

THE STREETCORNER



Ron Homenuke with the
Albuquerque Six-Guns

"I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through me." John 14:6 NIV

LIVING LIFE FOR ETERNITY!

Testimony of Ron Homenuke, prepared by Ken Penner

My wife Eunice and I moved to Smithers B.C. in 1977. While settling down in this beautiful town, we heard of a fellow by the name of Ron Homenuke who had survived a horrendous accident on a glacier. We were new to the area and thus we did not know many people in town, including Ron.

Eunice mentioned she had seen a fellow walk slowly and hesitantly past our place, obviously recuperating from some form of trauma to his body. She thought this was Ron Homenuke, the fellow we had heard about earlier. Apparently he lived up the street from us. It was to be years later that I actually got to know Ron personally.

I learned that Ron loved hockey and had played with the Smithers Bruins of the Pacific Northwest Hockey League, the Calgary Centennials of the Western Canada Hockey League, the Seattle Totems of the Western Hockey League, the Albuquerque Six-Guns of the Central Hockey League (later known as the Colorado Rockies in the NHL) and for the Vancouver Canucks NHL team. He was physically on the smaller side for a hockey player, but his determination and physical strength made up for his size.

Ron was a scrapper, not a brawler, though he could hold his own in a fight. He was a determined individual who knew how to get the puck and move it down to the other end of the rink. Ron became a favourite of many fans.

Ron received Jesus Christ as his personal Saviour in 1974, during his second year of professional hockey. This was through the prayers of one of his team mate's girlfriends. He made the big decision but there was little spiritual growth until 1976 and following.

It was on October 1, 1976 during a field trip with his Wildlife Recreation class from Selkirk College that Ron's life took a very definite turn, which in the end, was a turn that completely changed the direction of Ron's life. Let me

explain. Having stayed over night in a cabin near Kokanee glacier, Ron and some classmates saw a challenge ahead of them. They wanted to climb the glacier and have some fun! Three of them made it to the top. They took some pictures and enjoyed the warm morning sun and the breathtaking Kootenay scenery.

On their descent they found the snow on the glacier to be quite crusty and hard to get a good foothold on, thus they proceeded cautiously with Ron in the lead. Somehow Ron lost his footing and began to slide down the steep slope of the glacier. He disappeared over the edge and the other two fellows couldn't see if he went down a crevasse or what had happened. When they climbed down they found Ron had fallen 2000 feet to a ledge near the bottom of the glacier. He was unconscious with very serious injuries, but amazingly, he was still alive!

A classmate laid down on the ice, under Ron, to keep him warm. Ron was taken out by a helicopter, his life was in the balance. Due to God's miracle working power he survived the more immediate injuries including brain haemorrhage and brain stem injuries. At one point his head was the size of a basketball due to the repeated blows to the ice during his fall. Learning to walk again, and working on reviving his memory, as well as a divorce, all added to his personal battles that drew him closer to the Lord. Many thought he would never walk again, but due to his persistence, determined rehabilitation and the healing hand of God, he started to walk again. Slowly but surely, he regained his strength, his memory returned and his brain began to function normally again.

Ron attended Prairie Bible Institute as he wanted to serve God in full time ministry. During this time, God was working in Ron's heart, calling him to minister to street kids in the Philippines. After completing his Bible school train

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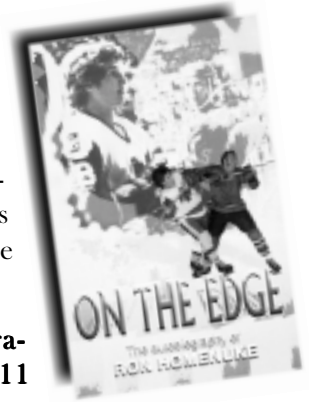


ing, he started ministry there in 1985. This is still where you will find him now, on the streets of Manila or Olongapo, working with those whom the rest of the world has left for outcasts. Ron is a missionary with Action International Ministries, feeding, clothing, educating and witnessing for Jesus Christ in whatever way he can. God has given Ron a love for the street kids that very few people in this world have. He is living out the words of Jesus "Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends" John 15:13 NIV. Ron literally lays down his life day by day for these kids.. The kid's see the love of Jesus in Ron and many have given their life to Jesus Christ through the witness of Ron and the ministry which he works with. Ron's hockey efforts were only temporary but the work he is now doing is for all eternity.

RON HOMENUKE

Time has slid by and now I have the privilege of personally knowing Ron. I have a great admiration for him, for his obedience to the call of Christ in his life, for his perseverance through very difficult trials and for his dedication to the cause of Christ in the Philippines. It has only been through the power of the Almighty God that Ron is alive today, doing this wonderful work for God. I am glad I got to know the fellow who was struggling to walk past our house on Princess St. so many years ago. Keep up the good work brother Ron!

