## **OUR FOCUS AND VISION IS CLEAR**

From time to time our team members hear comments like: Your ministry is trying to do too much... you cannot save the world, you are losing your focus. Perhaps I have failed to make our focus clear enough for others to understand. So, let me try again.

Each of our Regional Directors is following the passion of his heart as God leads and seeks to raise funds for that passion. Alix Jean-Paul and Gertrude have a clear focus on Haiti and Haitian children—even those in a school we operate in the Dominican so these children can receive and education denied by the Dominican Government. He has empowered local Haitian leadership to operate evangelistic and discipleship training for youth in Haiti and created the Sam I Am Centre. He has raised funds to facilitate his clear vision for Haiti. By birth, Alix is a Haitian with a passion and clear focus for ministry to his homeland. C.E.O. seeks to facilitate and empower him in that vision

Berhanu's focus and passion is on his native home of Ethiopia... In August he will be making his second trip in less than a year and has raised about \$45,000 for those trips. His focus is on training pastors and providing Bibles where there are none. He also has a passion to develop unity among denominations so that together they will have synergism to build God's Kingdom. C.E.O. seeks to facilitate and empower him in that vision.

Ernesto and Marina's passion is for their native Honduras and Guatemala and they have been raising funds for their ministry there. They do their 'media ministry' through Square One and their church planting, single mom's ministry, and 'feed the children' ministry through C.E.O. that seeks to facilitate and empower them in their clear focus. These are just a few examples... as individuals or groups come to us with a passion for a particular region.

We are NOT out to save the world. That would be nice if we could but God does that by laying upon the hearts, usually of those who originate from those regions... i.e.. Alix for Haiti, Ernesto for Honduras, Berhanu for Ethiopia... etc.

Recently, we have been talking to a gentleman whose family originates from the Ukraine. They have been involved with a work there through a denomination in Canada. They are considering working through us. They state two reasons for their consideration: one is the denomination is charging them 18% to facilitate transfer of funds and receipting; and the second is that denomination now ordains practicing homosexuals as pastors. We have only been taking 5% but that sometimes also gets swallowed up when disaster hits like the recent Hurricane Matthew in Cuba when resources must be sent immediately to our workers in that country as we seek for designated sponsors.

I do not believe we are losing our focus... Our focus has always been CHRISTIANS EMPOWERING ORGANIZATION MINISTRIES... it has not and never been our primary focus on a particular country. Our Focus is to empower others in the ministries God has called them. It seems obvious to me that those who may think we are losing our focus do not understand what our focus is.

Sometimes our objectives are limited in scope. An example is to help with a specific need of two orphanages in Ukraine through one of our missionaries. Another, to support rescue of young girls in the slave trade of Nepal. Another, to help Israeli soldiers with PTSD... all through the passion of a missionary.



## VOLUME 38 ISSUE 6 SEPT. 2017 BACK TO BASICS EDITION

#### **OUR FAITH IS CENTRAL**

We Believe... the Bible to be the inspired, the only infallible authoritative Word of God; inerrant on all issues it relates to...

We Believe... there is one God, eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit...

We Believe... in the deity of Christ, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death, in His resurrection from the dead, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and in His personal return in power and glory...

We Believe... in the absolute necessity of regeneration by the Holy Spirit for salvation because of the exceeding sinfulness of human nature; and that men are justified on the single ground of faith in the shed blood of Christ and that only by God's grace and through faith alone are we saved...

We Believe... in the resurrection of both the saved and the lost; they that are saved unto the resurrection of life, and they that are lost unto the resurrection of damnation...

We Believe... in the spiritual unity of believers in Christ.

### **OUR MISSION**

In dependence upon the Holy Spirit, and in obedience to God's Word, we seek to work with a variety of organizations to enable and to equip their personnel to live integrated Christian lives that are manifested in a closer communion with God, transformed character, living in harmony with other workers, are effective in relationships and work in both the secular and Christian communities.

## **WOMEN CONFERENCE JULY 2017**

On July 8<sup>th</sup> The single mom's Ministry together with Pastor Yoel and his wife Lesbia organized the second Conference in the city of Lejamani, Comayagua.

We started last year inviting the women only but we also had men attending. This year it was open for both men and women as they don't have many opportunities of having conferences so they could also participate.

The theme of the conference was "Women fill your jar with Oil" and we had Pastora Marcia as the main speaker. There was an attendance of 75 to 80 participants. Lejamani is a small town but people from nearby villages came to the conference.

