

FREEDOM COMES WITH A COST

During the Second World War, countless Allied soldiers put their lives on the line for the good of their country. Others simply offered themselves up to save comrades. But still, even in this time of true heroism, the story of John Robert Fox stands out. The artillery officer added his names to the history books— and earned himself a posthumous Medal of Honor— for the sacrifice he made one December day in 1944, when he was thousands of miles from home.

In 1944, he found himself fighting the Nazis in Italy. It was here, in December of that year, he was tasked to stay behind in the small village of Sommocolonia, in Tuscany. The village had been overrun by Nazis, and Americans were in retreat. Fox found a house to hide in and, from the second floor, he used his radio to contact his colleagues. He called for artillery fire to be directed at the village in order to give the US forces time to retreat, regroup and then launch a counter-attack. Fox even specifically ordered a barrage of fire on his exact position. The gunner who received the message pointed this out to him, assuming it must be some mistake. Fox, however, simply said: “Fire it. There is more of them than there are us”: famous last words of a true American hero. Fox’s act of sacrifice was not in vain. As he planned, the artillery barrage did indeed give his comrades the chance to regroup and launch a successful counterattack. When the US army entered Sommocolonia, they found Fox’s body surrounded by the bodies of around 100 Germans. He was a true American hero who made the ultimate sacrifice.

“Greater love hath no man than this: to lay down one’s life for his friends.” John 15:13. In almost every culture since the beginning of time, sacrificing your own life in order that others may live has been regarded as the ultimate act of courage and selflessness. Understandably, it is an act only few people are ever willing to make. But, over the course of history, some remarkable people have done just this – they have given up their lives in the hope that other people will be able to carry on living. What is even more extraordinary and heroic than someone sacrificing their own life in order to save their friends and loved ones is when someone takes the ultimate step to save strangers.

For centuries, missionaries have left the comfort of their homes to go to strange foreign lands to share the gospel with people they did not know, whose language and culture they had to learn to share the love of Christ with race of people they came to love like family. Such heroes of the faith like William Carey, David Livingstone, Hudson Taylor, Jim Elliot and many more sacrificed their lives to share the love of Christ. Jim Elliot and his four friends were martyred trying to share their love and love of Christ with the Auca Indians in Ecuador. Spears pierced their bodies as they lay in the Curaray River. Jim once said, “ He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose.” The greatest of all missionaries was God’s son who came to us while we were sinners and because He loved us so much He paid the ultimate sacrifice for our sins so that we could become the righteousness of God in Him.



as we compare with the missionary giants who have gone before us. **How much has it cost us to serve Him**—not just with a percentage of our wealth but with our time and focus. God forgive us and help us get back on track.





GRANT & ROBERTA KURIAN: UKRAINE, ETHIOPIA, ISRAEL, CUBA, & MORE.

My wife Roberta and I have felt incredibly blessed to be a part of the numerous opportunities the Lord has provided us to serve Him. The exciting part is how much is being done. The saddening part however is how much needs to be done in the first place. One of the places we have had the honour of serving in is with Berhanu in Ethiopia. We have worked with Berhanu in supporting the pastors who have come out of Islam – a very dangerous endeavor, and part of all that, something we have gotten very excited over is the mission of helping the Ethiopian Jews make their way back to Israel. A year ago, God really brought to light this situation and that we needed to get involved. Some recent developments that have taken place to help things move along is the new addition of a political minister that has taken over in one of the areas we have been serving in. This woman is an Ethiopian Jew herself and has really caught onto the vision as well. She recently



ETHIOPIAN JEWS RECEIVE FOOD & GOSPEL

passed a bill and got it signed by Benjamin Netanyahu. There is about 2000 to 3000 Jews currently in Ethiopia and she has dedicated herself to getting them to Jerusalem – this is an amazing act of God that the government of a country would get behind such a project. God made it happen when there was no way! This is still in process, but we're anticipating some amazing things to happen.

We would really like to encourage people this November to remember what others have sacrificed for us to live in the beautiful, and *currently* free, country of Canada. This is so important right now. We as children of God need to stand up and protect what the people who went before us sacrificed. With the concerning things that are happening in all free countries around the world right now, too many times we shrug it off as “just going with the flow.” But little do we know; we could be losing more and more of our freedoms until we wind up like some of the other countries that don't openly permit Christianity. We need to pray and petition both this earthly government and our heavenly government for what God has so freely given to us up until this point. Let us not forget the sacrifices made for us so that we can live in freedom.