Note: If you would like to read more about Ron, his newly published autobiography, "On The Edge" is now available for purchase. Phone Peter Neave at 250-847-9711



A Spiritual Workout!

by Mike Cunningham

Ron Homenuke is an athlete! Someone told me, when they picked up Ron at the bottom of the glacier, after his tragic accident, they thought his arms were all swollen up from the fall. They soon realized however, it wasn't swelling, but muscle! Praise God, Ron has been transformed from knowing mainly physical training to knowing spiritual training as well!

Oh if only today, in a society that idolizes professional athletes, and spends millions watching sports, and keeping in shape themselves, that we would have an army of believers, running their spiritual lives in such a way as to win! Let us throw off every hindrance, every minute of wasted time, every pursuit that does not glorify God and start making spiritual investments for eternity. Jesus did, the Apostle Paul did, and countless hero's of the faith through the ages did. Now is our turn. Let's discipline ourselves, and like Ron, faithfully take up the baton, and RUN, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith.



**ONLY ONE LIFE, 'T WILL SOON BE PAST,
ONLY WHAT'S DONE FOR CHRIST WILL LAST!**

FROM GOD'S TRAINING MANUAL

train

"..TRAIN YOURSELF TO BE GODLY. FOR PHYSICAL TRAINING IS OF SOME VALUE, BUT GODLINESS HAS VALUE FOR ALL THINGS, HOLDING PROMISE FOR BOTH THE PRESENT LIFE AND THE LIFE TO COME." 1 TIMOTHY 4:7,8 NIV.

run

"DO YOU NOT KNOW THAT IN A RACE ALL THE RUNNERS RUN, BUT ONLY ONE GETS THE PRIZE? RUN IN SUCH A WAY AS TO GET THE PRIZE. EVERYONE WHO COMPETES IN THE GAMES GOES INTO STRICT TRAINING. THEY DO IT TO GET A CROWN THAT WILL NOT LAST; BUT WE DO IT TO GET A CROWN THAT WILL LAST FOREVER." 1 CORINTHIANS 9:24,25 NIV

press on

"BUT ONE THING I DO: FORGETTING WHAT IS BEHIND AND STRAINING TOWARD WHAT IS AHEAD, I PRESS ON TOWARD THE GOAL TO WIN THE PRIZE FOR WHICH GOD HAS CALLED ME HEAVENWARD IN CHRIST JESUS." PHILIPPIANS 3:10-14 NIV

throw off

"THEREFORE, SINCE WE ARE SURROUNDED BY SUCH A GREAT CLOUD OF WITNESSES, LET US THROW OFF EVERYTHING THAT HINDERS AND THE SIN THAT SO EASILY ENTANGLES, AND LET US RUN WITH PERSEVERANCE THE RACE MARKED OUT FOR US. LET US FIX OUR EYES ON JESUS, THE AUTHOR AND PERFECTER OF OUR FAITH, WHO FOR THE JOY SET BEFORE HIM ENDURED THE CROSS, SCORNING ITS SHAME, AND SAT DOWN AT THE RIGHT HAND OF THE THRONE OF GOD." HEBREWS 12:1-3 NIV

GOOD OUT OF TRAGEDY

by Ken Penner



"AND WE KNOW THAT IN ALL THINGS GOD WORKS FOR THE GOOD OF THOSE WHO LOVE HIM, WHO HAVE BEEN CALLED ACCORDING TO HIS PURPOSE."

ROMANS 8:28 NIV

Sometimes something happens to us and we wonder why such a terrible thing could happen. Could there really be any good in such a catastrophe? When Ron Homenuke fell down that glacier some 27 years ago, I am sure this thought entered most peoples mind when they heard of this terrible tragedy. How could a loving God allow something like this? Events sure did not seem to be going Ron's way at the time.

But God always has a purpose in allowing tough things to happen to people. In Ron's case he did not give up on God, but to the contrary, his walk with God became more intimate. His trust in God grew and he became more set apart to God than he had ever been. He even became a missionary to the people on the streets in the Philippines. His love for God and fellow man grew stronger as a result of the tragic fall from the glacier.

Events like this tend to either make one bitter or better. Are you going through a hard time? Could it be that God is trying to make you better? He will if you let him.

This I believe!