We enjoyed the evening with worship, scripture reading, dance group, message and we closed with a time of prayer at the altar.

During the prayer time the women were on one side and Pastora Marcia, Lestia and myself we prayed for them. The men were on the other side and Ernesto and pastor Yoel prayed for them.

Every one received a small jar with anointing oil to take home and we encourage them to use it when they ministered to others or for themselves. We closed the night with a snack of tamales and a drink. We thank God for the opportunity to encourage our brothers and sisters from that city as they are being like a lamp, shining in their communities around.

We went back to meet the group of children that were receiving a hot lunch every day in the church building where a group of volunteers start every morning at 9:00 am to prepare lunch so the kids can eat at 11:30. Every child is to bring their own bowl and a cup from home to be served. As they are starting this new program some children do not have their own dishes.

We invited Pastor Roberto from La Lima feeding center to come with us so he can give advise to this group on how to register the center and how to do things with the government regulations.

We also got together with the group of 15 women and 2 teachers that already started the sewing class. Every Saturday there will be two groups; one will meet from 8:30 am to 11:30 with one of the teachers and the second group meet at 2:00 to 5:30 pm with the second teacher.

At this time there are 3 sewing machines available for the two groups but we are planning to buy at least 3 more.

We are planning with Pastor Roberto a Conference in La Lima in November of this year God's willing.

We also keep feeding 120 kids in la Lima, and 30 more In Arena Blanca. We also had a summer Bible school for the kids of the feeding center, and to everyone who came they got a t-shirt, with the logo of the center. We appreciate your support and your prayers.







# SUMMER TIME IS VACATION BIBLE CAMPS ... SAM I AM CENTRE OF LECHARD, NORTHEAST, HAITI

REGIONAL DIRECTORS: ALIX & GERTRUDE JEAN-PAUL

Summer time is Vacation Bible Camps at Sam I Am Centre in our mission field in Haiti. We have been able to feed over 1000 children and adults for three days with two meals a day. Pastor Namphy and his team did a tremendous job welcoming the children and modeling the Fruit of the Spirit. Two meals a day during the three-day camp are a rare occurrence in the lives of many of these children.

The Christian environment created by the staff with a fun way of memorizing Bible verses, the lively songs and the fun games make the camps the most awaited event of summer in our mission field. A dynamic group of young leaders are given a purpose in living their new-found faith by serving the younger generation in leading Bible Studies and teaching them how to memorize verses. These five children won prizes for memorizing the most verses this summer. Fifty have made a decision to follow Christ. The follow up program at the SAM I AM CENTRE is designed to bring together children of different communities to learn Bible verses and worship songs while playing and valuing each other as brothers and sisters in Christ.

To close the season, Pastor Namphy and his team have organized a Deeper Life Service from Monday, August 21 to Sunday 27th. They were amazed by the number of people who came in spite of the rain. On Wednesday and Thursday nights 150 people filled our 22 by 40 building. They were overjoyed and many have prayed the prayer of salvation.

Sadly, on Friday morning, I got a call from Namphy. **His life was threatened by one of the powerful men in the community**. The power of darkness is afraid of the power of light. They want to silence him because the Gospel of Jesus Christ is opening the eyes of the people. This is serious. We are deeply concerned. Please, pray for Namphy for divine protection and determination to continue the evangelization campaign at the Centre.

Vacation Bible Camp 2017 and the follow-up program are all possible with the generosity of many. The major sponsors this year have been: North Kildonan MB Church, Prairie Rose Evangelical Mennonite Church, Jubilee Mennonite Church and many generous individuals.

Your support to CEO Ministries Inc. thereby for SAM I AM CENTRE is making a difference. Haiti is truly a broken country in need of redemption through the Gospel of Jesus Christ. You have made it possible for Pastor Namphy and the leadership team to seed, in a small way, the seed of the new Haiti under the Lordship of Jesus Christ. As we learn in Galatians 6:9 Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up (NIV). Gertrude and I are truly touched by your generosity. We hope that you will continue to support our ministry in Haiti by becoming our partners. The fact is, we need your help to continue to make a difference in the lives of the children in Haiti.



## C.E.O. OBJECTIVES

We are a Team Empowering Ministries to...

Reach the Lost
Revive the Weak
Rescue the Fallen
Restore the Broken
Reconcile the Offended
Release the Discipled

We do that through...

#### Education

C.E.O. began their ministry in October, 1980 with starting Christian alternatives to Public Education and strengthening the influence of Christians in Public education. We now do that, and more, internationally through training, and developing educational and financial resources.

