



# REPORTS FROM THE FIELD

# EMPOWERNOTES

A Publication of Empower Ministries and BSI  
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## DIGGING DEEPER WITH OLD AND NEW FRIENDS

Though the Gugliotto's have developed many friendships both before and since they launched Empower Ministries in 2000, they rarely double back to strengthen students or reunite with friends: their schedule won't let them. Take, for example, the Lummi Indian Reservation Church in the northwest corner of Washington State. It has been over 23 years since Dr. and Mrs. G spent an entire memorable month serving the half-Hawaiian, half-Lummi congregation there. Ralph and Bea Butler settled in the area when Ralph retired there from the US Air Force in the late '70's. Shortly after arriving, their son, Paul fell in love with Barbara, the daughter of a Lummi chief and when they married, both families merged spiritually. Together, they raised up the Lummi church.

Jolynn and Dr. Lee loved the all-day fellowship there, from early breakfast until midnight *every* Sabbath. Beside leading exciting services and in-depth studies of Daniel and Revelation, they can still hear Ralph playing his ukelele, while Mary and Paul's sisters tell Bible stories to Lummi children, with the help of a huge felt-board. Despite fond memories, the Gugliotto's couldn't find time to return—until, while visiting their daughter Wendi in Blaine, Washington the last week of April, Dr. G phoned Paul Butler to arrange a workshop. The younger Butlers couldn't resist a chance to work together again with their old friends and invited them to speak, the weekend of May 3rd. As warm as ever, though most of their parents are gone, the group made the Gugliotto's feel right at

home—and enthusiastically participated in the workshop. Nearly every family bought its' own materials, and when Dr. G and Jolynn invited them to join an existing online study group or to launch one of their own, they leaped at the chance—and became our first **video-conference**, online class. In Paul's own words:  
*We had our first meeting with Dr. Lee on May 17th. It was quite an experience for my wife Barbara and I to set up our computer for the meetings. We learned a lot about wonderful new technology in a short time. There were a few glitches at first, but with the help of Dr. Lee and Tommi Emerson [our **Online Group Coordinator**] and a little help from Keith Gugliotto [Dr. G's computer-whiz son], we're up and running. Praise the Lord and thanks to all.*

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# Memories to Remember

The Gugliotto's conducted **two** more workshops in May: **one** at Richland, Washington from May 9-11, and **another** at Springfield, Oregon from May 23-25. Both churches avidly *supported* the events and *responded* favorably to our presentations.

## **Richland, Washington**

When the Gugliotto's left Hermiston, Oregon, Pastor Steve Huey offered to recommend them to several of his fellow pastors. One of them, Pastor Eric Shadle, a former ObGyn, *quickly* set a date for a weekend workshop. Efforts there proved extremely rewarding. According to Pastor Shadle:

*Thank you for coming to the Richland Church. Your QuikStudy workshop has given our church the tools we need for a true revival in our individual lives as well as in the life of the church. I have already had several members share their excitement at being able to better study the Bible for themselves and experience a personal walk with Jesus.*

*Your approach is more than just telling us what we need to do; you actually showed us how to dig in God's Word, make it come alive, and experience Jesus personally. This workshop has made "walking with Jesus" a reality, not just a platitude. And that is what separates your weekend workshop from so many others that I have seen and experienced.*

*As a result of your workshop, we will be starting several Bible study small groups. And there are several people from the community who will be joining in these groups. Your approach has made studying the Bible with our friends and neighbors natural and more meaningful than our approach has been in the past. This is simply the **BEST** workshop we have had in Richland in many years. It has such practical, personal, as well as corporate applications. Thank you so much for coming.*

*And we look forward to having you return next year to reinforce the principles we have learned this year. This has truly been a transformational weekend for many of our members. Every church interested in providing its' members with a proper understanding of discipleship and the transforming power of Jesus Christ simply must have you come to present this workshop! May God continue to richly bless you, your wife, and your ministry.*

*With sincere thanks,*

*Eric W. Shadle*

When the Gugliotto's invited Eric's congregation to join an existing online study group or to launch one of their own, they leaped at the chance—and launched our current Thursday evening, online class!

