

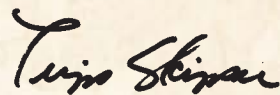
## End the Year with a Gift of Love

**The story of the Good Samaritan** (Luke 10:30-37) gives a clear picture of God's desire for us to help those in desperate need wherever we find them. For seven years, Four Corners Ministries has followed Christ's command by aiding the world's poor, sick, and suffering. We are an effective means of reaching hurting people in Africa with food, medicine, and other assistance in the name of Jesus. This tangible demonstration of Christ love earns us the opportunity to share the eternal healing that comes through a relationship with Jesus Christ.

Your end of the year contribution will allow FCM to finish the year strong. Medicine is needed at the hospital in Lui, Sudan. Bibles are needed in the remote village of Luwero, Uganda. Food is needed for the street boys of Kampala. Please prayerfully consider an end of the year gift. To give by mail, send donations to: Four Corners Ministries, Post Office Box 161, Wedowee, Alabama 36278.

Thank you in advance for your help.

For the Joy,



Tripp Skipper  
President of FCM



# The Messenger

A Ministry Informant of Four Corner's Ministries



December 2010

## His Hands

A first-hand account of one man's experience in Southern Sudan.

God's hand is at work in South Sudan. I saw evidence of it in the joy of His people there. The people of South Sudan endure persecution, sickness, and poverty, yet we sang praises to our Lord Jesus together on Sunday morning. The hands of the children clapped as they marched into the church, singing and smiling and giving glory to our God. I was overwhelmed with emotion as I experienced worship in the midst of such hardship. I was reminded of Revelations 5:9, "for you (Jesus) were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation." I think that this is what Heaven will be like: people from every tribe and language and nation ransomed by the blood of Christ singing praises to God for all eternity. There was no bitterness, no anger, and no self pity among the Sudanese. Only God can do this, and I'm so thankful He allowed me to be a part of it.

Most of the time my hands are going about my business—shaking hands with customers, communicating to co-workers through email, or driving my car to the next meeting. I was fortunate enough to have the opportunity in November for my hands to go about my Father's business in Sudan as a part of a medical mission team. Our family, friends, and church have given sacrificially to send us on this medical mission. James 1:27 says, "Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world." I have a responsibility as a member of the body of Christ to be His hands and feet and to go to the orphans and the widows in their affliction. In the year spent preparing for this mission I have prayed for God to love His people in Southern Sudan through us and that He would be glorified.

My role on the team was to take the hand of each person and write a number on it as Kevin Mullins, one of our

other team members, registered their name to that number so they could see the doctor and receive their medicine. At first I didn't feel comfortable writing a number on a person's hand, but what a blessing it turned out to be. Each hand was unique—some aged, dry, and wrinkled; some tiny, soft, and sweaty; some hard and calloused. Some hands were a handful, and some were alone. I'd write the number on their hand and then put the parasite-killing pill in their hand or mouth and say "meana," which means chew. Then I'd say "alu kalu mi," which means God bless you. I touched many hands, and God showed me that we are all fearfully and wonderfully made. All of these hands are precious to our Lord Jesus and paid for by His nail-pierced hands.



I have seen God's hand at work in South Sudan in many ways. I saw the hands of Dr. Rebecca Cummings as she filled every prescription. I saw the hands of my wife Joy sharing the love of Christ by painting children's faces and helping in the pharmacy. I saw John Triplett's hands teaching the children bible stories through a picture book. I saw the hands of

Kevin registering each patient and taking polaroid pictures of kids. They were so excited to see and have a picture of themselves. I saw the hands of Tommy Cummings delivering prescriptions to the pharmacy and medicine to the people and blowing up balloons for the children. I saw the hands of Dr. Eric Robinson examining each patient and performing hernia surgery for an elderly lady in Lui. I saw the hands of Tripp Skipper administering the first dose of medicine to a small child. I saw the healing hands of two Ugandan doctors, Dr. Dickson and Dr. Godfrey, who left their families and practices in Kampala out of their compassion for the suffering in Sudan. I saw the hands of Laurie from Great Britain, our Mission Aviation Fellowship pilot, who risks his life every day to fly missionaries to remote areas in Africa, landing and taking off on dirt

A special look at Southern Sudan from the witness of some who answered the call.

airstrips. God showed me that it was not our hands at work but His. We are not our own, for we were bought with a price, and we belong to Him for His glory.

I have also seen overwhelming need in South Sudan. I saw the ink stained fingers on the hands of the people registering to vote for their independence on January 9th after years of genocide. I saw the desperate hands of mothers as they would thrust their screaming sick babies to the front of the line. These mothers knew that there was not enough medicine or time in the day to meet every need. I saw the tiny hand of a baby with malaria pierced by an IV needle without a flinch, whimper, or tear. I saw a pregnant woman, who after seeing the doctor, walked home to have her baby and then came back that afternoon to receive her medicine. I saw the clinched hand of a young boy named Edward as he suffered through a seizure-like episode caused by Nodding Disease. I saw his mother's hands hold him tightly through it with a look of helplessness and fear. I saw the hand of a believer on Edward's side praying to our Lord for healing. I held the hand of an elderly man named Yorbama who has a broken hip from a fall and is helpless because there is no one there who can perform the surgery he needs. Yet, when I met him, he said,

**"God showed me that it was not our hands at work but His."**

"You pray before we greet." And, so we did, and then we sang songs of praise to our Lord with his family.

God has not forgotten His people in South Sudan, and they have not forgotten our God who sustains them. Hebrews 4:16 says "Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in a time of need." God is glorified when the body of Christ meets the physical and spiritual needs of His people. I pray

that God will continue to be glorified by those who go, those who give, and those who receive. I pray that my hands will continue to be about our Father's business and that yours will too.

Yancy Carpenter  
Auburn, Alabama

## Around the Corners

*Each month we will share the heart and words of people who's lives have been affected by partnering with FCM to reach a world with the love of Christ.*



*Sudan. Where is it? Why should anyone care about it?*

Until a few months ago, those were pretty much my feelings on Sudan and, for that matter, all of Africa. I really did not know much about the country except that it was halfway around the world, a dry arid climate, and located in the middle of Africa. I mean, why would anyone have a desire to go there?

Southern Sudan is an area with many issues, and it seems to be at the bottom of the food chain of humanity. Basic needs like drinkable water, food, and medicine are in short supply. Electrical power is only found from an occasional portable generator. Disease seems to have a strong hold on the people. Malaria, parasites, and something called "Nodding" disease take their toll in adults and children. Only 50% of children born in Sudan make it to age five.

This area has also felt the brunt of two civil wars covering almost 50 years of destruction and claiming the lives of more than 2.5 million people. Sudan now has more than 5 million refugees.

These people need to hear that there is hope. They have physical needs as well as spiritual needs. Jesus asked us to help the needy—those without clothes, strangers without shelter, those without food and drink, and those who are sick (Matt 25:35-40). Reaching these people by meeting needs like those described above opens doors to share about Christ unconditional love.

In November I had the opportunity to go with Four Corners Ministries (FCM) first medical team into Sudan. Our team of doctors helped to provide much-needed care for hundreds in several villages near Mundri, Sudan. We saw first hand the pain and suffering that the people were experiencing. We also had the opportunity to share the love of Jesus with them as they waited to see the doctor and to receive their medicine from the on-site pharmacist. The people were loving and kind, and despite the horrible conditions in which they live, the Sudanese, especially the children, were full of joy.

I encourage you to pray for the peace of Sudan. On January 9, 2011 Southern Sudan is scheduled to hold a referendum determining if it will become an independent country. Since Sudan's oil supply is in the south, the Islamic-dominated government in the north opposes the south's succession. With the referendum fast approaching, many fear that a vote to succeed will trigger the start of another civil war.

Today, over 70% of practicing Christians in the world are unaware of the needs of the unreached. Until recently, that percentage included me as it relates to Southern Sudan. Won't you consider a trip to Uganda or Sudan in 2011? I can guarantee that you will come back with an entirely new perspective about yourself and the world in which we live. I know the trip to Sudan has forever changed my attitude about foreign missions and our God-given responsibility to the Great Commission. I am thankful for FCM and all it represents as well as the opportunity to be part of this effort.

John Triplett  
Atlanta, Georgia

## New Sudan Child Sponsorship Program Launched

FCM exists to serve orphans and families in Africa. One of the primary tools that the ministry uses to make a difference in the lives of orphans is the Child Sponsorship Program. In 2007 FCM began a partnership with Grace Fellowship Ministries (GFM) in Kampala, Uganda. GFM runs and maintains a boys home, as well as a girls home, and they recently started a home for "street boys" (stay tuned...you will be hearing more about this home in the January Newsletter). Currently, FCM sponsors 40 kids in Uganda.

With the success we have had in Uganda, now is the time to launch a program in Sudan. The need for orphan care is as great in Sudan as it is in Uganda. Here's a picture of Justin Rueben from Mundri, Sudan. Justin's father died of chicken pox and his mother deserted him after his father passed away. His grandmother is trying to take care of him and his brother Emmanuel. Justin helps his grandmother by fetching water and helping to plant the garden each year. He's in the 5th grade and he loves soccer.

You can sponsor Justin today by emailing Joy Carpenter, FCM's Director of Child Sponsorship, at [joy@4cornersministries.org](mailto:joy@4cornersministries.org)



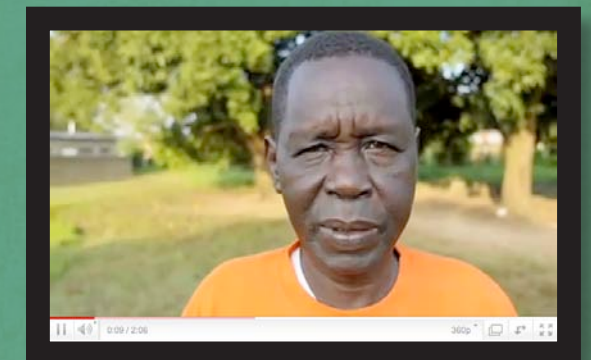
## Something to Think About

FCM began working in Southern Sudan in 2004 and since that time we have tried to educate the American church about the persecution that the church in Sudan has endured. Often times when the subject of Sudan's troubles comes up on television, viewers turn the channel, hoping to escape responsibility if they can claim ignorance. But voluntary ignorance is the worst kind and the church can no longer bury its head in the sand and pretend that the world is ok just because we are. The state of our own personal lives is not the state of most lives in Southern Sudan.

In fact, the Western church is very unlike the church in Africa. In Matthew 24, Christ prophesied that a great escalation in persecution would take place toward the time of His return and the "end of the age" (vs. 3). The ninth verse reads, "Then you will be handed over to be persecuted and put to death, and you will be hated by all nations because of me." The persecuted church in Sudan is one of the greatest realities of our time. Very harsh things have happened to some of our own brothers and sisters in Christ. Many are dying. Many are purposely starved. Some lose their homes and even their children if they do not renounce their faith. Can you imagine? But we must! We have a responsibility to know what is going on in our family and to address the physical and spiritual needs that exist. It is time for us to wise up and reach out and support the persecuted church in Southern Sudan with both our prayers and our resources.

"Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." Matthew 5:10

*How can you get involved? On January 9, 2011 there will be a referendum in Southern Sudan on whether or not the South will vote to become a free and separate country.*



*Take time to listen to Jeffreys Kayanga, FCM's ministry partner, talk about the upcoming referendum and what you can do to help. You can listen to the video by visiting the multimedia page of FCM's website.*



Like your info quick and fast? FCM is now part of the twitter-sphere! Follow us under **FCMAFRICA** to get in the know. We are also on Facebook, Flickr and you can find us on the web at [www.4cornersministries.com](http://www.4cornersministries.com).