



Volume 3, Issue 2

Beauty for Ashes

Children's Medical Ministries

SOWING SEEDS IN INDIA

To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion,
to give unto them beauty for ashes,
the oil of joy for mourning,
the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness;
that they might be called trees of righteousness,
the planting of the Lord,
that he might be glorified.

Isaiah 61:3

Sam Gunti, Director of Children's Ministries in Hyderabad, India, has learned how to get his ministry into Hindu villages by using puppets.

The puppets are popular with the children and eventually they get the attention of the village parents. Sam is then able to start a Kid's Club which paves the way for him to teach the CMM primary healthcare program from the King's Kids Good Life Guides that includes scripture verses. He also gives them much-needed vitamins and healthcare kits. The adults are so taken in by the impact this has on the children that they invite Sam to continue ministering in their village. Many people have come to know Christ by this method which has enabled Sam to start churches in five villages.

Bill Collins and **Alvin Miller** recently went to India and assisted Sam in conducting three

free medical and health clinics. Because of religious differences, the Muslims will not integrate into the health clinics so children's chewable multiple vitamins, Good Life Guides and health kits are issued to them in separate locations at their invitation.

Amazingly, 1,200 people were ministered to through medicine, Good Life Guides, health kits, eye glasses and vitamins. Another 1,300 people witnessed the *Jesus Film* under the direction and coordination of Pastor Jacob and his son, Jacobson. That's a lot of "good seed" planted in three 18-hour days!

It is very hot in India and many people have to walk a long way to get their water. CMM is seeking funds to dig wells for water in villages where churches are being built or have already been built. One well can be drilled for \$550, and can support an entire village!



Did You Know . . . 32% of children who hear the gospel between the ages of 5-13 will accept Christ. After that the percentage drops to 4%.



From Jihad to Jesus

Tass, (Taysir Abu Saada), was raised as a Muslim in Jetta, Saudi Arabia. His family moved there in 1948 as refugees from the former Palestinian Mandate, after Israel was declared a state.

The middle eastern saying, "a man without land is a man without honor", was a deep wound to him, and he grew up angry, hating Jews so much that after the 1967 war, he went back to Israel and became a **Fatah fighter** and **sniper**, running raids against military targets in Israel, and even training 10 and 11 yr old boys in the refugee camps of Lebanon to shoot and bomb, and hate.

Still full of hatred, and alienated from his family, who hadn't wanted him to do any of this, he came to America in 1974, and married an American woman. He secretly planned to divorce her after he got his green card, but the marriage somehow lasted. Tass admits that she was a good and faithful wife, but that he mistreated her and was unfaithful.

During this time he worked his way up from busboy to manager of a fine restaurant, where 85% of the patrons were Jewish. He still hated them, and fantasized about poisoning their food.

There was one regular customer, named Charlie Sharpe, who had been

noticing him and being kind to him since his busboy days.

In the early 90's, Tass confided in Charlie that he was fearful of moving the restaurant to an otherwise ideal building that used to be a funeral home. Tass was afraid of ghosts.

Charlie said, "Tass, you feel that way because you don't have the fear of God in you. But not to worry Tass, I can help you with that. I have a connection. And he pointed his finger up to the sky." Tass scoffed and walked away.

Finally, after three weeks of turmoil and restlessness, Tass asked Charlie to tell him about this connection. Charlie told him, there was a Jew he would have to learn to love, and told him about Jesus Christ. This was, to say the least, a difficult decision, but Tass accepted Jesus as his Savior.

Then the most amazing thing happened. When Tass told his son, Ben, about his conversion, he learned that Ben had accepted Christ three months earlier and had set up a secret network of believers to pray for his father.

Eventually Tass' wife also came to accept the love of Christ. Tass still grieves for his family in Saudi Arabia, because he knows that his conversion has been a great shame to them, but he doesn't allow that grief to overcome his joy.

"We're all serving the Lord," he says. "My son, my wife, my daughter—we're all ministers serving Him and we're so



grateful for His mercy. His love and mercy found us. Praise his name. When He came into my heart, I felt truly what love is, because He is love. When He truly comes to a person's heart, He brings that love with Him."

*Condensed from a CBN story at
www.hopeforishmael by Penny Henderson.*

Editor's note . . .

Tass and Bill Collins, both having military backgrounds, enjoyed a great time of fellowship during their initial meeting. They discussed the possibility if co-laboring through ministry in Iraq, Jordan, Israel and the Palestinian community.

Tass delivered medicine and medical supplies into Baghdad for CMM and has invited Bill Collins and Mary Tieken to join him on his next trip to Iraq.

