

# WORLD | update

IS THERE A HOLE IN OUR GOSPEL?





**W**hat is true Christianity? What does being a follower of Christ look like in real life? I am afraid far too often we approach our relationship with God as something intensely private and perhaps reserved for church on Sunday. In reality He intends for our salvation to be lived out in a very public way.



The apostle Paul wrote that we are to be Christ's ambassadors to a watching world. We are to represent Christ and live as He lived while on earth. His priorities should be our priorities. As I read the Bible I am struck time and again by how frequently it speaks about the poor, downtrodden, widows, orphans, vulnerable, and rejected. Not only do these verses make clear that God cares for the hurting, but they command His children to do the same!

The whole gospel is one that transforms us and then reaches through us to change our world. It compels us to not sit idly by while injustice prevails, the hungry starve, and the innocent are preyed upon. It couples spiritual transformation with social action.

In this edition we address the balanced place of humanitarian work in missions. You will be able to explore many ways HIM is presenting the "whole" gospel throughout our regions and departments. We are also happy to introduce newly commissioned missionaries and share how God is working through all facets of FEA. Along the way you will be challenged to make sure there is no hole in your gospel! ☞

**BENJAMIN MCDOWELL** Managing Editor

We would love to hear your thoughts on the *World Update*. Please send your comments or questions to [pr@feaministries.org](mailto:pr@feaministries.org).



**FEA Ministries**  
HOPE INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS | SEA BREEZE CAMP | SEA BREEZE COMMUNITY

## WORLD|update

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### About FEA Ministries, Inc.

FEA Ministries is a nonprofit organization that exists to Serve the Church and Reach the World. We fulfill the Commission of Christ by producing disciple makers around the world through diverse Christian ministries. The three main branches of FEA Ministries are Hope International Missions, Sea Breeze Community and Sea Breeze Camp Meeting. Our ministry is about making sure people everywhere are ready to spend eternity with God.

You can also read this issue of the *World Update* online at  
[www.feaministries.org/worldupdate](http://www.feaministries.org/worldupdate)



### THE CLINIC AT MATUKENG



### PUTTING JESUS' TEACHINGS INTO ACTION



### OFTEN THE BEST ANSWER IS "BOTH!"



### GOD CONTINUES TO CALL WORKERS



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### IS SEA BREEZE COMMUNITY REALLY A MINISTRY?



## Is There a Hole in Our Gospel?

Shortly after beginning to serve at FEA Ministries during the summer of 2016, a friend recommended I read *The Hole in Our Gospel* by Richard Stearns. The title of the book captured my attention. Is there a hole in our gospel? Just writing this question makes me a bit uncomfortable. Of course, there is no hole in the gospel. The work of the gospel that was begun before the foundation of the world was accomplished on Calvary and made complete upon the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the grave. The gospel contains no holes—no one was left out. God’s provision for fallen mankind is perfect.

The book, however, does not point out a flaw with the gospel. Rather it illuminates the “hole” created by modern Christianity in its application of the gospel to our world. This “hole” can be summed up as a materialistic church that has reduced the message of salvation to the checking of a box on a spiritual “to-do list.” For the most part it has not allowed the transforming power of the gospel to so change our lives that we are compelled to reach out into the culture that surrounds us and help meet the pressing spiritual and social needs of our time.

J. Wesley Bready in his book *England: Before and After Wesley* said the evangelical revival sparked by Wesley “did more to transfigure the moral character of the populace than any other movement British history can record.” Wesley’s followers played a major role in the abolition of slavery, the improvement of working conditions, the availability of education for

the poor, and prison reform, as well as the fight against gambling and drunkenness. But if early Methodism was so marked by the changing of individual lives and the surrounding culture, what has happened?

Richard Stearns explains, “In the early part of the twentieth century, a split in Christian theology resulted in a deep divide over the respective roles of faith and works. Liberals within the church, as well as the wider society, began to attack historic, biblical Christianity. This liberal faction no longer saw the church’s mission as ‘saving souls’ but rather transforming society through humanitarianism—in other words a gospel based on works.”

As a reaction to this liberal stance of humanitarianism, many within the church abandoned any focus on the meeting of social needs to focus entirely on saving souls—in essence leaving the fixing of pressing social and humanitarian needs to Christ upon His return for the Church.

Richard Stearns continues, “It’s easy to see how this dividing of the gospel left both sides with only half a gospel—that is, a gospel with a hole in it—as each became satisfied with their particular piece. But this diminution of the whole gospel left both camps with just a shadow of the tremendous power of the good news proclaimed by Jesus.”

The primary mission of FEA Ministries from the beginning has been to produce disciples of Christ. This continues to be our main goal. We have used various “ministries of mercy” | continued on page 10 ▷

**The primary mission of FEA Ministries from the beginning has been to produce disciples of Christ. This continues to be our main goal.**





# The Clinic at MATUKENG

GLENN GAULT  
Director of HIM Africa



**As physical lives are touched by a kind nurse, spiritual doors are opened so that the Great Physician may come in to heal the sin of the soul.**

**M**ore than forty years ago, Roger and Sonya Rehfeldt, missionaries with the Church of the Bible Covenant, came to Matukeng, Lesotho, to open a clinic. Matukeng and the other villages around the Qeme Plateau were isolated from healthcare services in the capital city by a river that could only be forded during the dry season. People were slipping into eternity for a lack of basic health care services.