## **Lummi Church (Cont'd.)**

*At our first session we reviewed the QuikStudy method. We enjoyed the research so much, that we didn't notice how quickly time passed. It was great to see Dr. Lee on screen—almost like having him here in person.*

*We began with Worksheet 1 to give us an overview of the book of Psalms. We are studying Psalm 23 to take advantage of the **QuikStudy in Seven Days** mini-course in the Manual, plus the **QuikStudy of Psalm 23** presentation on the CD.*

*It was also very helpful to interact live with Dr. Lee; we normally would not have access to such expertise because of our small size; but thanks to Skype, we look forward to focusing on Worksheet 2 at our next session.*

*QuikStudy has already blessed us; by studying this way, we now have a deeper understanding of scripture. It is our hope that once we master this process, we can train others to study as we organize them into groups. We want so much to win more Lummi people to the Lord. Thanks for your support Dr. Lee. Keep us in your prayers.*

*Love, Paul Butler*

# Scoring Points for Jesus

## News Notes, Etc.

On May 13, 3ABN aired an hour-long interview of Dr. Lee Gugliotto by popular *3ABN Today* host, John Lomacang. 3ABN intends to air it again in the next few months.

### Greetings Dr. Lee:

*I attended your training seminar at Ang'urai - Bungoma, Kenya and it really blessed me. In fact, I read your books: **The Most High God Rules** (Daniel), and **Handbook for Bible Study**. They have really changed me spiritually and showed me how to run and manage my ministry and leadership. You promised to come back in August 2005; what happened? I have prayed about this because the vision God has given you to teach Africa and the world should not remain just that way. I and others need to learn more.*

—Pastor Godfrey Juma

Pastoral requests for our return to Kenya continue to come. 500 pastors await us in Kisumu; 250 more in Nairobi. **The AME church in Sierra Leone just invited Dr. G to be keynote speaker at its' annual meetings!** **Call to find out how you can help us raise Africa funds!**

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR ONGOING, TIMELY SUPPORT ON June 1st**

Pastor Blaine Fults and his wife Liisa brought their upbeat ministries to Springfield about two years ago. In addition to their pastoral duties at the church, Liisa teaches at Countryside Christian School in nearby Veneta. Pastor Blaine enjoys a rare sense of humor, as displayed in the following faux-letter he gave to us:

*Dear Friend,*

*Hey y'all. We just had a blast with Dr. Lee Gelato and his sweetheart, JodyLynn. They came and camped out in our church parking lot. and took our church by storm. JodyLynn is of the Parmenter clan and as such is related to a large part of the folks in Eugene and Springfield...especially among seven-days adventurers*

*If you're thinking of having them come to your church, just watch out; you might git some folks all stirred up fer an ol' fashioned revival...on account of folks studyin' a whole heap o' Skripture.*

*Sincerely,*

*Blainey Fultski*

Now, here's what he **really** meant to say:

*Dear Friend:*

*I am writing to recommend to you Dr. Lee Gugliotto and Empower Ministries. Dr. Gugliotto just held an Inductive Bible Study Seminar this past weekend at our church here in Springfield, Oregon. The message he shared was Christ-centered, dynamic,, and powerful and I feel it had a great impact on me and our congregation.*

*It was great to see people digging deeper into the Word. I think this is just what people need today: to get into the Bible and learn to feast on spiritual meat rather than to be spoonfed secondhand truths. And the result will surely be a closer walk with Christ.*

*If you are considering having them come to your church. I trust that it would be a rich and rewarding experience. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at my home at (541) 935-6006, or on my cell at (541) 232-2716.*

*Sincerely,*

*Blaine Fults, Pastor*

**Prayer Emergency:** We now have almost 2,000 pastors awaiting us in Kenya and Sierra Leone, but in the present economic state, donors are hard to find or keep. To our faithful ministry partners, **thanks** for your ongoing support; to those who can help us raise \$75,000 for African meetings—**welcome** aboard!

