



Heartland International Ministries

Fall 2022

NEW STORIES START HERE



BUILDING CHURCHES
DESPITE PERSECUTION IN NIGERIA

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ROCK STANDING



Byron Whetstone
Executive Director

Sometimes random words from scripture enter my daily journey with the Lord. As I was preparing to write this note to all of you, I was concerned about a few worldly things going on in my life and the words “do not be anxious” came to mind. I know these words well and often reference them in my prayers. I often pray from Philippians 4:6 which has these words, but I was reminded in my search for these words

that it is also referenced in Matthew 6. I was comforted by the passage from Matthew, and the entire chapter 6 from Matthew warmed my heart. This chapter includes Jesus’ instruction about prayer. The Lord’s Prayer. This, for a few years now, has become a daily habit for me and God directed me to the best place to ease my anxious mind and remind me of the solace I find in his word, through prayer. This series of thoughts and connections was God directing me to a special place in the scripture as an answered prayer.

Most of us, I think, struggle with worry from time-to-time and we have become so good at worrying that our minds and our hearts need scripture study and prayer as a place of relief. God is so direct in Matthew 6:33, “seek first the Kingdom of God and his righteousness”, and then whatever you are concerned about will be removed by the grace of the cross of Christ. My friends, H.I.M. is inundated every day with needs from around the world. Requests for medical help, feeding programs, disaster relief, ministry support and human capital. This is the role we play in partnership with global pastors who will share with us their most intense needs and hopes. At H.I.M. we share burdens across the planet with those who need sustenance to survive. Will you be an answer to an impoverished mother’s prayer for her children? I pray for that.

To God Be the Glory.

Amen

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

Byron Whetstone, Executive Director

***“But seek first
the kingdom
of God and his
righteousness, and
all these things will
be added to you.
Therefore, do not
be anxious about
tomorrow, for
tomorrow will be
anxious for itself”***

Matthew 6:33-34

BECOMING SELF-SUFFICIENT

The Livelihood Initiative was established with a vision to help our ministry partners be self-sufficient by giving them an opportunity to start their own business. We help launch the business by giving them a one-time investment. The businesses that are started help support their ministries, families and the needs of their community which enables economic sustainability. With donor support we're able to fund their projects that help create a lasting economic, educational, and humanitarian impact around the world. **That's why it's so important for you to get to know some of the amazing people that we call partner and friend.**



Suraraj in India

Our partner Suraraj is a passionate mission partner of H.I.M. He

is planting house churches for the unreached people group in the villages in eastern India. He continues to build relationships through the day care centers he is operating and the Teach For Odisha hostel for secondary students. With H.I.M. support, Suraraj opened a garment shop (Mercina Garments) to help sustain his family and ministry. Mercina Garments is now a thriving business in the local market and working on competing consistently with other businesses. The peak time for his business is during the Hindu Dussehra Festival in October and the Christmas Season in December. Please pray for Suraraj and for his business, that it will continue to grow for the glory of God.



LIVELIHOOD WITH LIVESTOCK



Vinay's PAVE Ministry

Since 2007, Vinay has been empowering the poorest communities of North and Central India. His ministry, People in Action for Virtuous Empowerment (PAVE) is a Christian Non-Governmental Organization. PAVE supports people in India by providing care for the whole person; social, emotional and spiritual well-being. The partnership with H.I.M. helps raise funds for struggling pastors to start businesses. By helping pastors become self-sufficient allows them to share the Gospel to the many poor and unreached people in India. A computer business center, garment & tailoring shops, taxi & e-rickshaw, and a dairy farm are just a few of the businesses that we have helped start. Please help us pray for the continued support needed for this amazing livelihood initiative.

Prasad's Investment

Our partner Prasad is a second-generation missionary in India. His parents have been in ministry for over 50 yrs. Prasad's mission work is growing in the remote villages throughout India where most are unreached people groups. His vision is not only caring for the orphans, growing the house churches, and spreading the gospel throughout India, but growing the livelihood initiative. H.I.M. gave a seed investment for one of the local pastors and his wife to start a goat farm to support their family. The livelihood project started last year with 10 goats to support new Christians, and now they have more than 16 goats.

Three village women are helping care for the goats and they are selling the goat milk at the market. Prasad has a vision of helping new believers come out of poverty by growing the Livelihood Initiative to start chicken and cow farms as well.



TEACHING SKILLS TO NEW BELIEVERS



Naeem and Ruby in Pakistan

Naeem and his wife Ruby are serving the Lord in Pakistan. Despite the threats of death and constant persecution, Naeem and Ruby have been sharing the Gospel with tremendous courage and

wisdom. In Northern Pakistan they teach and disciple new believers through their social programs. Through the livelihood initiative, they address the issue of poverty in communities by teaching women the skill of sewing and tailoring clothes. They

are also distributing sewing machines to help women start their own business. With support from Naeem and Ruby, families have been helped with starting goat and cow farms. The sale of milk supports their families and others in the community.