Today there is a bridge across that river, and a stream of mini-bus taxis ferry people to and from the city for less than a dollar. Furthermore, the government of Lesotho has undertaken to provide universal basic health care for the people of Lesotho for free. So why is Hope International Missions and its national church in Lesotho still running this clinic?

First of all, in a country where nearly twenty-five percent of the population is HIV positive, the need for accessible health care is massive. More than 600 people visit Matukeng Health Centre every month for antiretroviral therapy—the drugs that stand between them and certain death. Also, when a person's immune system is compromised, even simple illnesses can become life-threatening without quick, effective treatment. Each life saved represents another opportunity for a soul to respond to the gospel and repent.

Matukeng Health Centre also provides an “open door” for the gospel into the community. When I go out calling or preach at an evangelistic campaign, I

often introduce myself as “the missionary from the clinic at Matukeng.” This gives me immediate credibility because our clinic has a far-reaching reputation of providing excellent care in a compassionate way. Each morning at the clinic the first item of business is prayer and a devotional. Though conversions are few at the clinic, people are exposed to the gospel, and some of their objections are answered during these opening exercises. A seed is planted, and a spiritual door opened.

Another reason the clinic plays an important role in HIM's outreach is because of the belief in Lesotho that many illnesses have spiritual causes. Satan uses this belief to his advantage and manifests his powers through illnesses that cannot be cured with medicine. Demon possession is also common. Miss Mokeretla, the vibrant Christian nurse-in-charge at the clinic, is quick to recognize these cases and call pastors or missionaries to pray for these people. People have been delivered and have later responded to the gospel in a tent meeting or outreach.

Through a unique financial partnership with the government of Lesotho, HIM is able to continue Jesus' holistic ministry of preaching and healing. As physical lives are touched by a kind nurse, spiritual doors are opened so that the Great Physician may come in to heal the sin of the soul. People are finding hope as they prepare for eternity. ☞



DAVID BLACK *Director of HIM Asia*

## No Longer Needed

A favorite destination for people visiting the city of Kaohsiung, Taiwan, is the small Cijin Island. Located a mere fifteen minute ferry ride across the Kaohsiung Harbor, this popular tourist spot is famous for its historical and cultural sights along with succulent, fresh seafood. Travelers from around the world give rave reviews of their time on Cijin. But what these comments fail to share is the fear and superstition under which the local people live. They are terrified of the gods and spirits. And each day as they run the ferries, catch fish, and load the docks, they struggle to feed their families on their small salaries.

This is where HIM enters the scene. To this beautiful island we carry the gospel light which delivers from fear. We teach English which has the potential to deliver them from desolate poverty. Just last week we

carried a huge pot of spaghetti, an English lesson, and a gospel message to a waiting group in a little house under the shadow of a huge idolatrous temple.

During the evening Christina noticed a little girl hiding in the temple shadows. She was watching us with longing. We coaxed her inside where she filled her tummy and heard about how much the living God of heaven loves her.

Humanitarian efforts can be hard work. It is not always pleasant to go where there is poverty, a house to clean for the recently saved town drunk, blankets to pass out to the homeless, or free classes to teach in the sweltering heat. But HIM Asia does all these things for the same reason Jesus fed the multitudes—to meet needs with the intention of showing precious people the way to heaven where humanitarian work will no longer be needed! ☺



*Christina teaching an English Circle*



ED DURHAM *Director of HIM Europe*

## Touching the Heart

The best way to touch a heart is to meet a need. This is what missionary work is all about—meeting spiritual, physical, and emotional needs. People all around us are looking for answers and help with the troubles of life. I love when God gives us the opportunity and resources to meet people and show them how Christ is the answer to their problems.

The Vyborg Christian Center in Russia has regularly brought homeless and destitute people together for a meal and worship. I think people are more receptive to the gospel on a full stomach! Heather and I also participate in a similar ministry to homeless people in Hungary.

In Budapest we take a small gift containing toiletries, snacks, the gospel of John, and a tract to hospital patients. This is the perfect way to show that we care about their needs and give them a chance to find God.

HIM's ministry to orphans in Romania begins with meeting their physical needs. But in the process of caring for them, we have the privilege to express God's love for them. A number of these precious young people have been saved and baptized.

In Slovakia we are receiving young people who have nowhere to go into our New Horizons Center where they find a safe place to transition to life on their own. This involves giving them food, shelter, counseling, and emotional support as well as pointing them to God who is ultimately the answer to their problems.

As God gives us opportunities to meet physical and emotional needs, we are presented a perfect opportunity to touch a heart and share the gospel. I think too often we underestimate the power of kindness. It has the potential to turn a life around. ☺



*Romanian orphan baptism*





*Eric and Hannah Kuhns hand out food and share the gospel at the city dump in Tegucigalpa, Honduras.*



JOHN DYKES *Director of HIM Spanish Ministries*

## Raising the Standard of Living

**T**he power of the whole gospel touches and changes lives on an individual level and flows out through the family into the culture of society. This gospel encompasses both physical and spiritual needs. HIM Spanish Ministries is presenting the “whole” gospel on several fronts.

