



# Heartland International Ministries

Summer 2020

## THE LORD'S FAVOR

**R**amesh is from a rural village in Garhwal, located in the Himalayan region of north India. He is the oldest son in his family, and is forced to provide for his mother and siblings as his father is deceased. Ramesh was working in Maharashtra, Mumbai in a restaurant, and sending money home to support his mother and allow his siblings

to attend school. Like many, Ramesh lost his job due to the Covid-19 lockdown in India. He was unable to pay his current rent, and needed to go home to help his family. He called home to find out that his family was struggling to find food to eat. Ramesh had no transportation or money, so was forced to make a 900+ mile trek on foot, walking



from Mumbai to Garhwal. During his walk, Ramesh encountered hundreds of others who had lost their jobs and were also walking back to their families. He and other travelers were beaten by the police for walking in the roads during lockdown, and eventually forced to walk through jungles and forests to steer clear of police.

After multiple months, and hundreds of miles, Ramesh was fortunate to make it home to his family. Upon his arrival, he was overjoyed to find out that

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# ROCK STANDING



**Byron Whetsone,  
Executive Director**

**D**ear Friends,  
The course of history is changing before our eyes and I can only relate this to a book I read as a high-schooler called "1984," by George Orwell. The book imagined a future place where streets were renamed, statues were removed and history was replaced by revisions that were acceptable to the culture.

When I think about the times in which we are living, my heart is torn between trying to comfort those who are in conflict with what this country stands for and finding a venue to share the Gospel message of our Lord Jesus about FAITH AND LOVE.

I recently shared a teaching about the Great Commandment and the words from Jesus are piercing, "LOVE your neighbor as you love yourself." When I read these words, I know that my neighbor needs what I need; he needs food, shelter, a job, a place to respectfully live his life. I know this because those are the same things that I need. For many of us and certainly for me, there are places in your life, people in your life, things in your life that have happened that challenge you to be a person who LOVES. It might be easy to love your spouse, the kids, and the family but so incredibly hard to love those who make your life harder than we care for it to be.

Paul's words to the church at Corinth are quite direct. You can be the most faithful person on the planet but without LOVE you have nothing. Please dear friends, pray for God to allow your love to shine through the circumstances you face, because without love we are not the people God wants us to be.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Byron Whetsone".

Byron Whetstone, Executive Director

**".....and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing....." 1 Corinthians 13:2**

***"Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends."***

*(1 Corinthians  
13:4-8)*



## THE LORD'S FAVOR *continued from front cover*



Christians had been helping his family survive. His family was able to eat, and survive when they were struggling to find their next meal. He was overcome with deep joy and thankfulness in this tough time, and this miracle brought Ramesh to accept Jesus. Now he is reading the Bible and spreading the news of the good work that was done by the people of God.

This story is just one of the many stories that were made possible through the help of Pastor Edwin and H.I.M. in the Himalayan region of North India. Pastor Edwin, a native of this region and also one of H.I.M.'s PALS, was called by the Lord to help those families who are without work and in serious need of food. He wanted to help these suffering families by providing them with a month's worth of food. Edwin set a goal

of feeding 50 families, but with the help of H.I.M., Edwin and the church were able to make a far larger impact than he could have imagined. So far, 92 families have been blessed with one month's worth of food and 20 orphan children have also been fed. Edwin and other pastors are also supplying packaged food and drink to those who are

walking through the village back to their homes in other villages.

As a result of the help, many of these people have allowed Edwin to pray with them, profess the word of God, and have come to know the Lord as a result. Many of these people were faced with a lot of pressure, but now have been filled with encouragement and hope in Christ. We are extremely thankful for the ability to help so many families who are hurting during this pandemic. We ask for continued prayers and financial support to help with Covid-19 relief and feeding those in severe need. There are still countless people who are in need during this global pandemic, and as Edwin said himself: "Acts of kindness and extending a helping hand to those in need is crucial. No donation is too small, the thought of giving is what counts."



# LIFE-LONG DESTINY TO NURTURE AND HEAL

Katie Tucker has been a PALS with Heartland International Ministries since she graduated from high school. That's when she left for India and spent 6 months at an orphanage that H.I.M. helps support. When she returned home, she felt God tugging at her to go to nursing school. By 2016 she was a licensed RN. She then sensed another tug to be trained as a midwife. She spent a year at the Birth Attendant School with YWAM (Youth With A Mission) in Perth Australia.

In September of 2019, Katie started a 6 month journey as a staff member for Compassion Discipleship Training School. She spent 3 months in south France teaching the gospel and

basic healthcare. Her students learned about nutrition, diabetes, first aid, pharmacology and how to take vital signs and CPR. She spent the early part of the year writing a workbook that went along with each lesson. The following 3 months were spent doing outreach with her students in Guatemala. They were involved with several medical and dental clinics and gave countless healthcare gospel teachings in all sorts of settings. The group also gave many human traffic awareness trainings to high school students and others. Katie and the group held children's ministries, preached at youth groups, fed the homeless, visited homes for the elderly and children in hospitals and baked Christmas cookies to give out to people living at the dump!

Katie has a heart for every nation, just as God does. When asked about her vision or calling, she said, "I am called to nurture and heal, not only physically but spiritually. I'm called to help bring freedom to people's lives and bring revival to the nations".

