GATEWAY INTERNATIONAL MINISTRIES REPORT

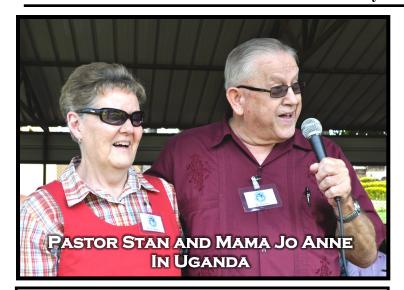


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FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK......

Dear Beloved GIMI Team Members,

Blessed post-Easter greetings in the precious name of our resurrected Lord and Savior. I trust that you and your dear loved ones had a wonderful celebration of our living Lord during this special time of the year. Every year at this time of celebration, I am reminded of what Paul said in I Corinthians 15:12-19, when he spoke to the troubled Corinthians, "Now if Christ be preached that He rose from the dead, how say some among you that there is no resurrection of the dead? But if there be no resurrection of the dead, then is Christ not risen: And if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain. Yea, and we are found false witnesses of God; because we have testified of God that he raised up Christ: whom he raised not up, if so be that the dead rise not. For if the dead rise not, then is not Christ raised: And if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins. Then they which

also are fallen asleep in Christ are perished. If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable."

Folks, did you read these wonderful Scripture verses closely? They are truly some of the greatest verses in all of the Bible. Why? Because if there had been no past resurrection where Jesus Christ became the first fruit of the resurrection, and if there was no resurrection for us to look forward to in the future, then this life of service to God would be wasted completely. But, those of us who are genuinely saved and have been made anew and alive in and through the resurrected Christ, we do know that whatever we face down here on earth because of the suffering of sinful mankind, and whatever criticism and persecution that we might suffer for the cause of Christ, all of this will surely be worthwhile when Jesus comes again and we get our new glorified bodies made just like Jesus' body. What a glorious day that surely will be when we see Jesus face to face, that is, if we have been faithful to Him and His dear Kingdom while we are here on earth.

What A Glorious Harvest
Our GIMI Medical And Evangelism Team
Experienced In Uganda!

Most all of you know that back in early March, JoAnne and I had the glorious privilege of taking a large 18 member Medical and Evangelism team to Uganda where our GIMI Headquarters and Training Center is located. We planned a very hard schedule so that we could share the Gospel with as many people as was humanly possible, and so that we could treat a lot of terribly sick people in the prisons of Uganda. Well, by the

strength and grace of God, along with the faithful dedication of our team members, we were surely blessed to see God provide a tremendous harvest. During our ten days of work in Uganda, we shared the Gospel with over 3,700 people with over 900 of these praying to receive Jesus Christ as their personal Savior. Of these 900 plus people that came to Christ, 45 of them were Muslims who were personally led to Christ through our terrific counselors. Many of these dear Muslims gave our counselors their prayer beads, their hats, and most of all, their promise to start reading the Bible instead of the Koran.

Friends, I just can't express adequately how wonderfully God moved in our midst through His servants. JoAnne and I have taken over 300 people to Africa down through our years of working there, and we have never seen any team that bonded so well together, respected one another, worked in unity, and never complained at all. There is no doubt in my mind that God is the One Who put this precious mission team together, and He guided us with His wisdom, moved through our team members with His Holy Spirit, and saved a multitude of sinners with the clear presentation of the Gospel by our counselors and our preachers. We are still praising the Lord Jesus for all that He did through us in our short time in Uganda.

I also want to say that our medical team led by Dr. Steven Merrill, Dr. Nathan Merrill, our two nurses, Alisha Carrigan and Kellie Roberts, did a fabulous job leading us as we medically treated over 1,600 patients during our short time of work there. God truly used these medical people, and all of our team, in a glorious way. I must tell you that I have never seen so many sick people in the prisons of Uganda during my 31 years of working in that country. We saw and treated these 1,600 people with every kind of medicine available. There were scores of people with parasites, scabies, HIV/AIDS, malaria, TB, and many kinds of infections. Numerous prisoners needed immediate, extensive treatments in addition to what we could provide. We immediately sent those people with life-threatening diseases, the need for immediate hernia surgeries, brain disorders which needed CAT scans, and many other serious problems to the hospitals. For instance, we treated one man whose photo we are including in this newsletter who had a colostomy on his right abdomen, and instead of having the proper bag for the colostomy, he had a large plastic garbage bag attached to the colostomy catching the excrement and fluids instead of having the proper bags. We sent a nurse to the pharmacy immediately and purchased everything he needed for his problem. You, our GIMI supporters, helped us meet this terrific need.