HIM’s Spanish churches in the United States are involved with distributing food, inexpensive or free clothing, and household goods to the needy. Our pastors participate in prison ministries. They also reach out to the local youth through special activities. Because we use humanitarian means to reach individuals with the message of salvation, lives are being transformed in a more holistic manner.

In many of our foreign works, there is a great need to help the people elevate their standard of living. This in turn helps local communities support themselves and their churches. Poverty is very real in so many areas where we minister. In order for our Central American churches to raise necessary ministry funds on the local level, their congregations must have access to jobs.

In Honduras and Nicaragua we are establishing hog farms and agricultural projects that will hire local people and support our national ministry team. These projects are focused on bringing the gospel to the local people as we plant churches and make disciples. Humanitarian efforts are not the gospel, but they are a means to enhance and grow our ministry. 🌱



JOE TAYLOR *Director of HIM Gospel Publishing Mission*

## A Small Book with a Mighty Message

**E**arthquakes, floods, tornados and hurricanes—not to mention those fleeing aggression—always put people in desperate need. It seems no place is exempt. Natural or man-made, disasters happen all around the world. Calamities bring us face-to-face with just how fragile human life is. Then despair beckons.

When despair wells up with the stench of fear, life is grim. Survivors do need the shelter, food, water, clothing, etc., of humanitarian efforts. But the other side of their need is hope—of a better day.

The sight of kindly relief workers filling the “hole-in-their-gospel” with warm food and blankets is short-lived without erasing that dread of impending doom that only Jesus Christ can wash away. For this reason we are preparing a special book of useful instruction and encouragement that will bring hope and faith. And it must be ready when disaster strikes.

It will be a small book with a mighty message. The book has three parts.

1. It starts with useful information about how to survive in disasters when our infrastructure fails—how to purify water, cook food, and cope with medical emergencies using whatever is at hand.
2. In the middle is a captivating story of calamity, destruction and struggle to live.
3. But finally, survival! Conquering the calamity! Then it tastefully leads to victorious hope in Jesus Christ.

You can help make possible this special relief project. We plan on printing at least 100,000 copies to distribute during times of disaster. For this to happen we need \$25,000. To help provide hope to hurting people with this book, contact us at [info@feaministries.org](mailto:info@feaministries.org). 🌱



# YOUTH perspective



TOUCHING LIVES FOR CHRIST (TLC), a ministry of Hobe Sound Bible Church, works in conjunction with Hope International Missions to provide opportunities for short-term mission trips. In this article Sarah Stetler, currently enrolled as a sophomore at Hobe Sound Bible College, shares how God used her and a special disaster relief team to touch hurting people's lives with Christ's love.

SARAH STETLER

## Showing Christ's Love in Times of Disaster

I will never forget the summer of 2013. I had gone to Moore, Oklahoma, with a TLC team to help clean up after an F5 tornado had torn through the city. Soon after we arrived, a second storm came ripping through the area. As we headed for the basement, sirens were blaring, the sky was an ominous color, and the atmosphere was strangely still. Thankfully, the storm missed us! But now there was even more debris to clean up.

Our goal was to assist in giving provisions and to help with community cleanup. Each day we went to new locations to help put back together what was torn apart by these drastic storms. This work consisted of picking up the remains of homes and pulling trees out of buildings. I specifically remember going to a trailer park that was completely leveled. Absolutely nothing was standing, and the belongings of the residents were scattered all over the ground. Families simply stood in the midst of the mess completely overwhelmed by what lay before them. They had just lost everything and had no choice but to pick up what had just been torn apart and start all over again. For hours each day our team worked to pick up wreckage, assist in food compounds, and give various provisions to the victims.

Some may say while this work is good and noble, the purpose of a mission trip is to spread the gospel. Because this team was designed for humanitarian efforts, why was it called a mission trip? In answer to this question, I am reminded of the work of Jesus. In His ministry He healed the blind, cured the ill, and made the lame to walk. Jesus was concerned for people's souls, but many times He healed physical bodies before He confronted spiritual needs. During our trip to Moore, we focused on physical needs by providing food and assistance. But after we were done helping families, we would pray with them and tell them of the nearby churches with whom we were working. Families would cry and thank us enthusiastically for taking the time to help them. In the midst of disaster, people are most sensitive to the workings of the Holy Spirit. Although our job was to help heal their physical state, when we left Moore we had introduced the tornado victims to the churches surrounding them that could guide them to Jesus. Because of the kindness they had received from us as Christians, they were much more open to attending church.

