



CHRISTIANS EMPOWERING
ORGANIZATIONS MINISTRIES INC.

IN THE POTTER'S HAND

But the vessel that he was making of clay was spoiled in the hand of the potter; so he remade it into another vessel, as it pleased to potter to make.

Jeremiah 18:4

I know I have written on this before but feel nudged to do so again at the start of this year. It is one of my favorite verses in scripture and offers hope to the damaged individual. If someone is damaged physically we can see their wheelchair. But if they have been damaged mentally, emotionally, sexually or religiously the wheelchair is just as real but it is invisible. We are the clay in the potter's hands. Sometimes we have been damaged by others or by circumstances beyond our control. Damaged people often damage other people. The fact that they were damaged by others is NEVER an excuse to damage others but it is a way of understanding the challenges that damaged people face.

Sometimes we damage ourselves by our own sinfulness and selfishness. There are times addictions, or lust, or greed or some other vice is allowed to take over our lives and damage them. Too often we do not realize the damage we have allowed until we reap the consequences of our own wrong-doing. Then, we have a choice. We can repent and turn to God or continue down the road to our own self-destruction. I speak from experience of having both been damaged in infancy and childhood as well as living a self-destructive pattern of life and a duality that a loving Heavenly Father would not allow.

When we turn to Him, He keeps working the clay and molding us into a vessel that pleases Him. Think about it. We now become—by His doing—not ours—individuals that bring our Creator pleasure. By submitting our will to His and allow Him to transform our motivations, break the chains of our addictions, and set us functionally free by delighting in Him goes beyond the scope of what I can describe here—but it does happen.

Then I will make up to you for the years that the swarming locust has eaten...then My people will never be put to shame...and my people will never be put to shame.

Joel 2:25-27

All the regrets and lost opportunities are real. But the Potter has a way of restoration that is amazing. Our damaged selves—either by others or by ourselves may have caused us to damage others and such sinfulness and selfishness is shameful. Many of us have lived in self-disgust and have seriously considered suicide because of our shame. Most addicts would tell you that “if you really knew me you would not like me.” But the Potter is amazing and can turn clay into gold or diamonds and even something more precious.

From glory to glory He is changing us—His likeness and image to perfect in us...

2 Corinthians 3:18

This is why He created us in the first place (Romans 8:29) and He is molding the clay to its original purpose. And we shall become vessels that bring Him glory. We may look like a caterpillar on the outside but within us is the makings of a butterfly that is made to soar in the wind—and we will mount up with wings as eagles—as we wait upon Him (Isaiah 40).

NAOMI & LEWIS OFF TO TOGO



Their flight took off over the Atlantic on February 2 and they will spend the next few weeks with teams in Togo, Africa.

Naomi will be assisting the doctors in cataract surgery and training the local team in various medical procedures. Lewis will be meeting with government officials and developing the facility and expanding the work. He will also be co-coordinating with pastors to do the follow-up evangelism and discipleship as well as establishing churches. Understand, all this takes place in predominant Muslim communities.

Further development of the agricultural training program will be advanced with more students learning how to make better use of their farms to harvest greater crops. This wins the hearts and minds of the people as they see their blind see and their crops increase and the hungry fed.

The team goes into remote areas using their large ambulance and vans and set up mobile tents for recovery. The ambulance is set up as a mobile operating room. Villagers are screened for those who need surgery and the process begins. In the evening the “Jesus” movie is shown and people have an opportunity to see the gospel. The love and care shown by the team speaks volumes to these neglected and needy villagers. All this can only be done with the chiefs blessing and therefore it carries his approval.

The gratitude is overwhelming and in some places entire villages have given their lives to the Lord. Actions speak louder than words and when practical and meaningful help is given with the gospel the results are amazing. Even the head of the government of Togo has recognized and appreciated what Lewis and Naomi's ministry is doing for his people. Please pray for their ministry and their health and safety—for them and their team.



HAITI & DOMINICAN REPUBLIC ALIX & GERTRUDE JEAN-PAUL

God is in control all the time. Those who are closely working with CEO Ministries Inc. have experienced this fundamental truth. Our brother Terry had a close call. We were praying knowing full well that God had a plan for him. At some point, we were very concerned when his health took a turn for the worse. After more than four weeks in Hospital, he is home now running around promoting CEO Ministries with the same drive as before. Praise the Lord for answering our prayers. His servant work has not been completed yet. God has more for him to do.

Our ministries:

Friday night, I was up awaiting the final of the Australian Open Tennis match between Serena Williams and Angelique Kerber. Before the beginning of the match, I was channel surfing when I found a documentary on the West Coast of Canada dealing with saving a baby whale. I was so taken by the amount of resources both the number of scientists, environmentalists, individuals and the quality of the scientific materials involved in saving a baby whale. The story evolved around three major components. The first is to identify and rescue the sick baby whale. The second is taking care of the baby whale to nurse it to health. The third is to release the baby whale while ensuring its reintegration with a family of whales. That was a success story.

