

# NEWS

CRC INTERNATIONAL ■ PROVIDING COMMUNICATION RESOURCES TO MAKE CHRIST KNOWN WORLDWIDE ■ SEPTEMBER 2009

## Final Production



Alan and Patricia Clease have spent hundreds of hours as volunteers in the CRC studios. When they announced their decision to retire, we invited Patricia to tell us their story.

Alan and I began our association with CRC about 25 years ago when I was working at Radio Rhema. Before

Other authors offered stories and for several years there was a regular output of programmes (mainly for children), many with an Easter or Christmas theme. The interest and enthusiasm of the many actors and writers made our work so much easier – we appreciate all the hours they gave so freely, often working late into the night to finish the task. The productions were offered to Christian broadcasters around the world and reached a large audience in many countries.

coming to New Zealand, we had both worked in radio at the BBC in London and Scotland. When the Rhema Children's Choir wanted to record some songs it was suggested that we use the facilities at CRC and only a little later, Child Evangelism Fellowship asked us to record short stories for Tel-a-Story.

We also recorded sound tracks for Church groups who were presenting puppet shows in school holiday programmes.

At the same time we were introduced to the work of New Zealand writer Janet Slater. CRC had recorded Janet's story *Call of the Kotuku* with one reader and we were asked to produce *The Wubbles*, an allegorical story based on the battle between good and evil. After only one reading we agreed and I was soon adapting the script to create a dramatic serial for young children. With a large and enthusiastic cast we took CRC radio production in a new direction.

Our work at CRC has now come full circle. It began with the recording of a Janet Slater story and our final productions are adapted from three books by Janet, the latest of which – *Amy Peppertree* – is about to be released.

It has been a privilege to join others as they have worked to reach children with the message of Christ and His love and to introduce them to the work of CRC. We have made the decision to retire with some reluctance because this has been a varied, interesting, rewarding (and often challenging!) work for the Lord.

[www.crconline.org](http://www.crconline.org)

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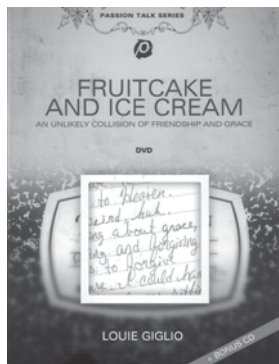
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## New DVDs

### V1029 | Louie Giglio | Fruitcake and Icecream | 54min

Louie begins by reminding his audience what God has done for us through Christ. He gives a simple definition of grace – “God in action”. The message develops slowly, but, in the second half, Louie’s description of God’s grace in the life of Florida college student Ashley is one of the most moving you are ever likely to hear.



### V1030 | Louie Giglio | Hope When Life Hurts Most | 95min

#### Part 1: The Anchor of Hope | 46min

John 16:33 tells us to expect trouble in life. Louie says we have to decide where we will turn when trouble comes. He urges people to turn to the cross, to the death of Christ, because there we see that God loves us; God is in control; God can use the worst for eternal good; God paints on a canvas bigger than you can see or understand.

#### Part 2: The Megaphone of Hope | 54min

The grave is not the end of the story for those who put their hope in Christ. We have already been grafted into a story that lasts forever. When trouble comes you need to know you have an overcoming Saviour who offers a refuge of peace in the midst of turmoil. The cross is a megaphone that amplifies the Christian’s hope and message to the entire world. You and I speak the loudest to the world when we suffer.

(We recommend you watch V1029 before you watch V1030 because the contents are related).

### V1031 | Beyond the Gates of Splendor | 96min

A documentary based on the dramatic story of five missionary couples who went to Ecuador more than 50 years ago. It is narrated by Steve Saint, son of pilot Nate Saint who was one of the five men killed by the savage Waodani (Auca) tribe in January 1956. The story is built around interviews with many of the people involved in the actual events, including Waodani people who describe their conversion from a life of fear and violence.



## COMMENT

by John Lindsay CRC's Operations Director



Steal my glasses and you leave me handicapped, unable to see clearly at arm’s length.

And I am becoming more short-sighted as I get older.

Without my glasses, I live in a fuzzy world. I cannot drive a car safely or read street names. I am liable to snub friends and neighbours simply because I do not recognise them until they are almost standing on my toes. I would be useless as a witness to a robbery or identifying a getaway car.

You would expect someone to notice they had impaired vision, but my eyesight had deteriorated significantly by the time I visited an optometrist. The improvement surprised me. I could easily read signs across the street and the TV image was clear and crisp.

My disability would put me at even greater risk in a crisis. If I lost my glasses in an earthquake, fire, flood or road smash I would be in big trouble. I might not notice other dangers and I would have trouble navigating around obstacles or planning a safe escape path.

A fuzzy view of God, His creation and His word is equally dangerous. We are left struggling to understand who and what we are because we cannot see clearly where we fit in the big scheme of things. At the same time we also make a poor job of guiding others.

When life is running smoothly, our handicap may not be obvious, but trauma will usually expose the faults in our view of God.

Just as I found someone able to treat my short-sightedness, we should all look for help to improve our spiritual vision.

Remember the experience of Balaam. Until he saw what his donkey saw, he did the wrong thing (Numbers 22). When he finally saw what God was doing, he announced, “the oracle of one whose eyes see clearly ... and whose eyes are opened.” (Numbers 24:15–16)

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