Let me just give you the names of our 18 team members so that you can offer thanksgiving on their part,

and also, continue to pray for them, their families, and their weekly ministries wherever they live. Truly, the hand of God was upon this team, but it was through you, our friends, who gave prayer protection and the power of the Holy Spirit to each of us on the team. Here is the name of our team members:

- 1. Pastor Mike McKinney is the Associate Pastor at Gateway International Baptist Church here in Taylorsville, NC. This is our home church.
- 2. Matthew McKinney is Pastor Mike and Rebecca McKinney's son, and of course, our grandson whom we are very proud of.
- 3. Patsy Little is our GIMI Office Administrator and a Board Member.
- 4. Mildred Catron is another GIMI Board Member from Princeton, WV.
- 5. Tony Wilson is our Music Director here at GIBC and a young licensed preacher who is on fire for Jesus.
 - 6. Dale Little is one of our GIBC Sunday School teachers.
- 7. Dr. Steven Merrill is a medical doctor here in Taylorsville, NC.
- 8. Dr. Nathan Merrill, the son of Dr. Steven and Marie Merrill, is the Director of a new children's home in Romania.
- 9. Alisha Carrigan is one of our local nurses who works with Dr. Merrill.
- 10. Kellie Roberts is another one of our local nurses. She works at Frye Hospital and is a member of our GIBC family.
- 11. Dr. Tommy Snyder is the pastor of First Baptist Church, Batesville, MS and the Vice-President of GIMI.
- 12. Embree Bolton is the Sunday School Director at First Baptist Church, Batesville, MS.
- 13. Clem Brown is a dear Christian layman who teaches in his church in North Augusta, SC.
- 14. Regina Brown is Brother Clem's wife and the director of the Ladies' Ministry in their church in North Augusta, SC.
- 15. Pastor Rodney Bodiford is also a GIMI Board Member and an Interim Pastor in North Augusta, S.C.
- 16. Michala Still is a precious young teenage lady from Pastor Rodney's Church in North August, S.C.
- 17. My dear beloved wife, JoAnne Frye, is also the First Lady of GIMI.
- 18. I, Dr. Stan Frye, President of GIMI, am a very tired old man! :-)



A Great Big Thank You To Our African Preachers And Workers

While thanking all of our GIMI Mission Team for the wonderful job they did this past March, I would truly be remiss if I didn't thank our wonderful African preachers and staff who worked so hard to not only make the medical clinics and evangelism programs work so well in Uganda, but also to make sure that every need was met for our visiting American team. Let me begin by thanking Rev. William and Florence Ssentumbwe, our Uganda Directors who worked for weeks and weeks getting things ready for our team to come. Then, I want to thank Preacher Gerald Kibuule, one of our GIMI staff members for helping so much with translation and the preaching services. Also, let me express my deepest gratitude to Brother Sammy Mbugua, our Kenya Director, James Mwangi, and Shadrack Ekai. These men rode on the bus for many hours to come over from Kenya and help us with the translation and counseling there in Uganda. These dear men of God did a remarkable job helping us share Jesus, and they truly will share in the rewards for the large number of people that got saved.

I also want to thank James Kyango, Betty Bako, Robinah, and Prossey for the wonderful meals they prepared for our team. And, I must thank Brother Nicholas Lutalo for the many miles he drove carrying the medicine to the prisons for the medical clinics and driving to the airport to help all of us meet our flight schedules. And lastly, I want to thank William and Florence's children, John, Grace, and Rachel for the scores of errands they ran to purchase medicine, pick up needed materials, and always being there ready to help in any way they possibly could. Surely, the ten days our team spent in Uganda were just blessed beyond measure due to the blessings of God and because of the wonderful people that helped us present the Gospel and minister to scores of people. It is my prayer that every mission trip we might have in the future will be carried out as smoothly as this one.



Thanks To All Who Prayed For Us And To All Of You Who Gave To Make This Wonderful Trip Possible!

Folks, it goes without saying that we could not have taken this team to Uganda to share the Gospel with so many people were it not for those of you who prayed so faithfully, and most assuredly, for those who gave so sacrificially to help our team members raise their funds for their trips, plus many of you gave so generously to help us purchase all of the medicines, the supplies, the special tests for sick patients, and for shipping the Bibles and materials over from Kenya to Uganda. Thank you for truly being such a vital part of this team effort. After my 51 years in full-time ministry, I believe we did this special mission project the way God has intended for the Great Commission to be carried out. This means that we accepted the call, prayed for the presence and anointing of the Holy Spirit, and as a great big team, worked together in unison to see over 900 people come to know Christ experientially and to plant an enormous amount of additional seeds which are yet to germinate and come up. Thank you for sharing this great expedition for Jesus!