While watching the documentary, I caught myself dreaming about VBS in Haiti and in the Dominican Republic for this coming summer. To save one baby whale, those individuals who believe in their mission which is to save wild life, any wild life, are willing to invest as much as possible to complete their mission: time, expertise, money. During my dream the following questions came to mind: How much a child soul is worth? What about if we were able to rescue 2 to 3000 children this summer to lead them to Christ? What if we were able to set up ten outposts under Pastor Namphy to evangelize as many children as possible?

The show was over. The game was over. I went to bed. I was not able to fall asleep. The idea of dedicating oneself to evangelize children and to find the resources necessary to do it kept me awake all night. I was thinking about so many benefactors who have made it possible in the last 16 years to promote the Gospel of Jesus Christ through Vacation Bible School, youth leadership and follow-up programs. Those individuals are like the team of scientists who have dedicated their all to save a baby whale. The difference is, we are dealing with human souls in need of salvation through Christ.

SAM I AM CENTER for Child Evangelism and Youth Leadership is the main priority of CEO Ministries Inc. for the next few years in Haiti under the leadership of Pastor Namphy Telusma. A number of committed benefactors have made it possible to acquire the land, to drill a well to provide clean water to the community of Lechard. From our last report, our new well is the only well in the area, which is still providing clean water. As a result, so far no case of cholera has been identified.



The news of the month is the fund raising done by a grade one class in a school in Winnipeg to build a wall of protection for the well. The teacher took the opportunity after a presentation by Gertrude and me at the school to study water as a human rights issue. The children were so excited about the project that many emptied their piggy bank, many did extra chores to raise 160.00 to help build the wall.

The land is now a community garden. The well provides water to irrigate the garden. Many fruit trees, vegetables and bananas have been planted. Namphy has also been able to acquire new creole Bibles to teach the scriptures to members of the community through home Bible study. Namphy also acquired some new song books to teach those wonderful

Christian songs to the new members of the community church.

God is good, all the time. We have experienced His goodness in many ways in the last little while during the storm of our life as an organization. The saving of the baby whale by the caring individuals and the acquisition of the land by CEO Ministries for VBS have something in common. The land was unproductive, wild vegetation was growing all over. The growth had no real value. Since our acquisition, we were able to increase its value. Now, a garden with fruit and vegetables are growing. The community is very encouraged by what they are witnessing. The gospel of Jesus is for the souls what the well is for the land. The water allow new growth and it makes the land more productive while the Gospel opens the people's eyes and gives them hope in the midst of hopelessness in a land tormented by darkness, selfishness and corruption.

Together, like the scientists were able to restore the life of a lost baby whale, we can lead many children to Christ through VBS and restore them for the glory of God. Yes, God is good all the time.



HEALTH ALERT: THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION IS INDICATING THAT HAITI COULD BE DEVASTATED BY THE ZIKA VIRUS: PLEASE PRAY!



ERNESTO & MARINA PINTO: CENTRAL AMERICA

Three current emphasis of ministry include: Church planting/Evangelism and Discipleship; training single moms for employment and parenting skills; and feeding 400 children who would not otherwise have a meal. Marina focuses on single mom's ministries and feeding the children.

It is hard to believe that we are on the second month of the year 2016. Last year we had an amazing time meetings with different woman from different walks of lives from the cities of La Lima and el Progreso. It was a time, to explore new opportunities we can offer them, and to observe the interest from each of them.

We have come to the conclusion that many of them don't want to commit to a long-term of schooling as they need to provide for the needs of their families (housing, food) and recently we were able to offer them only tuition, transportation and school supplies.

We continue this year with a high expectation that the Lord will allow us to keep serving them through one day Workshops, as cooking, sewing, embroidering and crafts which we have noticed that they have enjoyed a lot, and we keep looking for new options to offer them.



Last November I had a breakfast meeting with a Group of ladies to plan for a quilt Workshops and the Conference for this year; our plan is to invite different groups from different churches and we will have a guest speaker. Here is a picture of the planning team.

Future plans for 2016

We will continue to do the one-day Workshops through the year.

Tuesday, February 16 Meeting to plan future Workshops.



Saturday, February 25 Cooking and Baking Workshops. Saturday, March 12 we will do a Women's Conference with a guest Speaker. We are talking with 2-woman interested in nursing school. After the meeting in February I will have more clear idea of the future activities.

Some Random Thoughts by Ernesto

Learn to be happy: I recently returned from Central America where I visited several centers where they are offered a lunch to children of low income. One of the impressions in my heart of that visit was to see the children smiling and they seemed very happy. They thanked us for visiting them and helping them with food everyday. Contrary to many people who had good jobs and resources, all that sometimes comes out of their mouth is complaints and lamentations.