HYDERABAD SCHOOL TEACHES TAILORING

PK Moses Reducing Poverty

Pastor PK has a great passion in seeing the reduction of poverty in his community through his sewing school for women and a computer class for young people. PK's church is located in the slum of Hyderabad. With his leadership of livelihood initiatives, poor women are receiving the needed skills to start a business and earn a living. At graduation from the school, they receive a new sewing machine to start their own business. As the women learn tailoring skills, they are also listening to the story of Jesus. In August of this year, 11 women graduated from the tailoring school. These women are happy and blessed to have



the training in the school. PK's wife is also involved, and she shares the love of God to the students. There are currently 12 women enrolled in the 100-

day class (about 3 and a half months). Teaching these women a skill will assist in keeping them safe from human trafficking.



BUILDING CHURCHES ACROSS THE GLOBE

Our partners, along with H.I.M, advance the Gospel in mostly unreached and impoverished nations around the world. Together, we are dedicated to helping the poor, sick and unreached. There are currently more than 1,500 churches across the globe that we have assisted, and we continue to enable others to build churches in countries such as Nepal, Pakistan, India, Nigeria, Philippines, Zambia, Bangladesh and many others. **We are excited to share with you a few of the stories from our partners and friends.**

Sanga in Bangladesh

Our partner Sanga is working among some of the unreached indigenous tribes in remote villages of Bangladesh. His church planting work has continued to grow, and his outreach ministry is bearing



fruits among the Mru, Khumi, Kiang, Tripura, Chak and Chakma tribal groups. God is using his ministry to bring the gospel to these unreached people of Bangladesh.

Sanga has seen the rising level of hostility and restrictions by the government on religious

beliefs and practices in the country. However, amid the resistance, the Lord is opening the hearts of the people for the Word of God. New believers are eager to hear the gospel and are coming to the Lord. Most of these new believers can't read or write, and some of their languages have no written script. Sanga and his team have translated several books and worship songs into the local languages. They have organized medical outreaches to distribute medicine as well as distributed clothes in the villages. This has been very effective in reducing superstition and has allowed Sanga to gain trust of the villagers. Through his work he has touched the hearts of the unreached people.



GROWING NIGERIAN CONGREGATIONS



people and the building can no longer accommodate them. Worshipers are sitting outside in overflow, make-shift canopies during worship.

The village churches in Kebbi and Niger states in North Western Nigeria are thriving. Recently our team visited the field to teach the local church leaders, deliver the motor bikes to the Pastors that were purchased for them by H.I.M., as well as distributed clothes and shoes to the villagers. These villages have been neglected by the government and are regularly persecuted. Since they chose to become Christians, their communities have no clean water, accessible roads, electricity, or schools provided by the government. The church is now helping the village children with a school in the church.

Albert in Nigeria

The year 2022 has been a year of amazing church growth in Kaduna Nigeria. The church auditorium expansion project was started earlier this year and then another expansion project was carried out several months later

to accommodate the growing congregation. A revival is certainly going on with people traveling from outside Kaduna to come worship. More than 120 people have given their lives to Christ in the first half of this year. The Church has grown from 200 to over 400



CHRISTIAN RELIEF FOR THE POOR

Diku in India and Nepal

Diku is carrying on the ministry started by his father in the Northern part of India and Nepal. He and his family operate a Christian school which has earned him the trust and respect of the Muslim neighbors. They take care of two churches; one is at his house. The two churches, which are located on the Nepal border, need a proper place of worship. They have been serving their community with education programs and providing relief materials for the poor. Their ministry is thriving among both Muslims and Hindu worshipers. Diku is a gifted musician and with a love for children, he provides them with snacks and teaches them songs as he shares the gospel.



Ramayon in India

The Shalom Ministry Centre in India was established by our partner Ramayon and his wife Rimis to care for rural children sent to the city for school. They built a hostel for girls to provide them a safe place to stay as well as to receive support for their spiritual and physical

needs. They host classes and provide a feeding program for other children in the community.

Ramayon recently baptized 16 new Christians that are now actively involved in the church. Ramis and Ramayon along with their family are respected Christian leaders working among the Naga people of India.



MUSIC AND LITERATURE OUTREACH



Pastor Lawrence

The ministry of Pastor Lawrence is a family calling and their labor of love in the community attracts thousands all over India. He has trained dozens of pastors who are leading house churches in dozens of communities and villages across India. Their influence in the community is tremendous.

Lawrence and his children lead worship through Christian gospel music and have recently released an album that has reached over 284,865 people.

