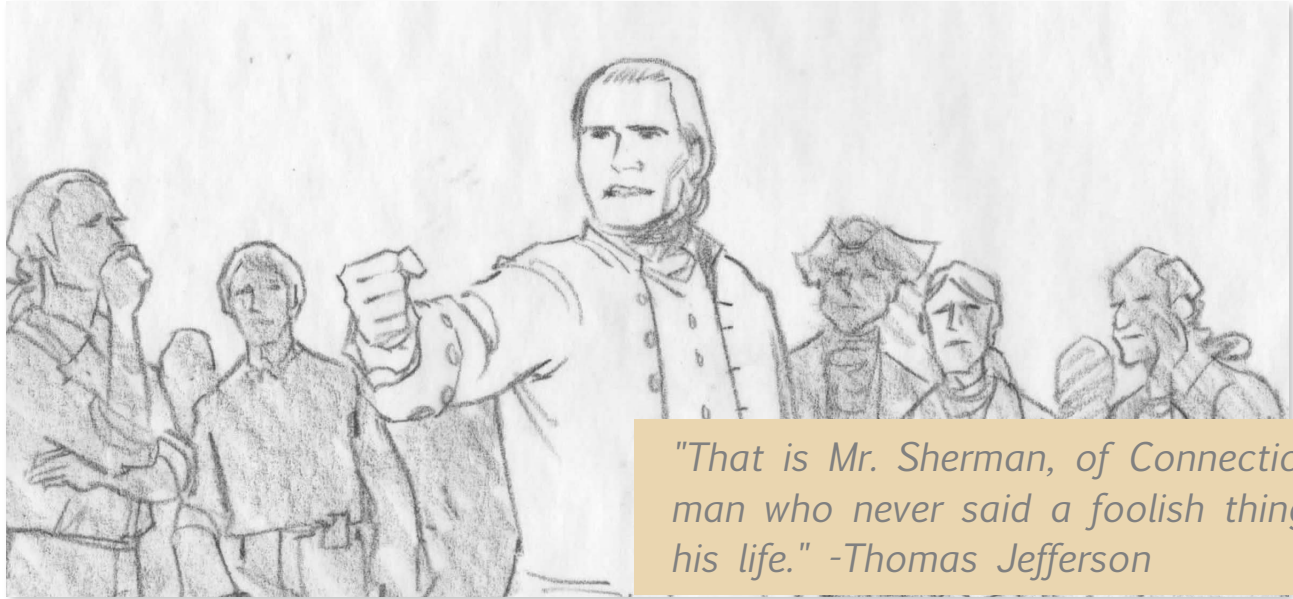


# THE Intercessor



*"That is Mr. Sherman, of Connecticut, a man who never said a foolish thing in his life." -Thomas Jefferson*

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*"... He has always refused to wear a wig or dress in any finer clothing than the poor homemade things I sew. And he has such a way of standing, with one fist clenched at his side and the other clenched straight out before him! Although some men will laugh when they see him and hear the abrupt way in which he speaks, they soon stop when they hear what he has to say. Did you know," she added, looking around the table, "that Thomas Jefferson himself once said, 'That is Mr. Sherman, of Connecticut, a man who never said a foolish thing in his life.'"*



Club DJ Bible club at Sucker River First Nation Reservation in Saskatchewan

The above sketch and quotation is from our latest story in production, **When I am Weak**. This short story about statesman Roger Sherman, seems more and more important considering the 2016 election and the inauguration of president Trump.

No matter what side of the political spectrum you fall on, the point is that leadership looks different in Christ than it does in the world. Recently, our staff was reading one of the crucifixion accounts. Even in the midst of the agony of the cross,

(cont'd from page 1)

Jesus' focus is on others rather than Himself. He prays for His enemies (Luke 23:34), He directs John to care for Mary (John 19:26-27), He promises peace to the believing criminal (Luke 23:43), and of course He is laying down His life for the sins of many (Heb. 9:28). But is this "other" focus seen in Christ just "pie in the sky" for the rest of us?

Not so! Otherwise Jesus would not have given this explicit directive to His disciples:

*Ye know that the princes of the Gentiles exercise dominion over them, and they that are great exercise authority upon them. But it shall not be so among you: but whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister; And whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant: Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many. (Matt. 20:25-28)*

In the cross, Jesus not only sets an example of servant leadership, but accomplishes the work whereby it is possible in the lives of His disciples (2 Cor. 5:14-15). That means a story about a Christian statesman like Roger Sherman is worthy to lay before children. Not to the end that they simply say, "here was a good man," but that they conclude, "here was Christ's good work in a man" and then consider "if in Him, why not in me?"

For more info visit [www.biblevisuals.com/production-projects](http://www.biblevisuals.com/production-projects)



## 57th Anniversary Banquet

In October, Bible Visuals International celebrated 57 years of ministry. The banquet theme "Arise & Declare" focused on the generational aspect of both the mission field and the missionary. Each successive generation of children must be reached by another generation of missionaries whether they be Sunday School teachers, Bible club workers or simply Dad and Mom ministering in the home.

