



**WHITE
FIELDS**



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Reggie Thomas ~ Founder/Director

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Please Pray For Us

Dear Praying Friends:

We evangelists, Dr. Blythe Robinson, Dr. Don Ott, Ronnie Hoyer, Walter Brewer, Steve Butler, and Yours Truly, traveling under the banner of **WHITE FIELDS OVERSEAS EVANGELISM** are leaving for Africa. We have been invited by the Churches of Christ in the greater Monrovia, Liberia, area to come and preach city-wide crusades "under the stars" with God's great sky above being our roof. The "open air crusades" are to be conducted in 12 different areas of the capital city of the nation which has over 1 million population.

Please pray:

1. For our safety as we travel across the ocean, and as we travel daily among the crazy, dangerous, drivers on the roads that have been reduced to mud and pot holes by 14 years of civil war.
2. For a large number of the unsaved souls to attend the crusades to hear the Gospel of Christ.
3. For conviction from the Holy Spirit to grip the hearts of the listeners that they will repent of their sins and obey Jesus as Lord and Savior by being buried with Him and raised to walk in newness of Life. Acts 2:38 Rom. 1:3,4

As we go we urgently need your prayers,

Reggie, on behalf of the team



Why Go? By Dr Don Ott



The Courier

RAMA Church Page Article for Friday, October 3, 2008

WHY GO?

Dr. Don Ott, Christian Psychological Resources

In three weeks, by God's grace, I'll be in Monrovia, Liberia on the west coast of Africa along with six others associated with White Fields Overseas Evangelism. It will be my second visit to Liberia and fourteenth short-term mission. These trips have been to seven different countries in Europe, Asia, Africa, the Middle East, and the Caribbean.

After my first mission to Russia sixteen years ago, I heard about a church elder who said preachers just go on mission trips to sightsee and for a vacation! He expressed his opinion in the context of opposing any financial support from churches for such activities.

The team headed for Liberia will be involved in personal evangelism during the day and will conduct outdoor crusade meetings in the evening at locations throughout the capital city of Monrovia. White Fields director Reggie Thomas asked me to stay three extra days and conduct a leadership seminar for the Liberian preachers supported by the ministry. White Fields also maintains the Anna Enoch Orphanage in Liberia. Really, why do Christians—often at considerable expense and personal sacrifice—travel to these far-flung destinations? I'm glad you asked!

The Great Commission Commands Us to Go! Shortly before Jesus Christ returned to heaven from earth, he made clear the "mission statement" or purpose of his Church: "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age" (Matthew 28:18b-20). Planet earth reopens soon under new management! When King Jesus takes over and begins his reign, you will want to be his friend and not his enemy. That requires submission and obedience now, before the "showdown" of Revelation. The task of the Church is to exalt Jesus as Lord and enlist people to obey from every nation, language, and ethnic group. Christian baptism reenacts the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ and begins a lifelong process of learning and obeying Scripture. This process of disciple making produces Christ likeness: "A student is not above his teacher, but everyone who is fully trained will be like his teacher" (Luke 6:40). When I visited Liberia in 2000, our team baptized 406 people into Christ! Failure to go, quite simply, is disobedience of the Lord's command.

Why Go? By Dr Don Ott

The Love of Christ Compels Us to Go! Paul the Apostle gave this explanation for his evangelistic fervor: "Since, then, we know what it is to fear the Lord, we try to persuade men" (2 Corinthians 5:11). Christians are not "afraid" of God as far as our own judgment or punishment; we're already forgiven! Christ paid the penalty for our sins and clothed us with his righteousness. But Christ on the cross illustrates the awful severity of God's wrath. Unless we persuade unbelievers to trust Christ alone for their salvation, an equally terrible fate awaits them. "For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died, and therefore all died. And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again" (2 Corinthians 5:14-15). Jesus Christ died in your place and on your behalf as a sacrifice of atonement; the only proper response is to surrender your life to him. Once we relinquish control of our lives to "the Lord of the Harvest," we quite naturally become "workers in his harvest field" (Matthew 9:13; Luke 10:2). Whether across the street or around the world, the love of Christ compels us as Christians to share the Gospel. The message of Jesus Christ is unique and exclusive: "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me" (John 14:6). "Religious pluralism" is not an option for those who know and love Jesus Christ.

The End of the Age Commandeers Us to Go! When Christ commissioned his followers, he promised to be with us "to the very end of the age." He referred to the Church Age or Age of Grace, this current time in history when salvation is available by grace through faith in Jesus Christ. "Now is the time of God's favor, now is the day of salvation" (2 Corinthians 6:2). Soon that door of opportunity will close. How much longer do we have? Natural disasters escalate in frequency and intensity. Iran's president wants to exterminate Israel. Political and religious figures lead the way to moral decay. Many predict economic "meltdown" and a crisis that could lead to another depression. "And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come" (Matthew 24:14). Can it be much longer until the Bridegroom comes for his Bride? Paul said in the first century: "I am compelled to preach. Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel!" (1 Corinthians 9:16b). Surely we who live in the twenty-first century ought to be seized by this sense of urgency.