Tass has a real burden on his heart to reach out to the Muslims and the Jews who have not yet received Christ. Please pray that the U.S. Government will give permission for Tass to bring 20 orphan children from Iraq and 4 from Egypt to the U.S. to reside near him in Heartland, Missouri.



New Resource!!

GOD LOVES YOU! is the title of a new tri-fold brochure developed by CMM and designed for the HIV program to be distributed to teenagers in developing countries. The brochure stresses abstinence and also addresses proper use of the toilet, handwashing, and drug abuse (sniffing glue). It is available in Spanish and has been distributed in Zambia, Kenya, Haiti and India.

An original is available for your duplication. E-mail or phone your request to childmed@olg.com or 301-261-3211.

Hope Floats

A mission trip report by Dr. Dan Jones and Chris Santo

Another successful Amazon Hope medical mission has come and gone! This past July a group of 9 "passengers" (i.e., short-term missionaries) from Alabama, California, and Maryland gathered together in Iquitos, Peru. Among the younger members of this group were two medical students, a pre-med student, and a high school student. All were eager to help and to learn, and we were able to treat more than 700 medical/dental patients.

Among the highlights.... In Iquitos, we met with the precious young lady whom we had helped during our last visit by removing an extra digit from her right hand (see *Beauty for Ashes* Vol. 3 Issue 1). It has healed nicely and, as promised, we presented her with a bottle of bright-red fingernail polish!

In the jungle, we met with a local Peruvian doctor, **Jose Lozano**, who works in one of the larger villages in the area. Unfortunately, Dr. Lozano has no medicine with which to treat his people and is watching many of them die from pneumonia. The doctor, the village council and I came together to discuss what could be done to help. The decision was made to give Dr. Lozano some medicines, and he, in return, agreed to dispense them without charge. To further demonstrate the good faith of these people, a typewriter (very old) was produced, and two copies of the agreement were made (no carbon). Graciously, Dr. Lozano helped us by seeing patients on the Amazon Hope for two days. I hope this relationship is the beginning of further cooperation throughout the jungle. We would like to see more Peruvians helping Peruvians, with the Amazon Hope providing support and encouragement.

The two villages we visited were Clavero and Libertad where the evangelism team introduced the parables of Jesus to the children through puppetry. Each child was then given a Kings Kid Good Life Guide and crayons and a toothbrush. CMM donated an LCD projector to the Amazon Hope ministry in order to show the *Jesus Film* and *God's Plan for Man* videos on the boat in the evening. One night there was like a mini plague of flying grasshoppers that were very annoying to us but the people in the villages, who came to see the videos, took it all in their stride. It seemed like they were more interested in watching the life and death of Jesus Christ than escaping the insects.

For information on future trips, contact Dr. Dan Jones at amazonhope@comcast.net or call Bill Collins at 301-261-3211.



Families wait on the deck of the Amazon Hope to see the doctor.

In the hull of the Amazon Hope, Dr. Dan Jones examines this child in order to make an accurate diagnosis.



This awful snakebite was treated by the medical team on the Amazon Hope.

Children love coloring in the Kings Kids Good Life Guides. These Guides are used as a primary healthcare/evangelism tool.



The children of this village sent a special thank you to Dr. John Higgins of Bethesda, Md for his generous donation of toothbrushes.

Annoying insects couldn't keep this crowd away from watching the *Jesus Film*.



This is the original look of the Amazon Hope when she first arrived from Scotland.

This is the "new look" after an extensive refurbishment in June, 2003.



Spotlight On A Share Partner

Ron and his wife, **Marie**, have spent 50 years serving the Lord. 30 of those years in full-time ministry overseas in India, Bangladesh and Ethiopia. As orthopaedic surgeon and nurse at ages 84 and 87, they gave up their overseas service.



Ron tells us his story in his own words. "I did my undergraduate, medical and orthopaedic residency at Oklahoma. I spent almost 2 years in practice in Satanta, Kansas to get out of debt and save a little money to go as a missionary. My mission board sent us to the Christian Medical College in North India to start an orthopaedic department and help teach medical students.

I closed my practice and left with a jeep and all of our belongings. We spent Christmas with my wife's mother before we were to depart from New York. Our mission board asked us on Christmas Day to go to Maryville, TN as a church there wanted to take on part of our support. We had to drive all night to get there to speak at their church. My wife was driving and we went over the side of the mountain. I was asleep with a 4-year-old boy and a 5-year-old girl on my lap. We were not injured but my wife lay in a coma for 5 days before she died.

Everyone told me that I could not go to India with these two children but I know that the Lord had called me and was with me, so I went. After 2 years, the Lord gave me a widowed missionary lady as a wife. We've been married for 48 years.

We have had a wonderful life. I want to encourage everyone to put full faith in our Lord and serve Him full time."

