

July-August 2008

HOPE FOR THE FUTURE MINISTRIES



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**"Jesus did not say, "Come to me and get it over with." He said, "If any man would come after me, let him take up his cross daily and follow me." Daily is the key word. Commitment to Christ, however genuine and wholehearted it may be today must be renewed tomorrow ... and the day after that ... and the day after that ...**

**Until the path comes at last to the river."**

Louis Cassels (1922-1974)

Rock & Roll's Road

There are many paths that lead us to Jesus and some are more winding than others. The twists, turns and bumps are often God's way of directing us to the ultimate goal, a loving relationship with His Son, Jesus Christ.

It is often the case that the turns bring one face to face with one of God's laborers. Often, being in a place of need causes a soul to encounter the same laborer with the same loving message over and over again. Years, sometimes decades are necessary for the relationship between the down-hearted and the messenger to grow strong enough in trust for the soul to be won for the Kingdom.

One such soul is Eddie Evans, affectionately known as "Rock and Roll". He is a 62 year old black man that by the grace of God and the intervention of Hope For The Future, is on the road to untangling a very contorted life,

praising God, thankful to Him for Pastor Diane, and the incredible changes in his life.

Rock and Roll met Pastor Diane on the lower East side 20 years ago and by his own admission, was intoxicated.

In his own words Eddie says, "In her kindness she began to show

someone really does care.

Over the years, she has faced many frustrations. Yet to my wonderment, she has made an impact, I suppose, on everyone's life, not just the down-trodden. From time to time, I have marveled at the undying devotion that is in her heart. If she has the courage to praise the Lord for His goodness, so do I."

Appreciation for this testimony comes when you learn some of the background on Eddie "Rock and Roll" Evans.

Due to family tragedies, he was raised in foster care, which he claims "thanks to God" was a good experience, but he did not turn out as well as his foster sisters. He grew up in what were called the 'Jim Crowe years', a time just prior to the civil rights movement, and that started him on another twist in his path. He wound up in prison a few times for assault and robbery.



Rock & Roll (Eddie Evans) gives back @ HFTF

signs of trying to make a difference in those souls that were seemingly lost in some oblivion of hopelessness. Pastor Diane has been an arm that has contributed with a spiritual redemption that helped me see an opening at the end of the rainbow. And, she helped me see that

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**URGENT!!!  
VOLUNTEERS ARE  
NEEDED ASAP!**

Some people believe that during the summer months many come to volunteer. But the fact is this: many go away on vacation during the summer and that leaves us extremely short-handed. If you have any free time and you would like to make a difference... please consider joining our team. Your time and help are greatly appreciated!

**PLEASE CALL US AND  
VOLUNTEER TODAY!**

We need Professional Fund Raisers, Grant Writers, Graphic Artists, Warehouse workers, Office help and kitchen helpers.

**JOIN US TODAY.  
Thank you~**



**\* Volunteers Wanted \***

- Warehouse Laborers
- Kitchen Helpers
- Food preparation
- Drivers
- Food pick-up
- Intercessors to pray for the people, workers and ministry
- Musicians and worship leaders
- Donations are always welcomed in lieu of Volunteer time. Thank you

***They Came In A F.O.G.—But Left On A Cloud***

Visiting ministry F.O.G. (Founded on God) youth group, traveled to New York hoping to open the eyes of the unbelieving. Although they did in fact bless those they ministered to, their eyes were opened as well. One can only imagine the thoughts running through the mind of a teen who has never been outside of their own county, now embarking on their first missions trip! And an urban missions trip to the “Big Apple” at that! A generalization often believed is that New Yorkers are rough and tough. However, the group was soon to find out that we are people just like them, some yes, with a hard exterior, but with hearts just as vulnerable and in need of God’s mercy and grace.



*F.O.G. team feeding the homeless and poor.*

The group, led by Pastor Terry Sponholz and accompanied by International Cops For Christ’s President, Rev. Mike DiSanza and his wife Ann all belong to the same home church, Vineyard Christina Fellowship of Inverness, Fla. Ann, who helped prepare the teens for the trip said that they were all responsible for raising their own funds. “They learned a lot just in the struggle to pay for the trip”. The funds came in slowly and at times it didn’t look promising.

*▼Pastor Terry and Rev. Mike praying with a Hempstead woman receiving both physical and spiritual help.*



Another requirement was to serve in their home church’s feeding program at least once. One teen has been so radically affected by the trip that she has committed herself to her home church feeding program. She, along with many of the teens learned so much about what it really means to be a servant! They are already talking about returning to HFTF for round two!