#### Evangelism/Discipleship

God is doing marvelous things. Using Haiti as one example, not only are hundreds of children coming to know Christ, they are also being discipled at the Sam I Am Centre. This also provides "community building" and support for parents.

## **Leadership Training**

Our National Indigenous leaders are the backbone of everything we do in their country. Training and caring for them is critical to empowering them to be more effective in building God's Kingdom.

#### Humanitarian/Medical

Feeding children one simple meal a day, or training single moms in a career so they can feed their family, or sending in teams to rebuild after a hurricane, or providing cataract surgery for the blind to make them productive are some of the things we do. Micro-financing.. etc.

#### Networking

We are kingdom workers and not empire builders. We team up with other ministries so the synergy of working together makes both of us more effective. We develop local leadership and sign agency agreements to empower them in their specific regions. If we can make other ministries stronger and more effective in building God's kingdom then we have been successful.

#### Financial Report Jan-Aug 2017

Thank you for praying and giving. As you can see this is a tough year and it is even tougher on the Mission Field. This is God's work and we depend on Him and His people. We use what He gives us and pray that He will multiply it according to His purposes. Thanks for being part of the team. God is doing Great Things... Zechariah 4:10

 Eight Month Budget
 \$ 454,667.00

 Eight Month Income
 226,140.00
 49.7%

 Net Difference
 \$ 228,527.00



MEN'S MISSION TRIP TO CUBA OCTOBER 14-21

This all-inclusive trip costs \$ 1700 CDN (out of Winnipeg) includes flight, resort, translator, transportation, and an overnight trip to Havana. Ministry, fellowship, and a time to draw close to God. Call now to book your participation before prices rise. Call Terry at 204-227-0966 or doclewis@mts.net.

#### BERHANU GOES BACK TO ETHIOPIA AUGUST 29 – OCTOBER 6

Please pray for me that God will use me effectively in training pastors and seeking to pull together leaders from several different evangelical denominations. There are many political conflicts in Ethiopia right now and both the Coptics and the Muslims are violently persecuting Christians. Poverty and desperation are prevalent throughout the country. Pray for my wife and three boys as I



leave them back here in Canada. Your prayers are so important to me.

Brian & Sandra finally arrive in Canada after almost 2 years of trying to bring his bride home. Pray for them as they re-adjust to Canadian culture as God opens a new chapter for them.

Welcome La Canada

Christians Empowering Organizations Box 283 St. Vital, Manitoba R2N3X9 or email: doclewis@mts.net or Phone: 204-227-0966

#### C.E.O. CORE VALUES

The Gospel: We value the **gospel** as declared by Jesus Christ. It is sufficient in its sanctifying power for both the unrestored and the restored sinner.

Reconciliation: We value the dynamics of reconciliation. It is essential for sinners restored or not, so they can live lives pleasing to our Creator and maintain healthy relations in their families, chosen church, friends and unrestored sinners.

Suffering: We value suffering. It is a means that God can utilize to teach and purify His people. Hope: We value hope. No person, sinner or saint is beyond the hope of redemption if they desire and pursue it.

Calling: We value God's calling and anointing imperfect individuals to be leaders. While such leaders can still make wrong choices and sin badly, if they truly repent God can restore them to leadership. We believe that all Christian leaders are restored sinners—wounded healers. Dependence: We value a humble dependence on God and others. We believe that, while human effort is required, it is not sufficient to accomplish the continuous work of sanctifying and reconciling. We believe all sinners whether restored or not, need to remain dependent upon the Spirit of God, the people of God and the Word of God for help.

Prayer: We value **prayer**, both personal and corporate. It is a powerful means of connecting with God. Prayer helps us face the things in life that challenge our walk with Him.

Grace & Truth: We value truth. It is a significant component that liberates people from the things that enslave them. We value Grace. It aids the process of dealing with truth in the lives of individuals seeking to be transformed according to God's will.

Love: We value *agape love*. It is the love of God. It should be our compelling and constraining motivation. All other motivation is secondary and love is an expression of obedience to His command for us to love our fellowman.

Mercy & Forgiveness: We believe in mercy. We are thankful for the mercy and forgiveness God has extended to us and commands us to extend to others.

Gifts: We value the different gifts God gives individuals for the purpose of empowering and equipping them to be effective in their calling. We believe God has made each restored human being unique and of potential value to the church and the world.

We value accountability, safe communities, etc..