Liberia is recovering from civil war. It's not exactly an exotic vacation destination. Transatlantic flights with major time changes tend to be fairly exhausting. Our days there will start early and run late. The pace will be strenuous with little time for sightseeing. Why Go? With our world in its present shape, I believe we have a narrow window to reach people for Christ before he returns. Your prayers will be appreciated!

Dr. Don Ott directs Christian Psychological Resources and preaches for River Valley Christian Church in London.

Concerning The Hurricane Tragedy In Haiti

We want to thank each one of you who have responded to the emergency in Haiti following Hurricane Ike. The hurricane hit with full force in Gonaives, Haiti. Thousands lost their houses, their furniture, their clothing, their kitchen utensils and were left destitute and helpless. Friends of White Fields sent a little over \$20,000.00 in emergency funds. these funds have all been delivered to the Christians in Gonaives to help save them from starvation.

White Fields Preacher Jean Raymond in Gonaives was one who was helped and hear in his own words is his story:

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We hope this letter finds you well. We write this to tell you about the terrible hurricane which devastated all the city of Gonaives and to let you know how God saved us once again under these big disasters.

I hurried to call Vernie Hovorka to let him know we are all alive but I didn't find him. I didn't know what happened to him until now.

We lost all things, we didn't have time to take anything. The water raised up quickly. We had to leave our house quickly. We went upstairs of a big house. My wife, children & I went & there were 90 people there. Those who came were there to escape the water. This house had 2 stories. We went up to the 2nd floor until the water started to come up over 10 feet high on the second floor. Everybody cried, " O Lord, we are going to perish." Oh it was very terrible, more terrible than the last {Hurricane Jeanne}. We stood in the water and raised our hands & cried to God for we were really in danger. God, in His mercy, heard our cries. He stopped the rain and He delivered us from that water.

When the water became lower we went to mountain & We stayed there until now. I went down to see my place where we live. All the wall around the school has fallen down. We only found 3 benches in the school. All of the boards, tables & chairs were washed away. We also lost all the school materials. We find grace in God, He gave us life where many died and disappeared.

People have nothing now, we ask ourselves how are we going to live? Only God knows.

We are covered by the Grace of God and we have life after Hannah & Ike, We praise Him & bless His name.

THANKS TO WHITE FIELDS SUPPORTERS FOR THIER GIFTS OF LOVE THAT HAVE SAVED US FROM STARVATION.

Jean Raymond

Concerning The Hurricane Tragedy In Haiti

Report from the field by Anne Hastings, Director of Fonkoze Bank in Gonaives Haiti

We flew in a three-seater helicopter to the edge of Gonaives. We didn't have UN permission to land and it appeared that the US military had taken over air traffic at the UN landing site anyway. So we landed in a school yard near the edge of town. There were all these children and tethered goats...I was sure we were going to chop up something as we landed.

Once we landed, we were swarmed by what seemed like 500 people, mostly children, desperate children. They thought we had food or water. We somehow made our way through the mass and started walking toward Gonaives. National Route 1 was totally covered by water.

We hired motorcycle taxis to take us to the edge of town...the edge of the water. At some places, the water is calf-deep, at other places, knee-deep. In some areas of town, like where the Fonkoze branch is located, it remains chest-deep. We boarded a very large truck high off the ground so it could make it through the flooded streets. We arrived at the location where the branch manager of Fonkoze:Gonaives had gathered many of the branch employees, 25 were present.

One by one, we listened to their stories. Every single employee lost everything they owned. The doors and windows of their homes flew off in the torrent of water that descended on Gonaives, as they fled to their roofs, all their belongings were swept away.

One employee had a baby that was six days old and died in the flood. Another was born in the midst of the crisis and died. He mother is seriously ill. And yet another employee's wife has given birth. We are trying to get them out of Gonaives.

I noticed one of the employees wearing two different shoes. When I asked him about it, he said he found the shoes in the waters. The other employees had no shoes. Their feet were full of oozing sores and seemed to be infected. After all they are walking around Gonaives in waters filled with human waste and dead animals.

As we headed back to the truck we saw four people dragging a woman through the water and yelling to a policeman for help. The policeman indicated to the crowd that he would help— that is, until he realized this woman was dead. Sadly, he told the group he had to prioritize the living and there was nothing he could do to help. It seems this woman was living on her roof and did not have access to food or water and could not survive.