Was our relief team spiritually pointless? No, it was not. In the week spent in Moore, Oklahoma, we showed the love of Christ; we were His hands to those in need, and we pointed them to Jesus—the healer of their souls. As it says in Matthew 25:40, "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." 📖

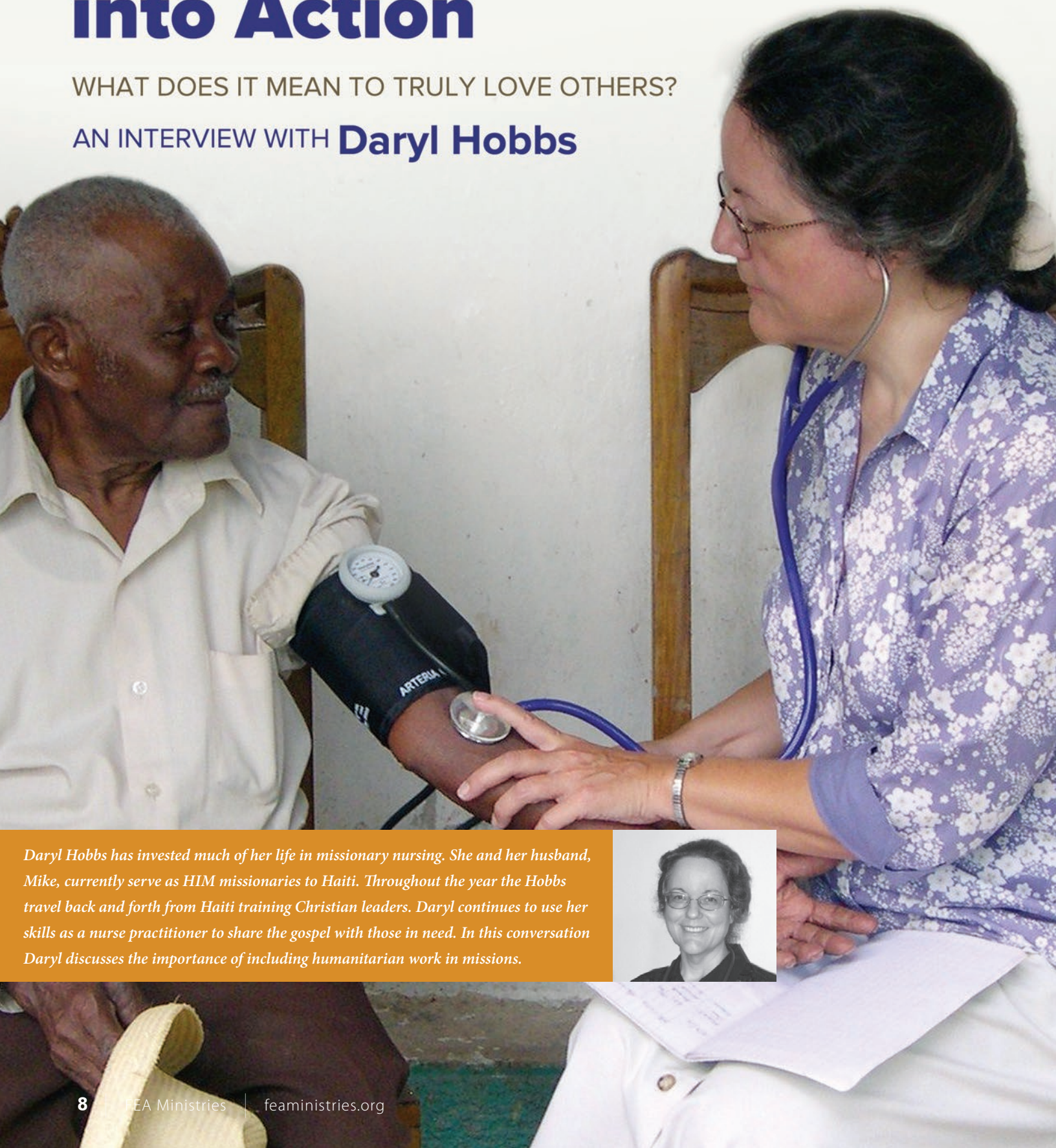




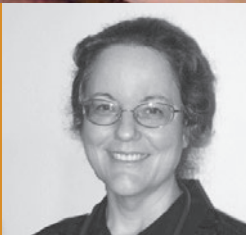
# Putting Jesus' Teachings into Action

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO TRULY LOVE OTHERS?

AN INTERVIEW WITH **Daryl Hobbs**



*Daryl Hobbs has invested much of her life in missionary nursing. She and her husband, Mike, currently serve as HIM missionaries to Haiti. Throughout the year the Hobbs travel back and forth from Haiti training Christian leaders. Daryl continues to use her skills as a nurse practitioner to share the gospel with those in need. In this conversation Daryl discusses the importance of including humanitarian work in missions.*





**Q Do you think there is a hole in our gospel?** In the true biblical gospel, there is no hole. It is perfect. But I do think there is a deficiency in the way we work out the gospel. That hole is in our service to others. God expects us to put Jesus' teachings into action. We must show the love of Christ through our actions and how we reach out to others. In the book of James we are asked, "How can you see your brother hungry and not do something about it, or without clothes and not do something about it?"

**Q What place does humanitarian work have in missions?** I think we have to look at the life of Jesus to answer that question. Throughout His ministry He spent a lot of time teaching and preaching, but He also healed the sick and helped the poor. He was always doing things that were good, and this attracted people to Him. I believe it is the same way in missions. If we just focus on preaching or "planting churches," we are missing a huge part of what Jesus wants us to do. If in missions we identify the physical needs of a community and ask, "Is there some way I can help?" people will open their hearts to us. They will want to hear what we have to say.

