



Pointing the Way to the Cross Internationally



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Addendum for CrossWay Water for Life proposal

Water Wells – The powerful Magnet for Life!

How CrossWay Water for Life Impacts Lives

We recently sent you a fairly detailed explanation of how we hope to get this new division of CrossWay Water for Life up and running. This addendum is for those who may not clearly know our main purpose and goal. It may be useful in sharing with those who are not familiar with CrossWay International and our passion.

Helping people physically is often the starting place for opening up a region for meeting the needs of the truly hurting and the lost. The 549 orphans we care for, the Medical Clinics we have, the agricultural and animal husbandry training, and even our CrossWay Christian School are all dependent on clean and safe drinking water. Unfortunately, in all of these situations, clean and safe water does not naturally occur and must be sourced by drilling a well and installing a pump.

Besides the obvious goal of saving lives physically and preventing all kinds of suffering from water-borne diseases, dehydration, and even death, the main thrust is to gain a hearing for the gospel.

Even with the limited number of wells we have drilled (six, to date), we have seen good results, and the potential for impact is great. To achieve this maximum potential and impact, however, we need your help.

In Sudan, in January of 2008, we drilled 3 wells in the village where our 549 orphans now live near Darfur. CrossWay International is the sole supporter and care-giver to these orphans. These water wells are what prompted the people to send the orphans to this village near Darfur. They see a support line and grab hold of it. These wells provide clean drinking water for these orphans and have enabled us to start the CrossWay Christian School—a school where all 10 of their teachers are believers. Right now, the only book they have is the English New Testament, which is a great way to introduce the kids to Christ!

As we read in James 1:27, “Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress ...” It is our hope and desire to see each of these precious

orphans come to faith in Christ. Dean has explained the gospel to the children several times. He also sends in materials to instruct the teachers how to share the clear message of the gospel, including the important teaching on eternal security, which is often missing in most Christian denominations in Africa. And it is also our hope and desire to train up these orphans to be an army for God to take the gospel to the surrounding villages and beyond. What greater army of evangelists could we ever find?

In addition to the impact on these orphans, the people's excitement over clean drinking water has enabled us to hold 3 pastors' conferences in this same village. The first one was held in May 2007, and Dean taught the first 135 pastors and evangelists by himself. Many of these leaders had never learned how to present a clear gospel message. They were untrained and hungry to learn. In this first pastor's conference in Sudan, he taught his "Make It Clear!" Seminar, which teaches in great detail on the clarity of the gospel and how to reach the lost. Some of the pastors walked 6 days to come to this event, which was a very humbling experience for Dean. The impact will no doubt be felt in this region for years to come as these pastors and evangelists take this teaching back to their villages and minister to their neighbors.

In 2010, we have an open door to return to Sudan, and we are seeking American pastors to travel to this area and teach as God leads. The water wells provided through CrossWay International serve as a constant reminder of God's kindness, and it is God's kindness that leads one to repentance or faith in Christ (Rom. 2:4).

In Ethiopia, Dean has had many opportunities to share the gospel and instruct pastors in evangelism. He has noticed an increase in interest when he offers to come and help in teaching and evangelistic events when it is coupled with the drilling of water wells. As James 2 says, our faith is dead if we simply tell folks to be warmed and be filled without attending to their physical needs.

As of 2010, we have drilled only one well in our compound for our Medical Clinic in Meki. Melaku Abebe, our Northeast Africa Director for CrossWay International, is working to have this clinic approved by the Ethiopian government. Once this is accomplished, the clinic will attract a whole host of people as it will help serve this small city of 60,000 with free, safe drinking water. The main recipients of this life-giving water and care are the mothers and children in this city, as there is a great lack of clean water and no other medical facility to care for them.

Melaku shared also with Dean his vision to start a school on this compound and thereby reach even more vulnerable children and families. This outreach would not be attainable without a water well to attract and support those attending. He is also arranging another pastors' conference in 2010 for Dean to teach and host some evangelistic events. The CrossWay International water well serves as a visible testimony of our love and commitment to this community.

Melaku wrote me recently:

"I remember when we went down to Meki as a team for the first time to serve the community over there holistically, both spiritually and physically. Dean was training Christian leaders on the importance of cutting through the confusion in the work of evangelism. The 'Make it Clear' seminar conducted over there was an eye opening moment for all those who attended it. Thank you Dean!

On the other side of town, the Medical team, led by Dr. Katie Buck, also helped treat those beautiful kids in the village. However, the report from the Medical team was heartbreaking, as most of the kids suffered from diseases related to water and hygiene. Consequently, the team agreed on the importance of establishing a clinic and supplying a clean water source for the community. Finally, by the grace of God

and the generous gift of God's family at Crossway International USA, a water well was drilled and serves this need today for free water.”

In Kenya, CrossWay International has recently partnered with Real For Christ (Chris Moore) who has established a church in Mombasa, Kenya. CrossWay International drilled a water well in May of 2009 that now serves his church and surrounding community. As a result of our help with this water well, Dean will be in Mombasa April 3-6, 2010 to teach a pastors conference to around 150 pastors and hold some evangelistic events.

