



Lorna's Take...

## On heroes of faith

By Lorna Dueck, host of "Listen Up"

This year has seen one of the largest shifts in leadership among the ranks of the most effective ministries in the world. In July, **Dr. Bill Bright**, founder of Campus Crusade, was promoted to heaven. He prayed for and led one of the world's largest Christian ministries, operating his evangelist's vision in 191 countries with 26,000 staff. Those close to him report that, even in the last two years when he was bedridden much of the time, he had 100 projects on the go, and finished more than 80 of them before the Lord took him home at age 81.

**Dr. Larry Burkett** also died this past July. He was a visionary for helping Christians understand stewardship, writing over 70 books on Godly management of money. With a reputation for humility and a servant's heart, he merged ministry resources, leading to the growth of Crown Financial, four radio programs and multiple millions applied to Christian giving.

**Dr. James Dobson** stepped aside from being president of the largest family ministry in the world, so he could focus more on writing and speaking to the public.

The founder of Operation Mobilization, **George Verwer** also retired from his presidency; a man who followers called "revolutionary, spontaneous, fearless and an encourager." His mission career over the past 45 years touched more than one billion people through literature evangelization.

**Chuck Colson** stepped down as chief executive officer of Prison Fellowship. He always stayed close to the redeeming power of the cross as he pioneered a ministry that now operates in 98 countries and is the world's largest Christian outreach to the criminal justice system.

Finally, our own founder, **Dr. David Mainse** resigned from his 40-year position as president of Crossroads, a pioneer in opening the airwaves for the Gospel in Canada and the world because he travelled the distance in prayer, sacrifice and faithfulness.

I'm not sure what to make of such an enormous shift in the landscape of leadership. Yet I'm compelled to pray along with Bill Bright a challenge he penned shortly before his death: "When last have you trusted God for something so big, that when it happened, only God would get the glory?" ☩