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# On Fire for the Lord

## A Lesson from Context

Christians tend to read Bible stories the same way every time, and as a result, close their ears to Jesus. Take, for instance, the handwriting on the wall in Daniel 5. We're all familiar with Belshazzar's feast: how the evil king used sacred vessels from the Jerusalem Temple as wine glasses in a pagan party; and that God's hand appeared, wrote on the wall, and Daniel interpreted it. But, for those who have ears to hear, there's more to Daniel 5 than the Medo-Persian takeover of Babylon.

Daniel 1-4 tells how Belshazzar's arrogant grandfather, Nebuchadnezzar flirted with the covenant God until he came to his senses and truly made Yahweh his own, after God took him down. Though he knew this, Belshazzar went his own wicked way, and as a final act of rebellion, used Yahweh's sacred vessels to party in honor of Babylon's pagan gods. So, God filed a covenant lawsuit with all the specs of any modern legal action: a *preamble*: the plaintiff (God) presents himself to the court when His hand appears and writes on the wall (v.5) ; a *historical prolog*: God explains He has done His part when Daniel retells the story of Nebuchadnezzar and God (vv. 18-21); *indictments*: God tells the court what the defendant failed to do properly ("You this but did not obey, v. 22);" *witnesses*: the banquet is God's evidence; and a *verdict*: the court pronounces sentence on the guilty. in the interpretation of the writing (vv. 24-29). Though God immediately carried out the sentence (Belshazzar died that night, v. 30), we have nothing to fear—so long as we stay in God's covenant; but should we reject Him, we pronounce the sentence on ourselves, and it is a terrifying thing to fall into the hands of the living God (Heb 10:31).

## June 2008

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 WRITING	2 7PM, PT Online Study Group	3 6PM, PT Online Study Group	4 TRAVELING	5 8PM, PT Online Study Group	6 WRITING	7 2PM, PT Online Study Group
8 WRITING	9 7PM, PT Online Study Group	10 6PM, PT Online Study Group	11 TRAVELING	12 8PM, PT Online Study Group	13 WRITING	14 2PM, PT Online Study Group
15 WRITING	16 7PM, PT Online Study Group	17 6PM, PT Online Study Group	18 TRAVELING	19 FLYING/ST. LOUIS 8PM, PT Online Study Group	20 Workshop Thompsonville, Illinois	21 Workshop Thompsonville, Illinois
22 Workshop Thompsonville, Illinois	23 Workshop Thompsonville, Illinois	24 Workshop Thompsonville, Illinois	25 Workshop Thompsonville, Illinois	26 Workshop Thompsonville, Illinois	27 Workshop Thompsonville, Illinois	28 2PM, PT Online Study Group
29 FLYING/HOME	30 7PM, PT Online Study Group	1 -> July	2	3	4	5

## This Month's Lesson...

comes from *Dr. Ted Noel*, a practicing anesthesiologist in Florida, author of the powerful paperback "I Want to be Left Behind," and a Bible teacher at a local Orlando seminary.

## Letters from Online Study Groups

The Springfield Church plans to start a Monday, online, video-conference class, on June 2. Listen to what some of the members there are saying:

**Dr. Lee and Jolynn:**  
*Very uplifting study; confirming that "The Holy spirit is the only effectual teacher of divine truth." May God continue to bless you both in your ongoing ministry. Looking forward to June 2.*

*Paul Henton,  
Springfield, Oregon*

**Hi Lee and Jolynn:**  
*I hardly know what happened, but I want to learn this, and I thank you for bringing us your expertise. Our combined single intense desire is for God, to get what He wants, for his bride to be ready. My gut tells me you are on to something~ God propel His will in/ through you~*

*Sue Harness  
Springfield, Oregon*

**Helping people to fall in love with Jesus—all over again**