The people of Gonaives are living in the hills, some coming down during the day to literally dig out the mud from their houses with their bare hands. Some are barely clothed and many are covered with mud from head to toe.

Great White Fields Evangelist Departs For Heaven



For many years the White Fields ministry has been blessed by the work of Evangelist Vernie Hovorka. Brother Vernie as he was affectionately called by his many friends around the world, was greatly loved by all the people who were won to Christ by his preaching of the Gospel in Haiti, Trinidad, Israel, Rome, the Czech Republic, Greece, France, Germany, Russia, India, Australia, New Zealand, China, Liberia, Zimbabwe, Philippines, Ghana Etc.

Brother Vernie was one of the most zealous soul-winning evangelists ever to be associated with White Fields Overseas Evangelism.

Many years ago Reggie was speaking at the Kiamichi Clinic and he made a plea for Evangelists to go with him to Africa and Vernie responded. From that moment Vernie and Reggie became close friends and were partners in the Lord's work until the time of his death. Esther and Reggie were able to visit Vernie just recently and had a wonderful happy visit and a time of prayer with Vernie and his lovely wife Marietta.

Joseph Vernie Hovorka April 6, 1928--October 1, 2008 of Harper, Kansas, was a mail carrier for 28 years. He served as the minister of the Bryon Christian Church in Bryon, Oklahoma for 30 years (1978-2008). Brother Vernie was a missionary at heart and was kind and generous towards all. He is survived by his lovely wife Marietta of 56 years and 2 daughters and a son and 9 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren. THANK GOD HE HAS WON THE VICTORY IN JESUS.

Violence Against Christians In Orissa, India

Please pray for our dear Christian friends in India, who are being severely persecuted and murdered. We just received this letter from White Fields Evangelist, Russell Duraj

Dear friends

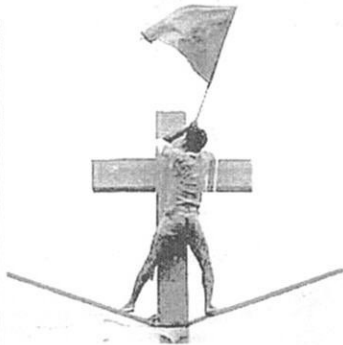
Attached are few pictures of violence against Christians in Orissa.

Reports received that thousands of Christian homes were burned down, many were brutally murdered and many are living away in remote unknown hide outs, without food and clothes to change. Many are living in the shelters.



Please pray for our country and those who are suffering.

With Prayers, Russell



Sharing The Blessings Of God From Nepal, North India & PNG - Doug Willis



Since our last report God has enabled me to preach and teach in Eastern Nepal, Sikkam, Northern West Bengal and Lae, PNG.

India and Nepal were physically very demanding. At altitudes of 10-12,000 feet, walking up the sides of mountains was challenging, and often up in the clouds. All accommodation was in local houses and native food was provided. My host, Santosh, and his beautiful wife, graciously provided for my needs.

One mountain was so steep it took two hours to climb, so a church elder arranged for a horse on which I was duly placed and led up the mountain track. For 18 years the preacher's parents used to walk up this mountain with their family every Sunday to attend church. That commitment to church attendance eventually led them to salvation in Christ. One companion travelling with us told me when his father became a Christian the people chased him from the village. Some years later he came back, led people to Christ and commenced a church. His brother is now the preacher.

In Nepal a delightful brother who became a follower of Christ was sent out from his village. He stayed with my host, taught in his school, trained and went back to his village two years ago. He has now led all his family to Christ. All are baptised except his mother, to whom I witnessed and taught before leaving. Both the churches he has planted were packed to overflowing. One church meets in the home of a former drunkard. Two years ago the place where the church now meets was a wine cellar where this man brewed his own liquor and drank with his friends.

For most services the buildings were packed. At one meeting a man came forward to confess faith in Christ. After the service I learnt that his wife told him that if he became a follower of Christ that she would leave him. His son, who was supporting him financially, also informed him that he would stop supporting him if he became a disciple of Christ.

LAE, Papua New Guinea

Extensive teaching sessions were conducted with the new Uni-Back congregation every day, followed by a gospel message. A sister was baptised into Christ in the nearby river, a man rededicated his life and another retired school teacher was restored to fellowship after having been a backslider for some years.

Several CEF students attended. One invitation letter was posted to an old address. When the present owner of the PO Box read the letter he decided to attend out meetings and is now applying for entrance into our Bible College.

Immersion in 2008

5,689 have been immersed into Christ during 2008. White Fields world wide ministries now assists 310 native evangelists in 33 different nations. These evangelists, along with our American and Australian team members, report 5,689 souls immersed into Christ for the remission of sins in January thru September. It is a great victory and we give all praise to God. Thank God for His victory and for the souls won to Christ through the power of His gospel.

