible on EveryStudent.com.

Marilyn: Yes. A person can e-mail their question to someone on the site and receive a personal e-mail response. Staff members in the Campus Ministry have volunteered to respond to students' e-mails. This team is the very heart of EveryStudent.com. They faithfully convey love and respect to each person who writes, giving them scriptural answers as they point them to Jesus.

There is also a section on the site where students can find information about the local Campus Crusade ministry on their campus. New believers can become involved with other Christians right away.

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JUST BROWSING

How Patricia found Jesus on the Internet.

By Becky Hill

Photographs by Greg Schneider

Worldwide Challenge Magazine



"Is there a God?"

Patricia Calderon typed into her computer. Ask Jeeves, The Internet search engine, boasts the ability to find the answer to any question. This was just one of many search engines Patricia frequently used to find all kinds of information, from news to music. But could it really tell her about God?

Her search started as a search for prayer. Her high-school friend Alicia Huey was diagnosed with terminal cancer, and Patricia wanted to help her, to pray for her. But she didn't know how. Patricia's mother, drawing from her religious background, suggested she should pray to St. Jude, although their family had not been to church in years.

So Patricia looked for St. Jude's prayer on the Internet. "I would look at the screen and then bow my head and try to pray, then look at the screen again to check. But I was getting the words wrong," she remembers, recalling frustration and doubt.

Next she called a prayer hotline. She listened intently to the man, especially after he told her his name was Jude. "He told me truth," the 5-foot-2-inch student remembers. "He told me that God loved me, that God wanted to spend eternity with me," she said. "I thought, *That's really nice theology, but I don't know if I even believe in God.*"

So immediately after she hung up the phone with Jude, she was back online. "Is there a God?" she asked into cyberspace.

The first site she opened was www.everystudent.com, an evangelistic effort by Campus Crusade for Christ. Just a month away from starting college at the University of California-Davis, she knew by the address that the site would apply to her. But she blinked in

amazement when she saw the first article. It was titled, "Is There A God?"

"It freaked me out," she remembers about looking at the entire list of articles. "Every single question I had, it was all right there."

She started reading, frozen to her computer. The minutes turned to hours: "I read through the whole site, even the articles for guys and the one about eating disorders."

She read about knowing God, and she read about how to become a Christian. "With the St. Jude prayer, I was trying so hard to get the words right," she remembers. "But when I read that God doesn't care about the specific words, He cares about our hearts, it was so freeing. So I just prayed, 'Yeah, what it says on the screen, God, I want that; I want to know You.'"

Nearly two-thirds (64 percent) of online Americans use the Internet to perform spiritual and religious activities, according to a survey by the Pew Internet and American Life Project. But Patricia's story is an example of how God is using the Internet to reach young people today. An America Online survey reported that 73 percent of American teenagers surf the Net five or more days a week and 53 percent go online every day.

It was early in the morning when Patricia invited Christ into her heart, with tears streaming down her face. At 2:49 a.m., she sent an e-mail to Ana Arias, one of 60 Campus Crusade staff members linked through the EveryStudent.com site. Once she left for college, Patricia feared that something might happen to her mom. "If I pray hard enough," Patricia wrote, "do you think she'll be OK?"

Ana e-mailed back the next day, assuring Patricia that being honest with God about her fear was a good thing, that she should give all her fears to God and trust Him with the future.

"He never shows us the whole future of our lives," Ana wrote, "for if He did, we would not have to trust, we would not have to live a life of faith in Him. He only shows us the next step."

Patricia's next step was college, and one of the first people she met was a student involved with Campus Crusade. She also showed up at the first meeting for the campus group.

"It was a praise night," Patricia remembers. "I was crying the whole time. As we were singing, I felt joy from my head to my feet. I thought, *I've been in choir most of my life, but I've never felt like this before.*"



Online | Patricia Calderon keeps God first—a new shift in her life. Three years ago, her faith journey started with a simple question.

She filled out a contact card during the meeting, and the following week junior Leslie Pethoud came to her door. The two became fast friends, and Patricia joined Leslie's Bible study. Within a year, Patricia moved into Leslie's apartment with four other young women. Community, she discovered, was important for her growth as a Christian.

"I struggle with being independent," says Patricia, "because that's

how I came to Christ: It was all on my own, just me and God. It's easy to think I can still do it all on my own."

Leslie was a big help. "Patricia is a really smart girl," the now 22-year-old graduate says, "and she doesn't make decisions on a whim. She also has a huge faith that just keeps growing. If something challenges her faith, she addresses it right away instead of just shrugging it off."

Now a junior at UC-Davis majoring in communications, Patricia's life is filled with classes, textbooks and research papers. But she also finds time to learn more about God, soaking up biblical archaeology and investigating other religions. "I want to know what other people think," she says, "so I can know what to say to them."

Every Wednesday, Leslie and Patricia set aside an hour together to talk about God and life, and they frequently use that time to walk around campus and start up spiritual conversations with their peers. One day they talked with people sitting at literature booths on campus, including Mormons and Jehovah's Witnesses. "We got them to realize some of the things they believe that aren't consistent," says Patricia. "But it was exhausting."

When she's not talking with people face to face, Patricia often talks to friends online, using instant messaging. She keeps in touch with her friend Adam this way, and frequently talks to him about God.

"After I became a Christian," Patricia explains, "Adam asked me every single question he could think of, trying to shake my faith. But I always had an answer. So I guess he'll always have this weird Christian friend. Or maybe," she adds, laughing, "he'll become a weird Christian guy."

Patricia goes online to check her Spanish grade, then checks the news and updates her weblog, an online diary. Besides becoming a Christian through the Internet, she says her first miracle also happened online, when she was trying to register for classes. All the courses she needed were full. "I just prayed, 'God, I really need to get into these classes,'" she recalls. "Then I checked again and there was one spot left in all of them."

Patricia first met God through the computer, and spends hours in cyberspace. But when she unplugs, she carries these online lessons to the world around her. She still might ask Jeeves a question, but she doesn't settle for the Internet butler. She knows now that she can ask God directly. He answers.

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