

CrossWay International is a mission organization dedicated to the clear presentation of the gospel of grace. We are involved worldwide in

- Opening Hearts for the Gospel (with ministries including water well drilling, schools, supplying medical needs, prison ministry, counseling conferences, and support for orphans and needy kids)*
- Sharing the Gospel (the good news of God's free gift to us of eternal life)*
- Training Others to Share the Gospel*

November 2014

Dear Prayer Partner,

It's been interesting to see the Lord lead us in our strategy at Crossway International over the years since we began in 1997, after our family returned from being missionaries in Belgium. Our mission has not changed, as set forth in our mission statement: "CrossWay International is committed to spreading the clear Gospel message of God's grace throughout the world." But our strategies have, by God's leading. At first we were focused on training people in presenting the gospel, primarily overseas. Then God began to change our strategies.

Our first strategy, Opening Hearts to the Gospel, came about from a trip to Sudan back in May of 2007. I was asked by a Christian leader to come to a remote area of what is now the northern part of South Sudan and teach a 3 day seminar on evangelism to 135 pastors from that area. This mission trip ranks near the top in terms of the physically, emotionally and spiritually challenging trips. At this time, I was totally blind but trusted the Lord to lead and keep me safe. While on this trip, the local leaders shared with me that 150 orphans had been "dumped" outside their village and were in dire need of help. "Is there anything you can do?" they asked. I explained that this was really outside the scope of our ministry but, nevertheless, I would include this need in my next prayer letter and see how the Lord might lead. The Lord was



Orphans in Sudan

generous through you, our prayer partners. In a short time, the number of orphans swelled to 549 orphans, and we were able to provide quite a bit of help by way of food, clothes, the start of a school, and even water wells. All of this was done, of course, in addition to sharing the gospel with the communities. Since then, those orphans in Sudan have been "adopted" by local families, but we are now helping other orphans and needy kids in Kenya, Ethiopia, Liberia, and Nicaragua. So Strategy # 1, as we call it, has opened many hearts to hear the Gospel of God's grace.

Our second strategy has always been in place - To focus on sharing the Gospel of God's grace. From the beginning of God's call to ministry, when I first trusted in Christ for my salvation back in August of 1972, this has always been a strong desire. And now, coupled with Strategy #1 above, God has allowed me to share the Gospel and see many come to faith in Christ in more than 50 countries. What amazing opportunities God has given us!

Our third strategy is to model and train others in how to share the Gospel. The need for expositional and accurate teaching and conferences on how to make the Gospel of God's grace clear remains a high priority, to help mobilize those we reach. Through this strategy, we emphasize the importance of clarity in the free gift of God's salvation by grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone, for God's glory alone.

With this prayer letter, I would like to briefly share how these three strategies were recently implemented.

Your Partner,

Dean Chollar

The 3 Strategies in Dean's Mission Trip to Kenya



Strategy #1: Opening Hearts for the Gospel. This involved some cultivating of the ground to gain a hearing and open hearts for the Gospel. We have been able to place five impoverished orphans in a children's home, provide rain harvest tanks to several communities, repair and paint school buildings in disrepair, and provide soccer equipment to two soccer teams.

Strategy #2: Sharing the Gospel. We took advantage of their open hearts by focusing on sharing the Gospel at the children's home near Ruiru, and in the more remote areas of the villages of Thangathi and Kiangondu, and in the Mbugwa/Rutune region. We estimate that more than 100 individuals understood for the first time that eternal salvation was by God's grace as a free gift, and trusted in Christ for their eternal salvation.

Strategy #3: Training Others to Share the Gospel. We also did some training of others. I had a chance not only to model how to share a clear Gospel message but also had a time of teaching for several pastors and Christian workers. I also use such opportunities to equip Christians by passing out our Gift Cubes, Bibles and tracts.



Allen Implements the 3 Strategies

This three-fold approach is being implemented by others that the Lord has brought to CrossWay International, such as missionary Allen Mann, who has been to Nicaragua six times, the Philippines twice, and recently to Liberia. His ministry has freed me up to handle other issues and cut back on some of my travel schedule.

First, Allen has followed **Strategy #1** by providing micro-loans, and by overseeing the management of water wells and our feeding

centers in Nicaragua. In the Philippines he added to the relief in their recent tsunami. And also in Liberia, before Ebola was so widely-spread, he was carefully dispensing buckets with bottles of bleach and soap to help prevent the spread of this deadly disease.

Second, he followed **Strategy #2** by focusing on sharing the Gospel in these events above. He has seen hundreds come to faith in Christ in the past ten months alone through these events and through his personal sharing.

Regarding **Strategy #3**, he has taught at six Pastors conferences in Nicaragua, one in the Philippines, and two in Liberia. And in November, Allen is off to both Kenya and Ethiopia where he will repeat this threefold approach including conducting four Pastors conferences, two in each country.



Allen Taking a Trip with Nicaraguan Pastors to Share Christ

- ✧ Opening Hearts for the Gospel
- ✧ Sharing the Gospel
- ✧ Training Others to Share the Gospel

National Co-workers Follow Strategies



Ken Gatithi -
Kenya

How I wish I could take each of you to one of our active mission fields. It's hard to convey what these four men below mean to me, and how proud I am to stand with them in the ministry.