HEART OF THE CITY – PASTOR JOHN

It has been a strange repercussion with this Covid Pandemic. On the one hand, we have less ladies working on the street (because of quarantine), which is a good thing. But on the other hand, if they're not “working”, they are also not eating. For many of these women, this is the only way of life they know and the only means they believe they must use to live. With the



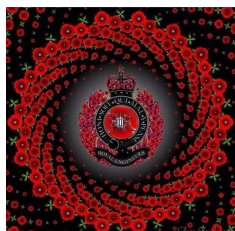
lock downs, we see fewer Christians and non-Christians working in the inner-city aiding people, and thus the pressure on our ministry has risen dramatically. A lot of people have hunkered down and stopped doing what they use to do,



volunteering in the various centers that serve the homeless and this has been challenging for all. Our main focus right now are the immediate needs such as food, toilet paper, and medicine. It was a financial challenge, but the Lord was good and He provided. Our biggest needs right now for continuing ministry are financial partners for the maintenance and upkeep of our ministry vehicle. This has been a tremendous blessing used for transporting people to safe houses, delivering food and furniture to those in need, and even saving lives. If you recall from last winter, there were a number of times we found someone drunk in the snow who would have inevitably died if it hadn't been for the vehicle our generous supporters have provided. And most importantly, your prayers are needed. Everyone is suffering during these uncertain times, and even more so those who live within the fringes of our city. We are looking

forward to another amazing journey of ministry in the inner city. Would you consider joining us one evening on a ride along serving the poor? God bless.

WORKING WITH INTERNATIONAL CHURCHES: DR. LEWIS



We had the joy of ministering to a Congolese Church in Central Winnipeg and sharing the gospel with them. My spirit soared with my Congolese brothers and sisters as we worshipped “Worthy is the Lamb.” There is just something precious when God's people get together to worship our Lord and King. With this cloud of Covid over us we need to put on the “garments of praise for the spirit of heaviness”. We were able to focus on “Controlling Fear or being Controlled by Fear—it is a choice.”





Central America: Ernesto and Marina Pinto



Since the pandemic had shut down the world, we had committed ourselves and our ministry to feeding 200 families and have been blessed to do so consistently for months now. Unfortunately, with the airports being shut down, I have not been able to be physically present, but good news is still reported. Here is the testimony of some of

the families your donations have been supporting:

Testimony from Susana: “Hello Pastor Ernesto Pinto, I am Mrs. Susana Jiménez and I am from Lejamani. I wanted to open my heart and share with you a story. Recently, I have lost my beloved husband of 20 years, being left alone with my seven children. On one occasion we had nothing to eat and were living in a small grass hut. It had been a struggle working from job to job simply to find enough to eat and attempt building a more suitable place to live. At the time we were not Christians and the situation was only worsening. But glory to God, pastors Joehl and Lesvia had visited our house and shared with us the good news of Jesus. We received the Lord and began attending the church and the church then began helping us. We have received food and clothing from your supporters and we are so thankful to God. Without this help from the Lord, I don't know where we would have been. Each day is now a blessing. Thank you so much.”



Testimony of Nurli Paola

“Blessing Pastor Ernesto, I am Mrs. Nurli Paola Suazo Vasque. My family and I had been experiencing problems since the beginning of the pandemic. My husband and I were left without work and we had small children to feed. One day I went to prepare breakfast for my family and I had absolutely nothing in my pockets or purse to buy food – not even fifty cents. The only thing I had in my kitchen was a small packet of coffee grinds. That day I asked the Lord Jesus to help me and provide for me house and family, which was when the Lord had sent Pastors Johel and Lesvia. They came with a small purse of provision and they shared with us the word of the Lord. Since meeting them, we have received many

blessings, thanks to you and your partners that have been interceding and helping us with our needs. Praise be to God for using you as a channel of blessing.”

Each day we are inspired as the men and women of ministry in Honduras and Guatemala continue to serve and sacrifice their time, their resources, and even their lives. These places are not easy areas to serve as many of them are ridden with gangs and violence, and now with the majority of the cities being without work, these places have only gotten more desperate. Your continued prayers and financial support are much appreciated. Thank you, and God bless.

SAM I AM CENTER, HAITI: The story of Kenson Telusma:

Doing ministries overseas during the Covid 19 pandemic presents many challenges while opening new perspectives to move forward. I met Kenson during my first trip with CEO in Limbe in 2000 where we started the first VBS program. He is the younger brother of Pastor Namphy. I lost sight of him after I left Limbe 16 years ago, however, this group of young people has been present in my mind and in my prayers. I had the opportunity to meet him and his wife at the Center during our last trip to Haiti, He was without doubt a God-sent opportunity.