WINNING LIFE'S RACE

1

GOD'S DESIRE

God created man to live with him for all eternity! Scripture tells us that he is our Creator, that he knows each of us by name, and that he cares intimately about us. It says in 2 Peter 3:9, that God is "not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." (KJV) This is God's heart! He wants you to be with him. He wants you to live with him forever. He wants you to enjoy a perfect relationship with Himself. The Bible clearly teaches that **GOD LOVES YOU!** (1 John 4:10)

3

GOD'S GIFT

Fortunately, this is not the end of the story. For God saw our helplessness, and in great compassion sent us what we needed most, a Savior, His one and only Son - Jesus Christ. Scripture tells us that, "*(Christ) Himself bore our sins in His body on the tree...*" (1 Peter 2:24 NIV)

"He was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our sins; the punishment that brought us peace [with God] was upon him." (Isaiah 53:4,5 NIV)

"But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." (Rom. 5:8 NIV)

2

MAN'S PROBLEM

There is one thing, however, that keeps us from this relationship with God—OUR SIN! Scripture teaches that "*without holiness, no one will see the Lord.*" (Hebrews 12:14 NIV) In other words God's standard is perfection. There must not be one sin on our record if we are to be acceptable to God. However, Scripture tells us that "*...all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.*" (Romans 3:23 NIV). It also says that "*the wages of sin is death.*" (Romans 6:23 NIV) or separation from God for all eternity! If we physically die in this condition, there are no second chances. It is too late to turn to God then.

4

MAN'S RESPONSE

God has made a way for us to be acceptable and right before Him. "*Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out.*" (Acts 3:19 NIV) "*Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved.*" (Acts 16:31 NIV) Jesus said: "*I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me will live even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die.*" (John 11:25-27 NIV)

You can be saved right now, whoever you are, whatever your situation. Confess to God that you are a sinner. Thank Jesus for taking the punishment for your sins by dying on the cross. Place your life in Christ's hands. Trust Him to forgive your sin. He alone has the power to save!

IF THIS IS SOMETHING YOU HAVE JUST DONE, PLEASE CONTACT A PERSON WHO YOU KNOW IS A SINCERE CHRISTIAN AND TELL THEM THE GOOD NEWS! FEEL FREE TO CALL US AT STREETCORNERS IF YOU NEED TO. IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT YOU HAVE SUPPORT AND GUIDANCE AS YOU BEGIN YOUR NEW LIFE AS A CHRISTIAN!

DETHRONE THE KING

Dying to Self



When you are forgotten or neglected or purposely set at naught, and you don't sting or hurt with the insult or the oversight, but your heart is happy, being counted worthy to suffer for Christ - that is dying to self.

When your good is evil spoken of, when your wishes are crossed, your advise disregarded or your opinions ridiculed, and you refuse to let anger rise in your heart or even defend yourself, but take it all in patient loving silence - that is dying to self.

When you lovingly, patiently bear disorder and irregularity, any impunctuality, or any annoyance - when you come face to face with waste, folly, extravagance, spiritual insensitivity - and endure it as Jesus endured it - that is dying to self.

When you are content with any food, any offering, any disruption by the will of God - that is dying to self.

When you never refer to yourself in conversation, or to record your own good works, or itch after commendation, when you can truly love to go unknown - that is dying to self.

When you see your brother or sister have his or her needs met and can honestly rejoice in spirit and can feel no envy nor question God, while your own needs are far greater and in more desperate circumstances - that is dying to self.

When you can receive correction and reproof from one of less stature than yourself and can humbly submit inwardly as well as outwardly, finding no rebellion or resentment rising up within your heart - that is dying to self.

by Bill Britton

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WHAT WE BELIEVE

The Bible and Its Authority

a) We believe in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments as verbally inspired by God and inerrant in the original writings, and that they are the supreme and final authority in faith and conduct.

The Eternal Godhead

b) We believe in one God, eternally existing in three persons: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Man and His Need

c) We believe that man was created in the image of God; that through sin man incurred both spiritual and physical death. Consequently, man is totally deprived, alienated from God, under his righteous anger, and in need of the new birth.

Jesus Christ and His Work

d) We believe that Jesus Christ was begotten by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary and is true God and true man.

e) We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ, as a representative and substitutionary sacrifice, died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that all who believe in him are justified on the ground of his shed blood.

f) We believe in the resurrection of the crucified body of our Lord Jesus Christ, in his ascension into heaven, his present life there for us as High Priest and Advocate and in his personal return.

Salvation for Sinners

g) We believe that by the grace of God, all who in repentance and faith receive the Lord Jesus Christ are born again by the Holy Spirit and thereby become children of God. Such are sealed unto the day of redemption. Nevertheless, the believer is commanded to be filled with the Spirit, moment by moment.

The Future

h) We believe in the bodily resurrection of the just and the unjust, in the everlasting blessedness of the saved, and in the everlasting conscious punishment of the lost.

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www.thestreetcorner.org

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