**Q The end goal of HIM is to make disciples of Christ. Are we more effective in this mission by incorporating humanitarian work?** I believe in order to truly make disciples, humanitarian work must be included. Otherwise, how will those disciples learn how to live out Christ's commands to meet the needs of those around them? The risk of neglecting humanitarian work is that the Christian life becomes relegated to activity that takes place only in a church building rather than a vibrant love for Christ that works itself out in reaching others.

**Q What experience do you have with humanitarian work?** I was a missionary nurse in Haiti for nineteen years. While I was involved in church work, such as teaching Sunday school and playing music, my main focus was on medical ministry to the entire community. Many of the people I helped physically did not give their hearts to God immediately. But I know God can take seeds of unconditional love I sowed through my care and perhaps years later cause that seed to flourish into a new life in Christ.

I would often see thirty to forty patients a day. Many times I would put my arm around someone and say, "Hey, do you know God loves you so much?" When somebody would tell me, "You saved the life of my child," I would say, "Yes, but do you know why? It is because God loves you. He sent me here to help you." Those opportunities opened doors to share more of the gospel.

**Q What dangers are associated with focusing on humanitarian work?** A danger is that you can become so focused on meeting social/physical needs that you neglect the important balance of teaching and preaching the word of God. One way to safeguard against this is to increase the number of missionaries on a field. Then some on this missionary team can focus on humanitarian work, and others can make sure the spiritual needs are being adequately met.

**Q What adjustments should we make regarding humanitarian missions?** I believe we need to realize that Jesus wants this. This is part of His requirement for us. We have focused on the preaching of the gospel and the truth of the gospel, and yes, we must have that for people to come to know Him. But His life was also a life of love and service. We forget that. We need to turn our eyes back on who Jesus is and how He acted so we can respond the way He does.



**Q How can someone who is not called to be a foreign missionary apply this to their lives?** An easy, practical first step is to look around the community where you are and just try to find out where the needs are. Who is hurting? There is someone close to you right now who has physical and emotional needs. Find them and ask how you can help. There are little ways like sacrificing our personal time to go visit others when they are sick, taking time to pray with somebody, or volunteering to help someone with a project. In the end it boils down to giving of ourselves to others. That is what Jesus did, and that is what He calls us to do. Lord, help us, each one, to have a heart that is open to see the world the way You see it and to respond the way You want us to! 🙏



# Often the Best Answer is “Both!”



RANDALL MCELWAIN

Someone once said, “When everyone is shouting, ‘Choose option A or B,’ the best answer is often ‘Both.’” In the early twentieth century some conservatives shouted, “We must focus on doctrinal fundamentals,” while social gospel liberals shouted, “We must meet the social needs of our world.” During that time wise evangelicals recognized, “We must hold to the fundamentals of the faith while serving the social needs of our world.”

In recent years some mission organizations have insisted, “The gospel presented in Luke 4:18-19 is the good news. We are called to meet the physical/emotional needs of our world.” Others have responded, “John 6:35-40 shows that Jesus came to save souls, not to feed bodies.”

Is it possible that the answer to “Choose A or B” is “Both?” Holiness mission organizations have a rich history that points the way in this decision. How have Wesleyans historically answered this question?

Ask General William Booth, the founder of the Salvation Army. “General Booth, should we focus on meeting physical needs or spiritual needs?” His answer was, “The Salvation Army offers soup, soap, and salvation.” Robert Booth summarized General Booth’s philosophy this way: “Booth knew that a person would not listen to a sermon if he was listening to his stomach.” After a person’s physical needs were met, the time was ripe to preach the gospel.

Ask John Wesley. “Mr. Wesley, are the people called Methodists commissioned to meet physical needs or spiritual needs?” His answer is found in the titles of his published works. He would say, “I’m glad you asked! You know I devoted much time and effort to sermons, spiritual journals, and evangelistic pamphlets. You should also know that I published a book called *Primitive Physic*, a simple and cheap home medical guide to give basic medical advice to the poor of England.”

William Booth and John Wesley join in saying, “We must meet the physical needs of our world, and we must bring the saving gospel for their souls.”

But let’s not stop with Wesleyans. Let’s go back to early church history. The Roman Emperor—and bitter opponent of the church—Julian the Apostate complained that Rome could not stamp out Christianity because the Christians “devote themselves to philanthropy. They support not only their own poor but ours as well.”



Julian recognized that the self-sacrificial love of Christians had become a powerful testimony to the truth of the gospel. When you read of Christians rescuing discarded infants from the trash heap outside Rome, is it any wonder that those babies grew up to become Christians? When you read of Christians in Carthage risking their lives to care for people dying from the plague, is it any surprise to learn that many of the dying prayed for salvation in their last hours?

Yes, our ultimate priority must be making disciples. Planting churches (whether that be an organized congregation or a house cell group) is central to accomplishing Jesus’ commission. But we must also love our neighbor by feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, and being a father to the orphan.

We must not yield to an “either A or B” mentality. Instead, as people who love our neighbor, we must serve the physical/emotional/social needs of our world. And because we love our neighbor, we must give the gospel to a world that faces an eternity without God.

