

Saved By God's Grace Newsletter

June 2014 - Please pass this to others!

Hi Friends,

A month of "making a difference"...simply doing what Scripture tells me to do. The month of June was busy...very busy. The need in Kenya is always present to a glaring extent in our lives, but in June God brought situations into our lives and also the people to work with us to handle them...including you. We had three terrible situations which were brought to us by people we knew and we reacted by praying and asking God to provide the funds if He wanted us to get involved. Through you He brought the funds and we simply did what we are COMMANDED to do by Scripture..."Help the widow and orphan in their distress and stay unpolluted by the world" James 1:27.

The first situation involved a mom, her five kids, and the sex slave trade. This woman was brought from Uganda to be a sex slave. She was used by a lot of guys to simply have sex and in the process had five kids. When the last two guys had her and she had another child which was a girl, they simply left her in the bush with nothing but the kids, pregnant, and nowhere to turn. We got involved when a friend called and said she saw a woman give birth in the bush and then go to the garbage to get food. The mom was considering killing the baby since they were all starving (literally, not like we use the word) and she didn't know how she was going to keep the baby fed. She was in such a bad condition that she couldn't even produce breast milk. Well, to shorten this up a bit, we assisted getting her medical help (she has AIDs), get her into a small room and paid the rent up for 6 months, got the children in school and got them clothes to wear, purchased beds for them so they wouldn't be on the ground, got them food and a cooker, and gave them hope (the best part of it all). Our friend has been checking on them and they are now doing well by the grace of God.

The second case was one of a mom and four kids. They had chiggers (parasites who bury themselves in your flesh and live on you) living in the house and they slept on the ground with them. The mom placed a towel in the corner to have the four kids sleep on and she slept on the floor (no money for a second towel). The chiggers were so bad the mom could no longer walk. When she came to greet our friend (the one who reported this to us), she crawled on her knees. We immediately got the chiggers removed from all parts of the bodies and she and the kids are now in recovery. We don't know if she will ever walk again due to the extensive damage, but she no longer is in agony because of the pain and the kids are healing well. We replaced the roof of her home and poured a concrete floor. The kids were going to a government school in torn uniforms with holes in the back of the skirts and shorts. With no underwear their butts were showing so they pinched the clothes to keep them from being exposed. They huddled by themselves in a corner of the class trying to ignore the teases of the kids on their poverty, smell and rips in their uniforms. We purchased beds and the related mattresses, sheets and blankets (they had never slept on anything other than the floor). We bought them food high in nutritional value and citrus fruits for healing. We bought new uniforms, underwear, socks, and shoes for them. The teacher of the school cannot believe the change in the kids now that they are "smart" (this is the same person when asked

why didn't the school help these kids she responded "We allowed them in school with ripped clothes and no shoes, we did help them"). Our friend checks on them each week and he tells us they are praising God for what has been done for them and are like "new people".

The last situation is one involving a girl (age 13) with HIV and father with AIDs. The man's wife died from AIDs, the oldest daughter died of AIDs, the second wife found out they had AIDs and left the home. The man has AIDs and can't work because of the disease. The man, his daughter, and a little brother live in a shack with no floor (just dirt) and sleep on the dirt. We began with simply getting the girl food at lunch (our kids take an extra lunch with them and give it to her). We then visited the home and got beds, mattresses and blankets for them so they are off the floor. We purchased a cooking stove (gas) for them so they no longer seek firewood on a daily basis. We bought uniforms for both the little girl and her brother. We purchased food for them so the dad and the little girl can make sure they are able to take their HIV drugs. We are going to pipe water directly to the residence from a local well so the little girl does not have to fetch water from a half mile away...they are so happy. The father said, "I know what I have read in the Bible is true since no one has ever helped us and now God has sent people from the other side of the world to help".

Are we doing anything special...NO! How can it be something special when the One I call Lord tells me, no commands me, to do it. As a matter of fact, if I don't react to what He has presented before me then He actually judges me based upon what I didn't do and Scripture tells me my faith is not a saving one, but rather a dead one (James 2:14-26). We are not here to simply enjoy our lives. We are here to serve others and love them as we love ourselves (Matthew 22:36-40). The consequences?...we are either sheep or goats...being welcomed by our Father into His Kingdom or being sent away while being told we never knew Him (Matthew 25:31-46).

Take some time to determine what you are doing for the Kingdom and certainly don't think you should be getting a pat on the back for the job. If you follow Christ and know Him, this should just be a normal part of your life because of the love you have for him and your obedience to the One who died for your salvation...I know I can't do anything less.

I tell you the above to ask you this...will you help me continue to assist these people with these literal life and death matters? So you might say, Chuck, there are not those types of situations here in the US and we don't know what to do. I can tell you there all sorts of situations around the world including the US, but those in third-world countries are so horrific. There are no government welfare programs to assist. The church either can't assist because of lack of funds or they themselves are some of the most corrupt organizations I have seen and only help themselves. The general poverty of the people does not allow them to assist as they are only making enough to provide for their own family...in many instances only allowing them to provide one meal a day for their kids (and that sometimes only of boiled weeds). WE HAVE BEEN CALLED TO HELP ... AND WE NEED YOUR HELP TO DO IT! What Saved By God's Grace has done is form a Benevolence Fund. This fund is used exclusively for these types of situations. We have a goal of having on-going funding to the extent of \$1,000/month. If 10 people give \$100/month, or 20 people give \$50/month, or 40 people give \$25/month, or 100 people give \$10/month we will have it done. The process is simple, go to our secure donation page on our website by clicking HERE. Click on "Benevolence Fund" in the allocation drop-down box and fill in the rest of the information. You can make a one-time contribution or a recurring one. This is a most urgent need. I wish you could all come and see how these people, God's children, are living and fighting to survive each month (some losing the battle)...I assure you, you would never want to live like this and, as commanded by Scripture, we must help.

I could continue on with so many other things, but I simply ask you to think about the one item I ask above. As you may ascertain from this newsletter, my heart is aching as I continue to see these situations and can't assist (it has taken its toll both physically and mentally on me since I have been serving in Kenya). To have to make decisions to help a grandmother with 6 kids, OR a mom with AIDS, OR a child with HIV are decisions I don't want to make. My friends, I am not asking anything for myself (other than alleviating my burden of determining who I have to decline to help). I am simply asking that you allow me, through prayer and financial assistance, to help these who God brings to us...pray with me on how you can be involved.

Thank you for considering this request and may the love of Jesus explode in your life, may you come to know Him fully as Lord and Savior, and may you hear and obey the Scriptural command of "Bear one another's burdens and fulfill the law of Christ" (Galatians 6:2).

Serving with you only by His grace,

Chuck

Missionary to Kenya

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