

April 7, 2006

Dear CEF Friend,

The next time you see a school bus —

will you please stop and PRAY?

The statistics say that at least 70% of the kids on that bus are being raised in a non-Christian home. That means they don't go to church on Sundays — at least not a church where they will ever hear about Jesus.

An after-school **Good News Club** may be their only chance to hear the message that Jesus lived and died — and rose up from the dead — for them!

That's the way it was for Sloan ... who lived in North Carolina.

Her mom's cousin, Ashley, is a **CEF Good News Club** teacher who lives and teaches in Georgia, but they really only met last year.

Like many large families who live all over the United States, they had lost touch with one another over the years and found they hardly knew each other anymore — so last summer, they decided to have a family reunion and get reacquainted.

Ashley went to North Carolina and had a good time renewing her family ties — especially with her cousin and her cousin's daughter, Sloan. Though it was clear most of her extended family did not have any relationship with Jesus Christ, Ashley was happy to tell them what she did after school every week as a **CEF Good News Club** teacher.

A few months later, Ashley got the tragic news that there had been a horrible car accident and little Sloan had died.

Her cousin called and specifically asked Ashley to come to the funeral. Although she said yes, Ashley's heart was crying NO ... she knew Sloan and her mom had never even gone to church. And her heart ached that she had no idea where Sloan was now spending eternity.

At the funeral, Ashley's heart was heavy with grief — what could she possibly say to Sloan's mother? How could she comfort her?

Then Sloan's school principal got up to say a few words, "You know, there was a club that came to my school. When it first started, I didn't really know what it was about. But I do know that Sloan attended this **Good News Club**." Ashley's ears perked up.

The principal went on, "I've been informed that two weeks ago, Sloan received Jesus Christ as her Savior at that club. And today we can rejoice and rest assured that we know exactly where Sloan is."

Ashley's heart was bursting with joy and I hope yours is too!

Because believe me, even though you didn't know Sloan YOU are a huge part of the reason she is in Heaven today.

And that is no exaggeration.

You see, this ministry wouldn't exist and be able to operate every day if it weren't for friends like you who give and pray with such generous hearts — often for children you will never meet or even hear about.

But I can assure you, there are THOUSANDS of little boys and girls like Sloan who are hearing the message of Jesus Christ — especially at our after-school **Good News Clubs** — and they are accepting Him as Lord of their lives.

Since this ministry began in 1937, **Good News Clubs** have been at the very heart of what we do. Clubs meet once a week — usually during the school year — in homes, churches, schools and other locations. Ever since the landmark Supreme Court decision in 2001 affirming our freedom of access to public elementary schools, after-school **Good News Clubs** have been opening even in districts that had denied us permission for years!

Yet despite the 200% increase we've seen in after-school **Good News Clubs**, we still have a long way to go. With more than 60,000 public elementary schools in America, we simply cannot stop until there's a club in every one of these schools!

That's why I hope you will help today.

It takes a concerted effort to carry out our **Good News Club** strategy in public schools throughout the United States. Not only do we need the help of local school officials and local CEF chapters, we must also provide the curriculum, train teachers, and provide an overall strategy to expand our clubs in more public schools across the country,

Will you help us now — before it is too late?

Yours for reaching every child,



P.S. Right now we have over 121,000 children enrolled in nearly 5,000 **Good News Clubs** across the country. Nearly half of these clubs are in public elementary schools. *And so far we've seen over 15,500 children accept Jesus this school year!*

With new clubs starting every single week, we still have the opportunity to see many more thousands of kids come to Jesus, so please help with your most generous gift as well as your most earnest prayers today!