Is there a hole in our gospel? If we feed the hungry and fail to bring them the Bread of Life, there is a gaping hole in our gospel. However, if we preach the gospel and fail to clothe the naked, we are leaving a hole in our gospel. The gospel of Luke 4 and the gospel of John 6 are both essential to our message and our mission. ☞

▷ continued from page 3 | to attract people to Christ. Whether through Hope International Missions’ orphan care ministries in Lesotho, Romania, and Haiti, or our medical clinic in Lesotho where hundreds of HIV+ men and women receive their life-saving antiretroviral therapies on a monthly basis, we are meeting social needs all while earning the right to share the “good news” of Jesus Christ.

I like to think of the various outreaches of Hope International Missions as a large funnel. At the top we want to get people into that funnel any way we can by meeting pressing spiritual and social needs. But at the bottom if we are being successful, we will be “dripping out” disciples who have had their lives transformed by the power of the gospel—a gospel that prepares people for eternity but empowers them for this life as well. ☞





# CULTURAL CONNECTIONS

## *Dominican Republic*

The Dominican Republic is a beautiful country where the warmth of the sub-tropical climate is complemented by the warm relationships enjoyed throughout its communities. In fact these relationships have become synonymous with Dominican culture and are valued far more than many other aspects of life.

When we first arrived as missionaries, we struggled to develop meaningful relationships with our church people. It was not until we were informed that a “real” visit with anybody meant spending a whole day at their house that we began to notice a change. Once that lengthy visit was made, a barrier came down, and we were considered true friends.

One time a Dominican asked my opinion about the idea that “life in America is like heaven.” I responded with the following question, “Does it sound like heaven to you to have all the conveniences of America (electricity, water, jobs, and money), yet many neighbors don’t even know each other?” His enthusiasm about the US quickly vanished, and he exclaimed that it would be far better to stay in the DR where life is not easy but where one has the comfort of friendships on all sides.

In the Dominican Republic relationships are more significant than time and punctuality. It is much more important to wait for everyone to be together for an event than to offend a straggler by starting “on time” without him. For this reason major events such as weddings and parties may start hours after the announced time.

Creating a sense of friendship, goodwill, and belonging—whether real or imagined—also trumps many other aspects of life, even



*The Doug and Kim Hoffman Family*

moral aspects. Dominican culture would maintain that for the sake of preserving a relationship, it is more important to make someone feel good than to tell the truth. When we first signed up for phone service, we were promised that our phones would be hooked up in forty-eight hours. It was not until six months later we were connected. At least we “felt good” numerous times as we checked on their progress.

Though aspects of the Dominican culture can be frustrating at times, in the end the driving force of relationships is a blessing. Generally it is through genuine relationships that effective witnessing for Christ takes place. We found that to be true and are grateful for the many lasting friendships we have developed with the Dominican people. 🇩🇲

*This refreshing and popular fruit drink may be offered to you when stopping for a visit in a Dominican home.*



## Batida de Lechosa

(Papaya Milkshake)

Servings: 6

### INGREDIENTS

3 cups papaya, cut into cubes  
1 teaspoon vanilla extract  
3 cups ice cubes  
1 quart evaporated milk  
½ cup sugar, divided

### HOW TO MAKE

#### BATIDA DE LECHOSA

1. Put all ingredients (only half the sugar) in the blender and blend at high speed until the ice is blended. Add more sugar if needed; blend for a few seconds.
2. Serve immediately.



KIMBERLY HOFFMAN  
Dominican Republic



Recipe retrieved from  
[www.dominicancooking.com](http://www.dominicancooking.com)







*The Cressmans and Nichole Barr are commissioned during Sea Breeze Camp 2017*

## God Continues to Call Workers

In October of 2016 Mission Helps issued its Harvest Prayer Call. The purpose of this appeal is to challenge God's people to unite in focused prayer for God to call more missionaries to work in the whitened harvest fields. Hope International Missions is committed to expanding our outreach and pioneering new works. We also want to build our current missionary teams in many locations where we are already ministering. For these goals to happen, we need God to continue calling workers. Therefore, we wholeheartedly agree with the Harvest Prayer Call and join Mission Helps in praying for missionaries.

We rejoice, however, for God is already answering prayer! There are a number of individuals and families who have

recently approached HIM sensing a call to missionary service. We are excited to see many new ministry opportunities developing and are confident God will continue calling people with a passion to make disciples around the world.

## New Missionaries Commissioned

On Missions Day of Sea Breeze Camp 2017, HIM commissioned Nichole Barr and the Wesley Cressman family as our newest missionaries. Nichole is pioneering a new work in Mongolia while Wesley, Janna, and Ella Cressman have joined the Kuhns to strengthen our work in Honduras. We are thrilled for these new missionaries and know God will use them to build His kingdom. 🌱

### Nichole Barr



Nichole Barr graduated from God's Bible School and College with a degree in Intercultural Studies. Before coming to HIM she earned a TESOL certification and taught English in Mongolia for one year under ELIC. She is returning to Mongolia in August. The focus of her first year will be language acquisition. She will also have the opportunity to participate in English clubs and mentor young believers within a church discipleship group.