Back to my house I am pondering this: happiness is an attitude and I remembered this note sent by a friend. I share it so that together with the Psalmist we can say: I will bless the Lord at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth. Psalm 34:1

Last night in two different cities 15 people were killed by the gangs. Seven of them were between the ages of 18-27 and were killed just 20 kilometers from my house. Things are getting violent again. Remember to pray that the Lord brings His peace to this country. And please pray for Marina who will be alone during of this week that I will serving in family rally in Nashville.

We thank God for the newer truck that will enable us to get into some of the remote villages. C.E.O. was able to help us acquire the truck through the generosity of two of our benefactors. We are thankful to the many individuals who pray and support our ministry here in Central America.



MAJOR CONCERN IS THE EXCHANGE ON THE DOLLAR: A RECENT TRANSACTION OF \$ 15,000 IS REDUCED TO \$ 10,000 – PLEASE PRAY!

Report Jan1-9th 2016 Holguin Cuba – Grant & Roberta Kurian

Left 8 am for the small Church. Took 3 trips as we only had 1 car, loaded with suitcases of goods, clothing, shoes, school supplies and some medicine. The service began, the ladies cooked pancakes in the small kitchen with 3 frying pans and 2 electric heaters. It was very HOT! We had brought 150 paper plates, napkins and syrup. We used all 150 and they proceeded to wash them so we could feed more people. The children ate first and there were MANY smiles.

Grant gave a wonderful message from Psalm 37 encouraging the many people to follow God in 2016 by walking in faith and to look for the opportunity to help others. Don't wait for more than enough to share with your neighbor who is in need but in faith share what you have.

Alex Quebebo and his wife Devora, Grant & Roberta Kurian Rolando Diaz and his wife Nurian with 2 cars packed solid with 8 suitcases of goods, another bag of pancake mix and more paper plates left 8am with much expectation!! Arrived at the Church where 14 pastors and their wives were waiting. This group has been expanding in the One Heart Ministry of prayer, IN UNITY,



serving one another in love and helping each other without denominational walls. They explained that this had caused them to further understand how important the unity of the believers was in the process of CUBA FOR CHRIST! The various Pastors shared with tears & joy of how the prayer together was giving them renewed strength to persevere in their walk as Pastors & leaders. There were 8 new men there, 4 from the various Nazarene Churches, 1 from the Presbyterian, 2 from the Assemblies and one Orthodox Pastor. This man was shining with the glory of God, sharing how much he was being encouraged.

Another Pastoral couple has been called to evangelize the surrounding area. While on a Ministry trip, her suitcase of clothing was stolen. At this meeting she not only received clothing for herself and family but a New Suitcase. She was in awe of the favor & love of God who knew her needs.



January Report: Cuba - Ernie Brosowski & Dr. Chris Ruhl

Our trip concentrated in the provinces of Mantanzas and Havana. We were involved in a fair amount of administrative work on behalf of C.E.O. because Dr. Lewis was still recovering. We were involved in evaluating the construction company and the houses they were building. We were also involved in



evaluating the overall financial processing and relational development with our Cuban counterparts. We were able to drop off some much needed medical equipment at the Clinic in Cardenas. In Allamar, a suburb of Havana we met with pastors to encourage and help with both construction needs and ministry needs. Ernie was very pleased with how the Men's Ministry is developing in this area.

Join Dr. Lewis & Elizabeth... Winter Couples Mission Trip to Cuba

Due to Health Issues rescheduled to March 17-24

Flying out of Winnipeg to the Melia Marina

Cost: \$1900/person (tax-deductible).

Includes an overnight in Havana, all in-land transportation, off resort meals and ministry events like 'Feed a Village'.



Our main purpose is to provide an atmosphere that allows you to experience God in a fresh new way. Secondly, allow you to enjoy and fall in love with your Cuban brothers and sisters. Thirdly, if God puts these people on your heart we provide opportunity for you to get further involved in meaningful ministry with them. You will experience our "Feed-a-Village" ministry in which we often see many come to know the Lord. You will experience vibrant worship in Cuban churches. Some of the best food is found off the resorts. You will get to tour Havana by horse and carriage and see some of the historical sites in this old pirate raided city. You will get two solid days off just to enjoy the beaches and sites of Cuba.

Pray for Dr. Lewis

His recovery is slow and although the knee is healing well he remains very weak and he needs to recover more of his strength before he will be able to resume his speaking activities abroad and at home. He suffers from shortness of breath. He is busy with preparing budgets and directing team members

RESTORATION HOUSE CUBA: CONSTRUCTION TEAM NEEDED

Restoration house is a specially designed facility that will be able to accommodate eight families for recovery of marriage and family problems. It is designed to help pastors and their families when they have been in trouble. We are waiting for the 'exchange' on the dollar to change before we start building. We are looking for skilled volunteers to form a construction crew for either the fall or next winter. You would be staying at a resort in Varadero. If you would like to volunteer for this project please contact us at the address below.

WE ARE A TEAM...

Empowering Ministries to ...

*Reach the Lost, Revive the weak, Rescue the fallen, Restore the broken,
Reconcile the offended, Release the Disciples*

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