We were blessed to have Mickey and Trina Cofer as our guest speakers. The Cofers serve as missionaries to Mongolia. One of their goals has been to provide Mongolian churches with a visualized Bible curriculum. To that end, they have translated BVI's entire Visualized Bible Series (312 lessons!) and now they are gearing up to print and distribute the materials within Mongolia. From the evening's offering, \$3000 was designated to help with this project.



*Dr. Mable Ruth Wray was honored for her 30 years of service on the BVI Board.*





## "Home is where the heart is"

That might sound like just a sentimental saying, but there's some spiritual truth in it. There is a huge opportunity and responsibility God gives Christians to impact children's hearts through the institution of the home.

In Deuteronomy chapter six, God follows up His command aimed at the heart,

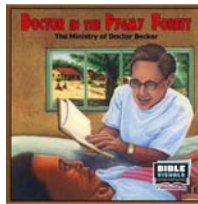
**"Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all  
thine heart..."**

with a command aimed at the heart of the home,

**"And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy  
children, and shalt talk of them when thou  
sittest in thine house..."**

At BVI, we want to do more to make the home a priority in our ministries too. That's why we are excited to introduce our new **Family Format** of our resources. We've started by releasing several biographies and stories in these easy to use 8.5"x 8.5" books that children can read independently or that parents can use in family worship time.

Visit [www.biblevisuals.org/family](http://www.biblevisuals.org/family) to learn more!



Some titles that are already  
available in Family Format

### MONDAY

- Pray for the BVI Board as they make decisions and provide counsel to Director Tom Luttmann.
- Pray for office staff Patti, Melody and Dave as they carry out the daily operations of the ministry.

### TUESDAY

- Pray for Del Thompson as he works on the illustrations for **When I Am Weak**.
- Pray for two freelance writers they work on soon-to-be-announced projects!
- Pray for graphic artist Joshua Day as he works on colorizing **Old Testament 8**.

### WEDNESDAY

- Pray for graphic artist Ed Olson as he works on the colorization of **Bible Lessons to Light the Way**.
- Pray for layout specialist Kelley Moore and volunteer Morgan Melton as they help Patti get materials laid out in the Family Formats.

### THURSDAY

- Praise: The shipment of Urdu Bible lessons has safely arrived at Lahore Baptist Bible College.

- Praise: Translations have recently been released in Arabic, Portuguese, German, Spanish and Telegu!
- Pray for churches and individuals to be led to support the ministry financially and help make up the shortfall from the loss of older donors.

### FRIDAY

- Pray for the IT & maintenance issues related to our operation in Akron, Pennsylvania.
- Pray for our ministry partners at Child Evangelism Fellowship as they prepare for summer ministry.

### SATURDAY

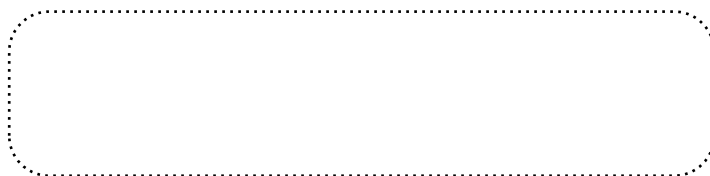
- Pray for your pastor as he declares the Word to your congregation. If he is a father, pray for him specifically as he ministers to his own family.
- Pray for the parents in your church that they will make time to lead their families in worship.
- Pray for the children in your church, that they might be tender to the Gospel and that they would rise up as another generation to declare Christ to the generation to follow.



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## Reaching Children Up North



# Club DJ

BVI is partnering with Club DJ to reach the children in Canada through their mid-week club program for churches. BVI lessons and stories are being incorporated into their curriculum. Club DJ was started by Jerry and Sharon Durston of Regina, Saskatchewan, as part of their outreach programs which include Bible clubs and VBS programs. Jerry grew up helping with his parent's children's ministry. His mother, Melba, served with CEF here in Lancaster County, the same county directed by none other than Katherine Hershey (see next article).

Now, Jerry and Sharon are joined in ministry by several of their children.

Learn more at:  
[www.clubdj.com](http://www.clubdj.com)



Shaylee & Levi Sheena & Jeremy  
Marlee & Brynley Daffae & Luke  
Jerry & Sharon Shea & Shariyn  
Madison, Caleb, & Taylor Kristeen & Tyler  
Harper & Hudson

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Retired CEF Lancaster Director, **Katherine Hershey**, passed away on January 12th at the age of 100. If that name sounds familiar, Katherine authored many of the Bible lessons produced by Bible Visuals International including our popular Tabernacle lessons (Old Testament Vols. 9 and 10)

**We'd like to honor Katherine in a special way.**

A major ministry partner is planning to use our **Bible Lessons to Light the Way** series this summer in their VBS ministries. We'd like to update this series written by Katherine in time for them to use the new illustrations this year. The cost is \$3650. Will you help? You can send designated gifts by mail or make a donation to this project online at [www.biblevisuals.org](http://www.biblevisuals.org)