After language school she plans to move from the capital city to Erdenet, a smaller city where much less ministry work has taken place. There she will begin teaching English in a public school, modeling the Christian life before her students. She plans to seek connections with local believers and ultimately begin a discipleship group with young Christians as well as a Seeker Study with those who show interest in the gospel. Pray for God to open ministry doors and bless her work in Mongolia.

### Wesley, Janna, and Ella Cressman

In February 2017 the Cressman family moved to Honduras to begin working alongside Eric and Hannah Kuhns. Wesley graduated from Penn View Bible Institute in 2001 with a major in Elementary Education. Janna graduated from God's Bible School and College in 2001 with a major in Christian Teacher Education. She also graduated from Mount Vernon Nazarene University in 2009 with a Master's Degree in Education – Curriculum and Instruction.

Both Wesley and Janna had been involved in Christian education for over ten years before sensing God's leadership into missions. In preparation for the move to Honduras, the Cressmans attended Rio Grande Bible Institute for language study. God is helping the Cressman family acclimate to ministry in Honduras. As they increase their Spanish speaking skills, they are assisting the Kuhns family with the educational and hospitality needs of their outreach.





Sea Breeze Community residents are enjoying newly paved streets! We are grateful for the kind generosity of several donors who made this community upgrade possible. Ongoing improvements continue to be made in our short-term lodging facilities as well as many other areas on campus.



## Find Louie the Monkey!



**L**ouie the monkey had a new picture taken of himself! He is carefully hiding again. See if you can find him and be sure to let us know. The first five kids who call 772-545-1400 ext 2242 or email [engagekids@feaministries.org](mailto:engagekids@feaministries.org) will have their names published in the next issue of the *World Update*. Please make sure to include the page number and location when you contact us. Happy hunting!

### Winners from Last Time

Bryson Hamilton – OH  
 Dylan Martin – FL  
 Eli Loper – FL  
 Kristen Stratton – IL  
 Samuel McKenzie – OH



## February 1–11, 2018

*We would love to see you at  
 Sea Breeze Camp 2018!*



**DANIEL  
 DURKEE**  
 Evangelist



**ADAM  
 BUCKLER**  
 Evangelist



**DAVID  
 FRY**  
 Bible Teacher



**KEITH & SHARON  
 WAGGONER**  
 Special Music



**MARK  
 STETLER**  
 Youth Evangelist



**GENE & ANGIE  
 DAVIS**  
 Children's Workers



JON TOFTE *SBC Business Manager*

## Is Sea Breeze Community Really a Ministry?

**C**an a residential community that charges and collects rent really be a *ministry*? It is a fair question and one that I am asked from time to time. FEA Ministries has operated Sea Breeze Community for over 70 years. Throughout that time, the methods we use to meet people's needs have been adapted as our sister ministries in Hobe Sound expanded and our South Florida location drew an increasing number of year-round residents.

However, since the beginning we have not altered our mission to minister to people's spiritual needs in the context of true holiness. This means heeding **with action** the warning found in the second chapter of James' letter to the early church:

*<sup>15</sup> Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. <sup>16</sup> If one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it?*

Sea Breeze Community is a residential community that, like any other, must pay for operations, maintenance, insurance and utilities. We do this by collecting rents from our residents, just like our neighboring

communities do. Yet our purpose could not be more different from that of most other communities:

We are not a business—even though we work hard every day to be effective and professional in all our dealings.

We do not attempt to obtain and maximize a financial profit—even though we understand that we must be able to pay for our operating costs and provide for long-term needs.

We do not take advantage of the sharp uptick in local rental rates to gouge our residents—even though we recognize that as external costs rise we all must share in funding them.

What we *do* endeavor to accomplish is meet needs of residents with integrity and mercy. Whether to the elderly widow of a retired pastor or a young family struggling to keep their children in Christian school and provide a safe place to live, we do all we can to minister in deed and not just words.

When I see an abandoned single mom find life-changing spiritual revival while

she and her children (who would almost certainly have little hope otherwise) live in a safe and stable environment, I thank God for the opportunity to minister in the name of Jesus with words AND deeds. When I see our senior ladies providing each other with godly support and encouragement in a community their modest incomes can afford, I believe we are again answering the call to do more than just offer kind words.

Would you like to be part of a community that is more than just a place to live? Would you be willing to help us with your financial support? We want to minister to more people in need. At the same time, we purpose to demonstrate a good testimony by paying our employees fairly, maintaining a relationship of integrity with our vendors and contractors, and caring for and enhancing the assets God has generously provided us. If you are interested in being a part of Sea Breeze Community, email or give me a call. ☎

.....  
*Jon Tofte*

772-545-1400 ext. 2241

[jontofte@feaministries.org](mailto:jontofte@feaministries.org)



In Matthew 25:31-45 Jesus paints a startling picture. He describes the final judgement and the process of separating the sheep from the goats. Surprisingly, the criterion for how the two groups are divided does not center on those who confessed faith in Christ. Rather those who were saved from ultimate damnation were ones who demonstrated Christ's love in tangible ways by meeting the needs of the destitute, the imprisoned, the sick, and the hungry. While it is wrong to interpret this passage as meaning we are saved by our works, we must understand and apply it's sobering truth. God has clear expectations for His children. If we are genuinely His disciples, compassion for others expressed in tangible ways will be a hallmark of our lives.