Some Very Special Prayer Requests And Needs!

- 1. We need desperately to ship <u>another container</u> of Bibles, Bible portions, Gospel tracts, and Prison Kids' boxes to Uganda. We are completely out of Bibles and other materials there. The projected cost for shipping and clearing this container is \$14,000.
- 2. Right now we are in the process of <u>re-registering</u> our GIMI Ministry in Uganda. This has to be done every few years. We need \$1,500 for this special need.
- 3. Due to a terrible draught and famine in Northern Kenya, hundreds of people are starving to death. Please help us pray that God will provide us with the funds to **drill a well** in the Lodwar area of Northern Kenya where our preacher, Shadrack Ekai is working. The total projected cost of this well is \$35,000.
- 4. We need your help to buy <u>mosquito nets.</u> Some school children and orphans sleep dangerously every night because of malaria infected mosquitoes. These mosquito nets cost about \$20 each. We need at least 100-200 immediately. 100 will cost \$2,000 while 200 will cost \$4,000.
- 5. Children in prison with their mothers need <u>blankets</u> so that they can sleep warmly at night. We can purchase these blankets for \$10.00 each in Uganda and Kenya. We would love to buy at least 400 of these coverings to swaddle these suffering children. 400 of these blankets will cost \$4,000. You might consider buying just one or more. Because we did a project like this several years ago, we are calling this one "Operation Cover Up II", So, if you can help us, we know that God will cover you with His love because of your kindness.





First Church Of Fickleville, Anywhere!

Most of you GIMI friends know that I have been in the ministry for over 50 years. During these years, my wife, JoAnne and I have had the privilege of leading ten Baptist churches throughout the United States. We have had some wonderful experiences with some of these churches growing rapidly with many people coming to Christ. In a few of the other churches, we had good growth, but nothing amazing. However, having pastored all of these churches, we have been first hand observers of the dedicated people and the visionary attitudes that have contributed to church growth and development. On the other hand, we have watched people with almost no dedication to Christ and to the local church who have contributed nothing but discouragement to the church leaders and to fellow church members in the flock. But honestly folks, JoAnne and I have never seen such fickle people in the churches as we are seeing today in this generation. We are seeing it in many churches where we visit, and to be truthful, we have seen it here in our own new growing church. So, because no one with cancer can be treated properly until they are professionally diagnosed by well-trained doctors, I believe that as an older seasoned pastor with years of experience that I need to make a diagnosis of the First Church of Fickleville, and see if I might be able to help people get well from their willful disease of fickleness.

What Is Fickleness?

According to Webster's Dictionary, the word fickle means the following: likely to change often, changeable, fluctuating, inconsistent, uncertain, unpredictable, unsettled, unstable, unsteady, variable, volatile, aimless, erratic, hit-or-miss, irregular, vacillating, wavering, undependable, unreliable, untrustworthy, and on and on we might go. And yes, even as I typed the words, the names of church people kept coming to my mind. These are the terrible characteristics of so many professing believers today, and these people never accomplish anything of eternal value because they are basically living for the moment. Attending church and following Christ are just two of the many options and alternatives that they choose from each week. If they have nothing else to do, or if they have no other place to go, they might show up at church or some church activity. They make promises with their mouths and rarely fulfill them. They get all worked up about special things they might do like working in Vacation Bible School, helping to serve a meal to the elderly, or just anything where they might get a little special attention. And then, when this special event is over and it is time for "regular worship and church again", you might not see them for weeks. Why, these people get all emotionally worked up in a church worship service and even lift their hands and shout hallelujah, but then, they go home and you don't see them for weeks. And God forbid that the pastor or some other church leader contact them, because if they do, the church member from Fickleville will get very angry because they don't won't to be held accountable for their negligence. They are usually self-centered people with no time for anyone else.

These people keep their children and grandchildren out of church on Sundays and other worship times, if they have any other thing to do. And, if you call on them to do some particular job in the church, they will usually only do it if they can get some glory. Beyond this, these fickleites are usually high maintenance and demand special attention if they ever get around to doing anything. They are not team players because team players are more interested in the win for the team rather than displaying their own abilities before the crowd. And beloved friends, these fickle folks are destroying the fruitfulness and growth of our local churches. So, it is my prayer that every person who reads this newsletter might stop and take a personal inventory of his or her life and see if there are any signs of fickleitis. If there is, please, please take this dreaded disease to the Great Physician and ask Him to heal it immediately. Why? Because the Kingdom of God and the success of the Great Commission and world missions are depending upon dependable and genuine people who will carry out the mission God has given them to do.