Several years ago, Ken Gatithi, our Field Director in Kenya, would only say his name in front of crowds. Now, he is preaching to the communities, even before I arrive at the villages where we have drilled wells, etc. It has been an amazing transformation. It just happened one day, when he was the only one from our team in the village, and the people spontaneously gathered together and made him explain why he was there and why he was helping them. He had seen me do it for several years and he said it just came naturally after that. His fear of speaking to large crowds was gone.

Our co-workers, Isaac Zoedah in Liberia and Melaku Abebe in Ethiopia, both have had some theological training and for them, it came much quicker. They both speak regularly in the church plants where they are involved and have interpreted for me when I preached in various churches, conferences, market places, and just in the street. They also have both started primary schools in their respective countries. Isaac has seen a greater openness to the Gospel during this dangerous time of Ebola and is taking full advantage by continuing to pass out disinfecting supplies and preaching the Gospel to those communities.



Isaac Zoedah -
Liberia



Melaku Abebe -
Ethiopia

Francisco Caldera, our Field Director in Nicaragua, is our diamond in the rough. He has a very troubled background as a young man but his heart that he now has for the Lord and his passion for the lost is amazing. He bubbles over with enthusiasm and gratefulness to the Lord for saving him from his past life of despair. He continually writes to me about people he has led to the Lord using the evangelistic training he has received from us.

All four of these men are not only effective in their own evangelism but also play an important role in making our mission trips successful.

Update on Nicaragua



Francisco and Jasmina Caldera
and Bruce in Nicaragua

Francisco Caldera, our Field Director and a faith missionary with Cross-Way International, is finally over some of his serious health issues for now. He is over his severe kidney infection, he has passed his kidney stones, and he no longer has bronchitis. But his wife, Jasmina, is suffering from migraine headaches now. So keep him and his family in your prayers.

One important prayer request for our Training Center is that we are hoping to have it ready for our mission teams lined up for this summer. We have a ways to go and have had some setbacks in unexpected costs for the road and retaining walls, to prevent erosion from the heavy storms and the 7.2 earthquake. But we continue to make progress and trust the Lord it will be

ready by then. We are still lacking bathroom facilities upstairs and 2 air conditioners for both upstairs and downstairs. Then we will need to purchase beds, tables and the like. So we have a lot to do yet.

But we are already seeing results from the availability of the Training Center and the attention that it is creating. Last August, missionary Bruce McIntosh taught a Couples' Conference at the Center. On the last day, many of the conference members shared movingly of their renewed commitments to each other as spouses, as well as to their children. The day after the conference, we were able to have a church service at the Training Center, which attracted the attention of the neighbors. We had an overflow crowd with a number of people trusting Christ. This was in addition to those that had made a decision to trust in Him earlier at the Conference.



Couples Conference August 2014

Praise

We praise the Lord for your continued prayers and support. We are especially encouraged by the many donations we have received for the ministry in Liberia. We praise Him for your partnership!



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Prayer

Please join us in prayer for the countries affected by the Ebola crisis. We think especially of our co-worker Isaac Zoedah and his family and ministry in Liberia. And of the many children who will be orphaned because of this tragedy. Pray for physical protection and that the light of the Gospel would spread brightly in this desperate time. Pray that Isaac will continue to see many come to faith in Christ when passing out disinfecting supplies.

November 2014

The 3 Strategies in Scripture

Opening Hearts for the Gospel

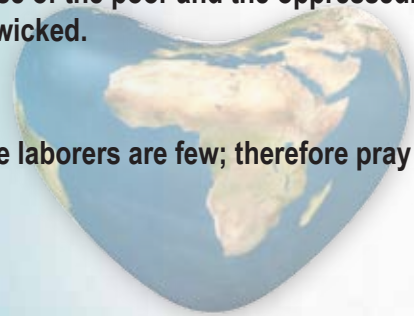
Psalm 82:3, 4 – Defend the weak and the fatherless; uphold the cause of the poor and the oppressed. Rescue the weak and the needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked.

Sharing the Gospel

Luke 10:2 - Then He said to them, "The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few; therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest."

Training Others to Share the Gospel

2 Timothy 2:2 - And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.



Upcoming Mission Trips

- ▶ **Nicaragua** - On November 28 Allen Mann leaves for Nicaragua with a team. He will be going with Dennis Oosthuizen, an electrician, who will be wiring our Training Center. Also going will be Kat Petkoff, who has been on many mission trips to help in the children's ministry, and Robert and Ann Messier. (Robert is finally healed enough from his back surgery last March to be able to make such a trip and catch up with all that is happening.) He and Ann will be returning also in February and June. Gary Jones and Allen will join the team in June with plans for a Sports Camp, construction work on the Training Center, and Leadership Training (with Pastor Dave Smith and a team from NW Community Church in San Antonio, Texas).
- ▶ **Ethiopia** - Gary Jones will be teaching a Pastors Conference in March, with Pastor Steve Penick of Sunset View Baptist Church in El Mirage, Arizona.
- ▶ **Kenya** - Gary is planning a Pastors Conference in August.
- ▶ **Liberia** - Allen has an invitation to teach the public school teachers in Nimba County in March. This trip is contingent on the situation of the Ebola crisis.
- ▶ **Philippines** - In May Allen hopes to return to the Philippines, this time with Pastor Joe Falkner from Ponderosa Bible Church in Payson, Arizona.
- ▶ **Dean** is planning to visit Nicaragua, Ethiopia, Kenya, and Liberia, but the dates have not yet been determined.

So if you are interested in going with us on a mission trip, let us know!!!