Chris recently wrote me the following:

“Most of us take for granted the necessity of water. It’s not until you are somewhere where there is no source of water or the only water source is unfit for drinking that you realize just how important it is. Last week, while in a distant village on the south coast, I went down to the local watering hole where everyone who lives within several miles comes for water. It is there they wash their clothes, bathe, care for their livestock and sadly, gather buckets of drinking water. Most people in America wouldn’t give this water to their pet dog, yet it is the only water these people have.

This was the case for the village of Mtepeni. The only water source for miles around was a shallow water well down the road from our church. The water was unfit to drink but the people had no other choice. Some say that over 80% of illness and death here in Kenya is directly related to the water people are forced to drink. When we started evangelizing and working with the local people of the church, one of our first priorities was to get clean water into the area. That’s when we met Bob Nicol, the Engineer with Crossway International who was with us on a Summer Missions Trip. His heart was broken for the people and their need for Christ and their need for clean water. Several trips later, about a year later, Bob was able to drill a borehole about 130 ft deep there on the church property. The water that came up from the ground was not only pure and drinkable but it was cold and sweet!

Since that day, thousands of people from miles away have come to get water from our church property everyday of the week. When the women arrive with jugs on their head and the men arrive with several jugs on their bicycles, we get a chance to meet them and when the opportunity avails itself, we share Christ with them.

The village of Mtepeni has been forever changed because of this generous gift of water from Crossway International. Not only is it the best drinking water source in the area but it is also a place where people can come, rest and hear about a God that loves them. It’s just like the Samaritan woman at the well; she came to get drinking water and left with LIVING WATER. As a fulltime missionary here in Kenya, I am truly blessed to have friends like Dean and Bob who help us make a difference in the lives of these people.”

In Tanzania, we have had the privilege to work with African Inland Mission (AIM). Tony and Cath Swanson requested a water well for a compound they are developing to serve as a model for the 17 missionaries with AIM that he oversees. While the well was being drilled, Tony set up a pastors’ conference of 60 people for Dean to teach, and Bob Nicol, our CrossWay International Engineer, not only oversaw the drilling of this well in November 2009, but passed out colored beads for bracelets to some 60 school kids and used them to explain the gospel.

Tony recently wrote me the following:

“The bore hole at Sanga Sanga which you recently drilled will allow for the development of our Institute Retreat Center. Here in the foothills of the Uluguru Mountains for around 200 pastors from the Africa Inland Church in Tanzania. They will attend seminars that aim to deepen their walk with God and encourage greater effectiveness in their outreach. As part of our program we teach evangelism, looking

at innovative ways of sharing the good news about Jesus with tribes and peoples who as yet are little reached.

The water from the well will enable us not only to build the center; provide for up to 100 residential delegates but also irrigate our small show farm which we hope to replicate throughout Tanzania. Being such a precious resource, we hope also to meet some of the water needs of the local villagers, especially through the dry season. The provision of this water is such a blessing and reflects the generous grace that God continues to pour daily into our lives.

We are so grateful to God for you and your willingness to be used by him for the building of His Kingdom. May you know his strength and enabling in all you do.”

In Uganda, through discussions concerning water wells with Ken Galyean, the head of Call to Africa, Dean has had several opportunities to connect with his group. We have wells on the drawing board to drill for his organization as soon as God provides the funds.

On one recent trip with Ken, Dean had the chance to see more than 1400 come to faith in Christ, as well as an opportunity to teach at a pastors’ conference with 700 pastors attending.

Ken recently wrote me the following on the need for more wells:

“Jersy is the Head Master over a school of 125 OVC's (Orphans and Vulnerable children) in Kabwohe, Uganda where he sends donkeys down the steep hill twice a day to gather water for the needs of his boarding school and family.

Also, Dean, if you remember where you preached in the prostitutes’ village and the Muslim town and the official ran us off. We went back and some of the prostitutes came to Christ and now we are working with Pastor Festo to purchase a piece of land for a garden and will need a water well to provide irrigation as well as drinking water. “

In each of these regions where we have drilled wells, we have a very open door to return. Dean does this as much as he can, but he is only one man, and blind at that! So how can you help in practical ways to maximize the potential impact as we gain a hearing for the gospel, and as God allows us to open doors through the drilling of wells?

Pray for our partnership together to reach the lost and help us raise awareness for this ministry.

- * We have a Power point and DVD to show in your Worship Service
- * Dean is available to come and preach

Pray for those to go on short term mission trips:

- * Pastors needed for Pastors’ conferences
- * VBS teachers
- * Evangelists
- * Medical personnel
- * Teams who can love people into the kingdom

Give to the need of the ministry:

- * Fund raising projects for more wells, medicine, Bibles, and teaching materials for schools
- * Grants and support from churches and foundations

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions and feel God's leading to partner with us.

Blessings,

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