So what is next for Katie? She has been called to start a pregnancy crisis center in Mexico! She will be leaving in October and will be located in the center of the country, approximately 5 hours north of Mexico City. A missionary friend in Mexico, with Brilla



Life Ministries, contacted Katie about the idea. At the beginning she thought that this was way beyond anything she could do. She struggled with the idea but eventually threw fear, doubts and her comfort zone out the window and took a leap with God to go to Mexico.

The heart behind the center is to create a safe place for women from poor communities to come and get support, basic healthcare education, education about pregnancy and newborns, prayer and encouragement. She is currently volunteering at a pregnancy crisis center near her hometown to learn all she can about starting a center. She is also gathering supplies, equipment and donations for the center.



*"The size of your dreams must always exceed your current capacity to achieve them."*

Katie Tucker





# GIVE TO THE COVID-19 RELIEF FUND



HIM has continued to receive prayers and funding from our supporters that help us respond to the needs around the world. Assistance is essential in the small villages where COVID-19 is devastating the people living in these remote areas. The children, the poor and the sick are in need of food and supplies. The cries for help we receive are many and often. HIM has responded by sending over \$83,000 to support our PALS during this time.

As the whole world is suffering, you are helping us make an impact in places like India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Himalayan Region in northern India, Nicaragua, Zambia, Brazil and Philippines. We couldn't reach the unreached without your generosity and compassion for others.

Most of the Christians are facing discrimination and

targeted violence and most do not receive help from their government. The local pastors and our PALS help with food

packages and supplies. They reach out when no one else cares. Please consider giving to the COVID-19 Relief fund.





## CONTINUING TO FEED OTHERS EVEN

The people in Pakistan frequently experience a lot of adversity. The summertime normal temperatures are reaching 108° consistently, the worst flooding in years is predicted during the upcoming monsoon season and now they are dealing with COVID-19 which has struck Pakistan hard. There is no livelihood and not enough food. This still does not hold a candle to the persecution of Christian believers that is happening every day. It affects many lives including the life of one of our PALS, N. John.

N. John is coping with the loss of his close friend Nadeem, who was attacked and killed by his anti-Christian neighbor.



Nadeem had been working in another country to make a better living, so that he could support his family and return to Pakistan to buy a house in his hometown. He was fortunate enough to purchase a new home and move his family there a few months ago. However, immediately after moving into the new house, he was confronted by his neighbor, asking whether or not Nadeem was a Muslim. When Nadeem told him that he was a Christian, the neighbor said that no Christians are allowed in his neighborhood. He tried to physically harm Nadeem, and warned him that if he did not move his family out of their home to a new neighborhood there would be consequences. Day by day the situation escalated.

On June 2nd, Nadeem's oldest son was on his way home when he was confronted by one of the neighbor's sons. The neighbor and his son pulled out weapons and made threats to him. Other neighbors intervened and seemed to control the situation. Unfortunately, later that day the neighbors broke into Nadeem's home and opened fire on him and his family. Nadeem was shot twice in the stomach, his mother-in-law was shot in the arm and his brother was shot in the ankle. After five surgeries, Nadeem passed away. It is such a tragedy that a dear friend, father and husband was another target of



*Photo of Nadeem killed for being Christian*





## AFTER THE LOSS OF HIS CLOSE FRIEND



persecution motivated by hate.

Please pray for Nadeem's family, they are traumatized, scared and fear of more attacks. Your prayers of support are needed for all the Christian families living in persecution. If you feel moved to help financially it would make a huge difference in many lives.

The persecution of Christians

is an unrelenting issue globally, and at H.I.M. we continue to prioritize offering support to our brothers and sisters who deal with this suffering as they proclaim Jesus as their Lord.

N. John and his family are doing as much as they can to help the persecuted families as well as the poor and needy families in Pakistan. The Food Distribution Compassion Campaign through their ministry, Bethel Evangelistic Organization, has been able to help over 500 families by providing them with food packages during the Covid-19 lockdown. These families are from three different provinces, five districts, and over 20 towns and villages. It has been extremely impactful to many people in Pakistan.

H.I.M. is asking for help to support their ministry in feeding

another 100 families in three villages of the Lahore District. There is currently a shortage of flour, sugar, cooking oil, and rice in Pakistan. These four ingredients are included in the food packages delivered to the needy population. Due to the shortages, prices to acquire the food supplies have risen.

*Please pray for Nadeem's family, they are traumatized, scared and fear of more attacks.*

Any financial support that can be offered would be greatly appreciated and will go a long way to help them reach their goal of supporting another 100 families in need, while spreading God's word to these families.



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We are a network solely built on the donations of generous people like you. At H.I.M., we steward the gifts we've been given to better communities across the globe. Every little bit helps. **Here are examples of how your donations help those who need it most:**

- Donate \$10** – A Bible given to someone in a developing country.
- Donate \$50** – A month of school, supplies and food for a child.
- Donate \$120** – A sewing machine for someone to earn a steady income.
- Donate \$550** – Provides food, shelter and medicine to an orphanage.
- Donate \$1,000** – Delivers funds to help build a school or church in impoverished communities around the world.

## YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE