



# Heartland International Ministries

Winter 2021



## MEET PASTOR RICHARD

Building and Strengthening  
Communities in North India

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# ROCK STANDING



**Byron Whetstone**  
Executive Director

As the New Year 2021 dawned, I listened to Pastor Mary speak at Homer's Coffeehouse. She used the passage above to explain that for us who believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, God has made this promise. We dwell with God and he dwells with us. For me, to know there is a future day, an amazing future day, that God and I will share a dwelling place, gives me internal reassurance and comfort.

Shortly after this teaching we read John 15:4 in our house church study, where the scripture says "Abide in me and I will abide in you". These are the words of Jesus as he is leaving the Upper Room to willingly serve God and allow for our salvation.

Contemplating words like "dwell" and "abide" conjures up in my mind wonderfully peaceful and calm places to hang-out. Often, in my home I can dwell in front of the fireplace with a book, watching a movie, or holding hands with my wife Jerri.

The dwelling described by the Apostle John however, is a description of being together with God on a new earth, a new heaven, a new Jerusalem all as a result of the return of the Messiah. I often cannot connect with this idea of dwelling with the Lord, but when I pray, study the scripture, and do Kingdom things I get similar feelings of peace and calm. So logically the spiritual maturity that comes from God, is to dwell and practice more of the things that can reveal for us glimpses of the future state of dwelling promised in Revelation.

Abide to me is a stronger word. I fondly remember my children who wanted to hug and snuggle with their "Pops". Still today knowing these are children that God created for me to parent has a keen sense of abiding. The power of this word ABIDE is when Christ defines the word as a two-way commitment. "Abide in me and I in YOU".

Friends, our Lord Jesus in His final words to His followers, even as He was headed to the cross, asks us to remember what He has taught us and then we will share an intimacy with Him. The Holy Spirit will help nurture you toward always being with Him. Always abiding with Him and He will always ABIDE in you.

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

Byron Whetstone, Executive Director

***"And I heard a  
loud voice from  
the throne saying,  
"Behold, the  
dwelling place of  
God is with man. He  
will dwell with them,  
and they will be his  
people and God  
himself will be with  
them as their God."***

*Revelation 21:3*





# SANGA SHARES THE GOSPEL



Our PAL Sanga travels to remote villages sharing the Gospel to unreached people in the jungles of Bangladesh. The people live in extreme poverty and are mostly Buddhists. Since the word of God is very new for them, it was very difficult for them to understand. But they were kind and listened as Sanga shared.

Through the help of the Holy Spirit, the word of God was shared with them. They prayed to God for forgiveness and accepted Jesus Christ as their Lord and personal Savior. We praise God for He has touched the hearts of the unreached people. Please remember them in your prayers and to those who are still living in the darkness.

As Sanga's ministry has grown, he's helped gather materials

and build a church in one of the villages. There are many families living in this village that have become believers. The village is the farthest away from his central ministry. It is situated beside the river and on the border of Myanmar. Now, the families can have prayer meetings, bible

studies, church services, and continue to share the gospel with their neighbors.

More and more people are being baptized as his ministry grows. Please pray for them that they remain faithful and strong in the Lord and to grow spiritually.





# ANSWERING GOD'S CALL TO ZULU'S

by Jerri Whetstone

***"Ok God, I am a 40-something year old housewife from Kansas.  
How can I be of any help to people half way around the world?"***

Those were my thoughts 20 years ago. Boy, did God have some answers for me!



**M**y husband and I had agreed to host a couple of teenage boys from Zambia for a week through our local church. We

thought it would be a fun and educational experience for our three children. Less than an hour into the boys' stay I found there were some serious problems

with the organization that had brought them to the United States. I decided to dig in and see if I could help. That scenario introduced me to J. Zulu from Lusaka, Zambia and quickly thereafter, resulted in his calling to the ministry and my calling to international missions.