They reach 30-50 thousand people through their Facebook Live program where they share the word of God. The friendship and trust between Lawrence and Fred is more than 40 years. In 1983 Fred gave Lawrence \$25 to purchase a small parcel of land. This small investment has now grown to include a home and Ministry Center for thousands of people. Please pray for the medical challenges and needs for Lawrence and his family

Surendra in Nepal

Surendra has an organization that monitors the cross border in Nepal against trafficking of vulnerable girls for prostitution. He helps them and leads them to Christ. Surendra's passion is seeing Nepali Christians have access to Christian literature. This has led him to translate the Kingstone Bible that includes 12 Books. This is a graphic adaptation of



the stories in the Bible. Since most unreached people in Nepal cannot read, he has also translated two books by Roy Hession, "We Would See Jesus" and "When I Saw Him"



into the Nepali language. Surendra's ministry is committed to reaching remote villages in Nepal, distributing audio Bibles to the local villagers and handing out picture Bibles to children in the area. Many lives are transformed through their mission. His ministry partner Lucky is filled with zeal and passion to reach out to the people with the gospel in the streets of the capital and several other cities outside Kathmandu.



FROM VICKY'S HEART

Why does Heartland International Ministries (H.I.M.) exist and is it still needed?

Of course! HIM started in 2001 with a heart and their sites on the unreached people across the globe. There was a need for a mission organization to help Indigenous Christian pastors reach the unreached in their countries. Having an accountable agency to be a part of, and to be able to receive financial support for their ministries was desperately needed. There are a lot of mission agencies that help American missionaries go to other countries to serve the Lord there. Before these missionaries can really serve in other countries, they need to spend a lot of time

learning the language, culture and customs. HIM exists so that indigenous Christian workers can minister to the people in their own country. They can start serving the unreached and their communities right away. Of course, HIM has a few American workers who leave the U.S. to serve in another country or are serving here in the states. But most of the PALS are nationals in other countries.

It's been exciting to see how a few indigenous partners, working under the wing of H.I.M., have had such incredible growth around the world! What a blessing to hear the stories of these pastors/workers that have discipled so many others and caused the work of the Lord

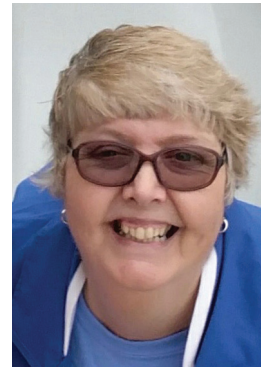
to grow and reach even more people for Jesus Christ!

Thank you for being a part of the H.I.M. ministry with your faithful financial support and/or prayer support! Your partnership in these needy ministries around the world means so much to so many!

Vicky Rogers

"And this gospel of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout

the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come." Matthew 24:14



FROM FRED'S HEART

It was such a privilege to have one of our PALS, Prasad George from India, here at our office and at my home recently. I worked with his father almost 50 years ago in India and Prasad as a young boy, was assigned to watch me every morning as I took off alone to find chai in the streets of India!! Now, Prasad and his wife Susan, oversee a thriving orphanage with almost 40 boys and a staff that is growing. They minister to many local churches in their area and recently had a gathering at the orphanage with over 50 pastors praying all

night!! The orphanage operates by the Livelihood work projects that the boys take care of; the gardens, cows, chickens, and the endless maintenance and care for the buildings and property. With the many power outages that happen regularly they are in need of a quality generator for the orphanage. Let us know if you would like to be part of that project.

And so, with the unthinkable devastation this week from hurricane Ian in Florida, we pause with sober thoughts and feelings about a world in such

chaos. As Proverbs 3:5-6 says in such a universal and timeless manner..."trust in the Lord with all of your heart, and lean not to your own understanding, but in all your ways acknowledge HIM, and He will direct your path".

Thank you so much for being a part of H.I.M. with us!!

**PRAISE
THE
LORD!!**



H.I.M.
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GIFTS FROM THE HEART

There are times in this life's journey when words cannot express the feelings of our heart. A gift was made in thoughtful memory of or in honor of the special loved ones & friends. Please contact our office if you would like to honor your loved ones.

Skip Phelps
Elaine Wilson
Buddy Kornis
Nancy Reese
Gary Sileg

Charlotte McCormick
Rodd Graham
Roberta Jones
Lillian Carter

Pat Kamm
Joyce Bales
June Gaw
Don Trewett

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

The Pillar of Promise Fund

This fund was created to ensure the financial stability of Heartland International Ministries. Our goal of \$1,000,000 to sustain the commitment to our pillars of Sharing the Gospel, Building Communities, and Doing Good Work will allow the work of H.I.M. to carry on for decades to come.

Funding Initiatives

We provide immediate and critical funding around the world. Our funding supports orphanages and schools, delivers emergency aid, launches livelihood projects, and helps with mission/church planting. All to make an impact and advocate for human dignity.

Education – Support for education will help schools, orphanages, and scholarships across the globe. It is vital to building better communities.

Livelihood – Support for livelihoods will help start businesses that support ministries, families, and the needs of the global community.

Mission and Church Planting – Support for Mission/Church Planting advances the Gospel in the unreached and impoverished nations around the world.

Disaster Relief – Support for disaster relief helps meet the physical & spiritual needs of others during times of crisis. It is one of our most immediate priorities.



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