During our Church Without Walls services on

*Continued on page 3*



*F.O.G. Performs skits showing the pull of the world on souls fighting against depression, suicide, alcohol & drug addictions. They showed the transformation from the kingdom of darkness to the kingdom of light.*

## Rock & Roll's Road *(continued from page 1)*

Eddie is an intelligent, well-read, and well-spoken man and he decided to make the best of a bad situation. While incarcerated He got his education and truly considers himself rehabilitated.

After his release from prison he left his life of crime against society behind him, but he still committed some crimes against himself. He did cocaine for nine years and drank for decades.

Glory to God, twenty years of Hope for the

Future messages softened His heart and he has over five months of uninterrupted sobriety. He is now living in a state-of-the-art, three-quarter Brownsville house in Brooklyn and has aspirations of going into public relations.

Eddie now comes to the fellowship to give rather than to receive. He has deep gratitude for the new direction his life is taking and even more gratitude for being the subject of this publication. Much of this article

is his own writing and we hope he will, when most people are considering retirement, begin his career in public relations.

Isn't it just life our Lord to take the least, as in the case of Peter the gruff fisherman, and raise him up. Hope For The Future Ministries is grateful to God and all our supporters for the opportunity to help bring "Rock and Roll" out of the arena of homelessness to hope.

Ω

Watch  
**"Glory to Glory"**  
 on  
 Cablevision

Channel 20 & 115 Tuesdays  
 7:30 am  
 Eastern Suffolk  
 Tuesdays 8:30 am  
 Western Suffolk &  
 Nassau County  
 with  
**Pastor Diane Dunne**  
 &  
**Pastor Deborah Mitchell**



## They Came In A F.O.G.—But Left On A Cloud *(cont. from page 2)*

the street they were encouraged to use their giftings. Some sang publicly for the first time. Pastor Diane invited the group to go out into the congregation to pray. Later the teens expressed their amazement at how receptive the people were and how hungry they were for

God!

FOG also got a crash course in passion for ministry as they witnessed Pastor Diane and her staff roll up their sleeves to dig into the trenches of a typical long day's work. "Through this experience the kid's grew closer to one another," said Bro.

Mike. The team leadership prayed for the urban missions trip of a life-time, and they got it! Right her in the good old USA! These young people left the comfort of their homes, perhaps not knowing what to expect, but left with a true calling for missions. How exciting! Ω

### Quote Of The Month

*Giving is a joy if we do it in the right spirit. It all depends on whether we think of it as "What can I spare?" or as "What can I share?"*

**Esther York Burholder**

OUR MINISTRY RELIES ON CONTRIBUTIONS FROM PEOPLE LIKE YOU.

PLEASE GIVE WHAT YOU CAN...IN JESUS NAME...THANK YOU!

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*"For I know the plans that I have for you...plans to give you a hope and a future."  
Jeremiah 29:11*

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#### **A WORD FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK**

*We at Hope For The Future would like to thank those of you who responded to our letter of need. I am deeply touched by your generosity and overwhelmed by your support and prayers. In the midst of sometimes unbelievable opposition this ministry faces feeding both the Spiritual Word and physical nourishment to those in need, your personal notes are an enormous encouragement.*

*However, we are not out of the woods yet. Many of our sponsor grants are no longer available. Second Harvest denied our grant this year and, to our dismay, will not be funding hunger programs any longer. Over fifty corporate philanthropic groups such as the Ford Foundation, Verizon, Apple, etc. have grants for education and research but not hunger.*

*Fear not! We are not giving up our search, but browsing these web pages takes hours and we are open to suggestions from you. Perhaps your employer would be interested or maybe you know people that work for large institutions that have grant programs. Call us. Write us. We could use your input.*

*During this season of unbelievable struggle I am reminded of an old hymn that we used to sing... "Where could I go but to the Lord..." And where can we go when government programs (the arm of flesh) fail us. We are being stretched beyond measure. The scriptures teach us not to lean upon the arm of flesh, but to trust in Him. In Psalm 40, verses 1-2,4 it says, "I waited patiently for the Lord; He turned to me and heard my cry. He lifted me out of the slimy pit, out of the mud and mire; He set my feet on the rock and gave me a firm place to stand. Blessed is the man who makes the Lord His trust, who does not look to the proud..." I know that it will be God who brings us out of this pit. As we look to Him in all our troubles He will bring us the deliverance we need to stand.*

*Please continue to pray for those on the street and thank you, once again, for letting the Lord's prompting touch your heart for HFTF Ministries. And, please know that you and yours remain in our prayers as well. May the Lord richly bless you.*

Sincerely in His Service,  
Pastor Diane