Why is this so important? Frederick W. Faber said, "Kindness has converted more sinners than zeal, eloquence, or learning." Our broken world craves this unconditional love. Since the fall, it is not natural for sinful man to show love and kindness. But when a life is transformed through a relationship with Christ, it becomes easy to respond as He would.

Every day in places all around the world, HIM missionaries are endeavoring to show Christ's love and kindness to hurting people. Some of these committed men and women are tasked with ministries that are humanitarian in focus. Others are primarily working to proclaim the truth of salvation through church planting, education, and leadership training. No matter their ministry emphasis, all are responsible to be Christ's hands and feet extended to those who desperately need Him. Along with these missionaries, may none of us be found guilty of failing to meet the felt needs of "the least of these" whom Jesus loves so much. In so doing we will show a watching world what true Christianity is all about.

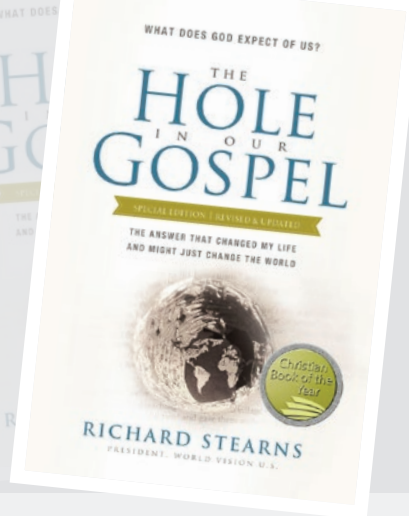
## PRAY FOR HIM'S MISSIONARIES

It is often difficult to leave behind the comforts of your home country and learn to live and interact with people of different cultures. It can also be hard to determine which pressing needs should be focused on and how to reach people without creating dependency. **Ask God to encourage HIM's missionaries and meet their emotional, spiritual, and financial needs as they give of themselves to others. Pray for wisdom and strength for their ministry.**

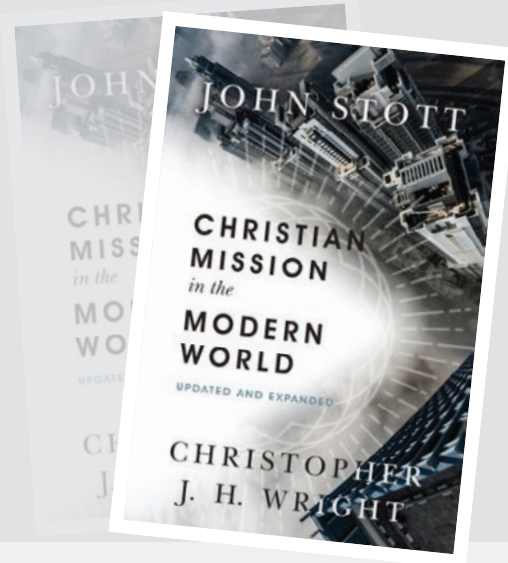
## PRAY FOR HIM'S HUMANITARIAN WORKS

HIM cares for orphans in Haiti, Romania, and Lesotho, Africa. Additionally in Slovakia we operate a special home to help orphans adjust to living productive lives on their own. In Lesotho we also run a clinic which is the primary source of medical care for thousands of people surrounding it. **Pray that spiritual needs will be met as we are working to help with physical and social needs.** 🙏

### MISSION RESOURCES



This book invites each Christian to make sure they are living out the whole Gospel. It outlines the vast needs of the world and warns against the dangers of neglecting to address social problems. You will find it to be challenging and enlightening.



Written by one of the foremost missions thinkers and statesmen of the twentieth century, this book does an excellent job of outlining the balance that should exist between humanitarian work and proclamation of the gospel in missions.

***Purchase either of these resources at your local Christian bookstore or from many online retailers.***





# FEA Ministries

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## DID YOU KNOW...

**1** HIM operates a fully staffed clinic, the Matukeng Health Centre, in Lesotho, Africa. An average of 60-70 patients visit each day, five days a week. Each year over 15,000 patients are treated for various medical needs. This clinic provides an open door to share the gospel with many hurting people.

**2** In Lesotho nearly twenty-five percent of the population is HIV positive. More than 600 AIDS infected people visit Matukeng Health Centre every month for life-saving antiretroviral therapy.

**3** Ed and Heather Durham recently started HIM's New Horizon Center in Slovakia to assist orphans as they transition from government orphanages to life on their own. Currently, the center has the capacity to accept 5-7 girls who have nowhere else to go.

**4** Since 2002 Sally Sebo has been ministering to children and youth, many of whom are orphans, in Talpos, Romania. There are currently eleven children in the House of Hope orphanage in Talpos.

**5** HIM has been caring for orphans in Haiti for many years. Aside from meeting their physical needs, the primary area of focus is helping them acquire a good education with the end goal of some becoming leaders in the national church. There are currently nine boys in the orphanage.



*Inset Photo: Mike and Daryl Hobbs with orphan boys in Haiti*



*The Matukeng Health Centre in Lesotho, Africa.*