Today, Zulu leads the Mountain of Fire Church and Ministries which includes five churches, two schools, and an orphanage which together serve over 400 people in rural Zambia communities. Zulu recently joined Heartland International Ministries as a PALS where he will be able to receive support to assist in operation of the orphanage and schools. Formerly a house





# MINISTRY IN RURAL ZAMBIA



painter, Zulu answered God's call to the ministry and planted his first church in early 2001. Recognizing the need for an affordable answer to the expensive government run schools in Lusaka, Zulu started a one room school which now serves 60 children. In the following years Zulu has planted numerous other churches and outreach ministries with a focus on services to widows and young people from broken families. The ministry opened an orphanage earlier this year. They currently serve 12 young girls.

Over the past 20 years I have developed a deep sense of partnership with Zulu as we have watched God bless and grow the ministry. I have been able to visit on 3 occasions and have even taken my daughter, husband and several others along as well! I didn't have an interest in foreign missions 20 years ago and certainly never dreamed I would be called into action to serve. I am glad that I answered God's call to be a part of the work only He is capable of doing in Zambia. Are you listening for your call?




***“For My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways My ways,’ declares the Lord. ‘As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways and My thoughts than your thoughts. As the rain and the snow come down from Heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater, so is My word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to Me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.”***

***Isaiah 55:8-11***



# FROM FRED'S HEART

nly the SCRIPTURE can explain, express and encourage our lives daily!

*<sup>6</sup>For I am sure of this very thing, that the one who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. Philippians 1:6*

As these 45+ years of frontline radical ministry have slipped by, the body, soul and spirit have endured much abuse! "Life is but a vapor" (James 4:14) The reality of hurts, wounds, disappointments, and pain are very REAL in the realm of spiritual WARFARE. (Ephesians 6:12)

With my BIG family (4 grown kids, 23 grandkids & great grandkids) and the growing number of indigenous H.I.M. Partners, there are endless financial, legal and practical issues daily on my heart and mind. We need your prayers and help! The amazing Board of Directors and team that Byron Whetstone and Joni Miller have assembled to carry on the organization and ministry is beyond my wildest dreams!! PRAISE THE LORD!! With such integrity, quality, guidelines and memberships, our ministry is a great place to make eternal investments!! "... Lay your treasures up in heaven..." (Matthew 6:19-21)

*<sup>15</sup>It is true that some preach Christ out of envy and rivalry, but others out of goodwill. <sup>16</sup>The latter do so out of love, knowing that I am put here for the defense of the gospel.*

*<sup>17</sup>The former preach Christ out of selfish ambition, not sincerely, supposing that they can stir up trouble for me while I am in chains.*

*<sup>18</sup>But what does it matter? The important thing is that in every way, whether from false motives or true, Christ is preached. And because of this I rejoice. Philippians 1:15-18*

In the last ten months I have been in five countries, 20+ churches, traveled over 20,000 miles in the US and abroad, and somehow MOVED AGAIN! Plans are already in motion to be in Nicaragua, India and Africa in the next year. My role as Minister-at-Large is keeping me busy! We believe YOUR prayers and partnership will strengthen and empower thousands that look to HIM for provisions and oversight. We juggle so much to keep magnifying the Lord in every way possible. Barb and I are super grateful for you who stand with us and HIM in

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these days of adjustment and advancement! THANK YOU SO MUCH! Please let us know that you are "listening"!

*<sup>21</sup>For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain. <sup>22</sup>If I am to go on living in the body, this will mean fruitful labor for me. Yet what shall I choose? I do not know! <sup>23</sup>I am torn between the two: I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far; <sup>24</sup>but it is more necessary for you that I remain in the body. Philippians 1:21-24*





# PASTOR RICHARD IS BUILDING COMMUNITIES

Pastor Richard is an influential pastor and leader working in north India. For decades he has built relationships and planted churches. He now oversees and mentors a large network of pastors.

His passion is supporting rural villages with outreach, training, supporting young pastors and planting churches. Under his direction his ministry is building communities in remote areas by distributing food to families and children in need.

Throughout the Covid-19 pandemic, they've sent face masks, soap, hand sanitizer, and other supplies to the villages. Pastor Richard's ministry provided a woman with a bike to start her business, trained girls and women how to sew and gave them sewing machines to support themselves. He distributed used clothes to remote villages and orphans.



By meeting the immediate needs of the families, training believers, communities are built and strengthened. To start their businesses, and empowering men and women



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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:**

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

**YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE**