

GIVING TILL IT HURTS

BRIGHT HOPE NEWS



Recently I was out in the field tying up raspberries. I was listening to a sermon by the late Tim Keller that I found...a bit challenging to say the least. He was giving a sermon on "God and Money". His comment that struck me, was that "if your giving is not sufficient to impact your lifestyle, that means you're not sacrificing anything". Yikes!

When I think of examples of where people are doing this, I cannot help but think of our exceptional Bright Hope World partners.

Sarah Nyirenda in Kabwe, Zambia could have had a middle-class lifestyle. She has three children, and her husband had a good secure job as a power linesman for the local power company. Instead, she was compelled to act by needs of the vulnerable people in their community. She saw deaf children, sick children, and abused children. Her love and calling to these people has seen her take in more than fifty children to live in her home. They have a small farm plot with five bedrooms that are fitted out with bunks to house all the children. The community around also helps because this is a huge job!

Children continue to come. Walia had meningitis and ended up deaf and blind. His family bought him a one-way ticket to Kabwe, and he ended up just sitting at the bus station with nowhere to go. Sarah was contacted by the police as they had no idea what to do, so she took him in and managed to teach him sign language by grabbing his hands to form the signs. Sadly, Walia eventually passed away. He spent seven weeks in the hospital and was saying "please Jesus just come and take me". He passed away in Sarah's arms, and she knew finally he was at peace and sure of his destination.

Another of our partners, Norman Tonga in Chipata, Zambia, is a fantastic farmer, especially of soyabeans. Through his contacts he managed to find a company that wanted to partner with growers and secure supply contracts. This would have been a fantastic opportunity for Norman to grow his own business and see huge expansion. But Norman immediately considered his community and started a group of over one hundred farmers to share in the opportunity. He trained them in the Foundations for Farming methods to increase yields and then set up officers to support and visit them. They built a storage shed and helped collect all the beans. Now these farmers are better equipped to provide for their families.

I am sure you would agree that these examples show a huge sacrifice that has been made by faithful people to love others. Norman and Sarah's lifestyles have been massively impacted by the decisions they have made to prioritise others' needs in their communities.

If you asked them why they did this, they would say it is because they acknowledge the sacrifice Jesus made for them, to see them become whole. If he is our example, how can we not do likewise?

Jerry Field

Zambia Partnership Facilitator

There are times when it feels like we are in a season of trial and a deep sadness. Bright Hope World is experiencing one of those times.

On September 26, Jarrod's 17-year-old son – and Rob's grandson – Marley went missing in Christchurch. As of the time of writing, he has not yet been found.



This has been a difficult time for the whole team, but obviously unspeakably so for Jarrod and Debra, and Rob and Heather.

We have all come together as a team to seek God in prayer and would encourage you to join us. Words are hard to find in such a time as this, but we know that God has this wonderful young man in his care.

At the same time, our beloved Kevin has been very unwell in hospital. Again, we have sought God in prayer and are delighted and encouraged that he is making a steady recovery.

We are reminded at such times of the importance of family at all levels, and we extend the invitation to our wider BHW family to pray with us for the Purdue family and for the Honores.



Evaristo in Zambia was preaching in a village where there was a drunkard who dreamed about killing people. The entire village was afraid of him. During the open-air meeting, he heard the Gospel and responded to the invitation to receive Jesus as Lord and Saviour.

Early the next morning, this man came to Evaristo again and said that he wanted to be freed from alcohol addiction and his dreams about killing people. They prayed again and Evaristo spent more time counselling him. He renounced his deeds and confessed his sins to Jesus. Praise God, he is now a changed person.

Edmond in Zimbabwe relocated to a new area last November and one Friday afternoon decided to present the gospel to his new community. Armed with his tried-and-true sketch board, he went out into the street. An unusual sight in this remote village. Standing in front of the sketch board, holding a brush in his hand, he gave a loud whistle and started painting stick figures. A handful of curious villagers gathered to investigate and to satisfy their curiosity. This gave him the opportunity to share a message of God’s love, forgiveness of sin, hope and salvation to them.

In a short time, they were caught up in God’s ‘love net’. Carefully, he extended an invitation for them to receive Christ as Lord and Saviour. After counselling, those who gave their lives to Christ, said “there are no churches nearby. What must we do? We need to know more about God and regularly attend Church services.” Taken aback by their request, he said, “If you are serious, let’s meet on that mountain at 10am Sunday.”

That Sunday, three ladies and one couple came with their children. They had a wonderful service on the mountain. They continued to meet there until eventually, the men decided to build a temporary structure where they could conduct Sunday services.

Read more at <https://www.brighthopeworld.com/partnerships.asp?pid=92>.

1. Pray for Jarrod and Debra Purdue, and for Rob and Heather Purdue. Pray that Marley would be found soon. Pray that God would comfort them in a time of such unbelievable sorrow and suffering. Pray also for those searching for Marley.
2. Pray for Kevin and Helen Honore. Pray that Kevin would make a full and speedy recovery and that he and Helen would not be fearful or discouraged but find strength in Him.
3. Pray for the SOWERS evangelists and the people who are hearing the gospel through their open-air meetings. Pray for the new believers in Zambia & Zimbabwe.
4. As the Bright Hope World team faces a range of challenges, including but not limited to those above, pray for protection for our team and for the health and wellbeing of the team.