Now, before I move on, let me give you two vivid illustrations from the Bible of fickleness. One of these may be found in the Gospels. Do you remember when Jesus rode the donkey into Jerusalem from the Mount of Olives, and the crowd threw down palm leaves and shouted, "Hosanna to the highest!"? And then, just a short time later, these same people stood outside the court of Pilate and shouted, "Crucify Him!" I don't know how Jesus felt as He was attacked and abused by fickle people because He was free from sin. But, I do know how it feels to have church members promise me one day or one Sunday that they are going to be faithful and support me as their pastor, and within two or three days, they get mad and leave the

church. I have had the same thing happen with people who have promised to support our GIMI mission program, especially some younger people and young preachers, then a few days later, these same people are gone and can't be found. And then, I find out that it is always my fault, but this information comes from friends of those who left because those who leave are so fickle that they don't have the courage to tell you face to face why they are leaving. I even had this to happen recently here at our new church. And truthfully, this is why I feel led to deal with this because every pastor I know deals with this regularly in this generation of professing believers.

The last illustration that I want to give you is found in Acts 14, where Paul and Barnabas were in the city of Lystra on the first missionary journey. Paul had just healed a man at the gate of the city who had been crippled from his birth. The man jumped up and began to leap and run in the city filled with excitement. The people in that pagan city were so caught up with excitement that they thought Paul and Barnabus were the Greek gods of Jupiter (Zeus) and Mercurius (Hermes). They sent for the priest of these pagan gods, and they were about to make a sacrificial offering unto Paul and Barnabus. But Paul and Barnabus would not have it, and they ran into the crowd and tore their clothing to show the people of Lystra that they were just humans like themselves. These mixed up Jews and wicked Gentiles got so mad at Paul, because he was the spokesman, that they took him outside the city gate and stoned him brutally and left him for dead. Folks, please notice this! One minute they wanted to worship God's servants as gods, and the next minute they wanted to kill them. Would you say that they were enormously fickle? I surely would, and yet, this fickleness was surely not just localized to Lystra in that day and time. Why? Because our churches are full of these fickle folks fooling around feverishly with the work of Jesus today! May God stamp out this fickleitis and give us in the Kingdom of God some more "Pauls" who will stick by the stuff, even when it is not even safe to do so. We need to learn that serving Jesus faithfully and taking His Gospel to the lost world is not about us, but about Him and them. When we go to church to see what others can do for us, rather than to see what we can do for Jesus and others, we won't last very long. Why? Because we are self-centered human beings who are always seeking attention, but when we are faced with accountability to be faithful and hold to our promises, so very often we get mad and go looking for another place to display our fickleness! May God stop this terrible disease in this generation before it spreads even more!

One Final Note

Before closing our newsletter this time, I would like to thank Pastor Tommy Snyder, our GIMI Vice-President, who wrote such a wonderful article in our last GIMI newsletter. He graciously consented to do this because JoAnne and I had just completed a long 3,000 mile trip to South Texas where I preached for our dear friends at North Bay Fellowship, where Odell Daughtry is the fine pastor. In Pastor Tommy's article, he talked much about the Great Commission. This article made me think about what my dear friend, Dr. Johnny Hunt, used to say about the Great Commission. Pastor Johnny always emphasizes the fact that the Great Commission has never lost its greatness. And, we need to realize this, because as someone recently said, "it is no longer the Great Commission, but it has become the Great Omission" for a huge amount of pastors, churches, and church people in recent years. It would seem that the burden for the lost and for aggressive soul winning ministries in the local church has disappeared from our land. Not long ago, I was having a long conversation with a very discouraged deacon from a church here in North Carolina. During our conversation, we discussed this very thing. Where are the aggressive soul winning churches like we used to have at First Baptist Church, Jacksonville, Florida where Dr. Homer Lindsay was the pastor? Where are the evangelistic pastors and evangelists who used to lead the churches to care about souls? I am sad to say that there are very few of these churches yet remaining in this generation. I won't try to list the many reasons for this modern-day absence of great soul winning and mission-minded churches in this article, but folks, we are in desperate straits because almost 80,000 people die and go to hell every day in the world, and yet so few really even care about their neighbors down the street. We truly need a revival of passion for the lost, but this can only come from real compassion which we get from intimacy with Christ. Therefore, let me close my article by challenging every pastor and church member to go spend some time with Jesus and get on your hearts what He has on His—the souls of lost men, women, boys, and girls. Years ago I heard a soul-winning pastor say, "Soul-winning is not taught, but it is caught." So, may God help us to catch the contagious disease of winning the world to Christ while there is still time!

Until the nets are full,

Dr. Stan Frye President of GIMI Matthew 9:35-36 Gateway International Missions, Inc. PO Box 667 ~ Taylorsville, NC 28681

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