Ron & Marie manage the orthopaedic warehouse for CMM and Christian Orthopaedic Partners, supplying mission hospitals with necessary world-wide orthopaedic supplies.

Rat Child survives

by Dr. Mary Tieken

Vanessa Gomez lives at Acphes Suesca which is a home for abandoned and disabled children approximately two hours from Bogota, Colombia. Vanessa is about 15 years old, though she looks much younger. She has been living in a shelter for unwanted children for ten years and has never known any family.

She was found living in a tunnel and her appearance when found was similar to a rat. She lived with rats and when she arrived at the shelter she bit everything and everybody. She has now overcome that behavior. She was the first person to arrive at this facility. She cannot speak and does not understand when spoken to. She has some use of her limbs but is losing more control. When she arrived, she could crawl but is no longer able to do so and is confined to a wheelchair.

CMM and Hope Haven provided Vanessa with a wheelchair.



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Giving to Children's Medical Ministries in memory of a friend or loved one can keep the memory of that individual alive through the lives of those to whom we minister. Giving a gift in recognition of a special occasion is also an excellent way to honor a living friend or relative. Thank you for remembering CMM in this way.

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Servant**



Dorothy Swenson Barnett was born on April 20, 1911 in West Hartford, Connecticut. Her Godly parents, Malcolm and Helen Swenson, demonstrated their interest in the Lord's work overseas by frequently entertaining missionaries in their home. So from an early age Dorothy began to prepare herself for missionary service.

In 1930 Dorothy graduated from Teachers Training College and went on to teach 8 grades in a country school for one year. Not an easy task for a new teacher, but one that certainly prepared her for teaching children in Kenya.

Because Dorothy knew the Lord had called her to be a missionary she decided to enroll at Moody Bible Institute to complete her Bible training. At one point Dorothy felt the Lord was leading her to India, but the doors did not open and instead she worked for her home church for three years as a city missionary after graduating from Moody in 1935. During this time she met Ruth Trusdale, an Africa Inland Mission (AIM) missionary who was working with girls at Kijabe. Ruth told her about the school and the need for teachers. Dorothy heard the call and by August, 1938, she found herself at Kijabe serving with AIM. She taught in the girl's school along with learning Kikuyu and Swahili until 1941.

It was while **Paul Barnett** was at Kijabe learning Swahili, that he first became acquainted with Dorothy. The Lord drew Paul and Dorothy together and on September 22, 1941 they were married. They moved to Eldama Ravine where Paul was already assigned to do church planting and evangelism. Soon **Helen, Carl and Pat** were added to the family. Dorothy started a good Sunday school program and taught in the local primary school. She also reached out to women through Bible study and sewing classes, and took care of the district church and school accounts.

In 1963, Paul and Dorothy felt called to Turkana to help with a new work at Kolokol. After six months they joined Ruth Collins, Paul's sister, at Liter in the Kerio Valley. There they were involved in church planting and Dorothy continued her role as a teacher of the children and women.

In 1973, they changed ministry focus, and moved to Kijabe to care for the guest house. Dorothy also taught in the Rift Valley Academy grade school, and helped missionaries learn Kikuyu and Swahili.

When Paul and Dorothy Barnett retired in 1991, they moved back to Eldama Ravine (Sunrise Acres). For 10 years, Dorothy served with what strength she had, often playing the organ for church, keeping active with the women, and making visitors welcome with a cup of tea.

For the last 2 years of her life, now in her 90's, Dorothy was still able to welcome friends to their home. It was always an encouragement when a Kenyan friend would say, "Oh, I remember you taught me in Sunday School." Well done, Dorothy, your labor for the Lord Jesus has born much fruit. We who know the Lord look forward to seeing you again in Heaven!

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Collins Comments

During a recent CMM mission delivery trip to Lakeland, Florida and five other places in the Southeast, Alvin Miller and Lynn Stephens (CMM Area Representative and Consulting Director) made a rest stop at the Plantation House on I-75 in south Georgia.

As they were checking out of the service station, a young woman, one of two cashiers, asked Lynn if he was in the truck hauling a trailer with the words "Save a Child" on the side. Responding yes that he was, she asked if she could make a contribution. Bunnie certainly touched our hearts with her quick response and acts of caring and compassion toward wanting to help the poor and needy disabled children around the world. At this point, we asked her if she would agree to have a photo taken with Lynn next to the trailer.

No one knows the sacrifice that Bunnie made but it certainly inspired us as we continued on our mission trip.

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Mission Statement

Children's Medical Ministries is a compassionate ministry of 700 health-care professionals who have the common objective of sharing God's love with those whose lives are in "ashes" and who only need the "Beauty of Christ" to make them whole again. Our primary objective is to exalt Jesus Christ through the God-given "gifts" that we each possess.

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