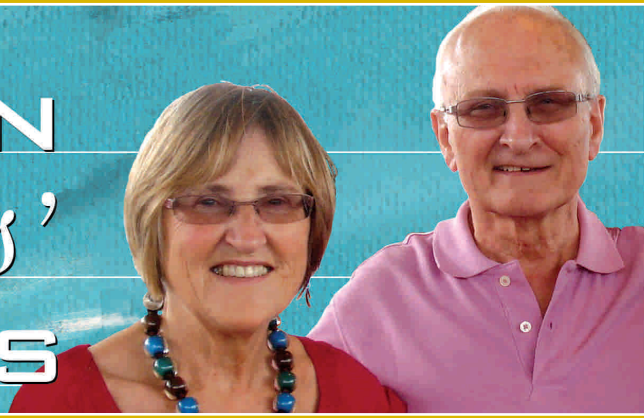


ON Eagles' WINGS



w e l c o m e

MAN of FAITH

Charles writes

When Benson Idahosa died in 1998, our friend from Australia, Harry Westcott went to his funeral service in Nigeria, and reflecting on this later said, *"We buried the earthly remains of Benson Idahosa beside his first church in Benin City. On his tomb was an epitaph that didn't even carry his name, but simply engraved the words "Man of Faith".* I found that brief statement very challenging, and would love to think that I could receive a similar accolade.

Down through the centuries there have been many people who were instantly known by a phrase that described their character. In the gospels we are familiar with *"Doubting Thomas"* even though at one time Thomas declared that he was prepared to stand with Jesus whatever the consequences and said, *"Let us also go, that we may die with him"*. Even though there are some amazing things that characterise the life of Peter, he is so often referred to as *"Impetuous Peter"*.

As we live our lives day by day we are making an indelible impression on those around us. The way we approach each day

and the way we interact with others makes its mark. John was called the *"Beloved Disciple"* because of his closeness to Jesus and the love that clearly flowed between them. In the area of Bristol where we live, the name of George Muller is still greatly revered, he also is known as a *"Man of Faith"*, but was also a man of great compassion as he reached out to the homeless children swarming over the streets of our city.

I have found the title, *"Man of God"* that was given to Moses something that stirs me to live in such a way that I could be accorded such a title. We instantly think of a *"passion for souls"* as the name Billy Graham is spoken, and we are stirred in our hearts as we hear Reinhard Bonnke declare, *"Africa shall be saved!"*

Every day our life makes a silent declaration. Are we loving, forgiving, generous, affirming, full of faith, building others up, pouring our lives out for those around us?

Have you ever thought of who might attend your funeral and the words they might speak about you – you have an opportunity to write that script while you are still alive!



PAGE 2

PAGE 2

PAGE 3

PAGE 4