At the time we were concerned about the mental health (burn-out) of Pastor Namphy. The ministry was growing, the load became too heavy for Pastor Namphy. There was no one among the staff that was able to fill the void. Arisnel and I were praying for a person that has a heart for ministry and has the spiritual maturity and administrative skills to work with Namph. He was interviewed by us and we determined that he was the best candidate for the position as the Centre's manager.



Two years into the ministry, Kenson has accomplished more than we expected. More importantly, he has freed Pastor Namphy to focus on the spiritual ministry in a very challenging environment. He was a God-sent individual to move the ministry forward. Kenson is a family man devoted to God and the spiritual welfare of the community. He has great respect for his older brother and they work as a team to move the ministry forward. His achievements in the last year and a half alleviated our concerns about the future of the Sam I Am Center. He is dedicated to farming and raising live stocks. He was able to turn the Centre into a beautiful environment, very pleasant place to honor God. Anyone who visits the Centre was amazed about what they see: A clean place, a welcome environment where one can worship God. Many visitors could not believe that place could ever exist in Lechard. It was perceived by many in the region as a place for evil worship. **Brother Kenson is praying for a sponsor to help him care for his family while serving God and his community.**

CEO IN DOMINICAN REPUBLIC:

The situation of our school with 50 students and four teachers is uncertain. The Corona Virus has complicated our situation due to the fact that our students and the school do not have legal status in the country. So far, we are not sure how things will evolve with the new government in DR. School is scheduled to open in November. At this point, we do not have a school building. We do not have the means to provide laptops for our students. Besides, their community is not wired with internet access.

As of now, we are doing a sort of home schooling. We divide our students in sections. Each of the four teachers has a number of students to care for. The teachers travel by motorcycle twice a week to bring assignments for the students. They were able to help them with assignments while collecting work done for assessments. They will bring financial supports for the parents to buy food for their children.



How to Avoid Capital-Gains Tax

C.E.O. Ministries is now able to accept and process “shares”. For instance, in a recent transaction someone donated \$20,000 in shares to the ministry. They invested \$10,000 and earned another \$10,000 on their investment. If they were to cash-in and receive the \$20,000 they would have to pay taxes on the interest they gained. But, when they donated their shares to CEO Ministries they received a tax-deductible receipt for \$20,000. In this way they were able to invest in ministry rather than pay taxes on the money. This is good stewardship of the resources God has given us.

GOD’S HALL OF FAME: LEGACY BUILT ON SACRIFICE

If you read Hebrews 11, God shares His Hall of Fame. At this time God’s enemy is using the weapon of **Fear** to fight against the **Faith** of God’s people. God’s enemy is using **Deceit** to confuse the **Truth** and he is using **Selfishness** to supplant **Sacrifice**. As I read this chapter and compare it to where I am at I feel ashamed and humbled. I challenge you to read Hebrews 11 and compare your faith and ask God, “Lord I believe, help me overcome my unbelief”.

The widow who gave her last two pennies was not worried about giving ten percent. Her faith was not focused on what was left over after she gave her offering—it was focused on her Provider whom she loved more than anything and knew He would take care of her. Her exercise of faith and her sacrifice embarrasses and humbles me—what about you? I have met men and women like her in third world countries but I have only met one like her in North America. Her name was Anne Miller and she was an amazing woman.

At the Board Retreat in October I shared the “Left Behind” trilogy and focused on 2 Peter 3 in our devotional sessions. It was interesting. In the trilogy Christians were being destroyed by a man-made global pandemic. 2 Peter 3 warns that a sign of the end of time is that “mockers” will come following after their own lusts denying the end of time. We have self-professed evangelicals defending abortion and ordaining practicing gays. As the world seeks to build its own “heaven on earth” God states that he will come when we least expect it and then asks, “Since all these things are to be destroyed (by fire) what sort of people ought you to be?” He then gives direction.

Be “*holy in conduct and godliness looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God*”. Four specific tasks. I struggle miserably with the first two but am intense on the last two. How about you—how are you doing? He actually has a 5th directive “*looking for the new heavens and the new earth, in which righteousness dwells*”. That is exciting and I will never struggle with the first two directives.

What sacrifices are you and I making in following His directions. What does God want you to do? I thank you for all you have done and I pray that we will ask God what more does He want us to do.

**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**

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