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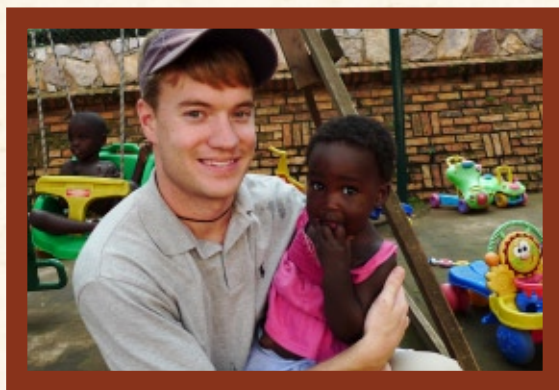
Your 2011 Spring Trip Opportunities with FCM

How far are you willing to serve for Christ? What's your excuse?

Uganda

April 14th - 23rd

The cost will be \$3,500 per person.



Sudan

April 23th - May 4th

The cost will be \$3,800 per person.



To join one of the exciting opportunities to give love and bring hope, contact Tripp Skipper at (256) 282-7444 or visit us online at www.4cornersministries.org

The Messenger

A Ministry Informant of Four Corners Ministries



November 2010

Impacting the World for Christ

Learn how easy it is to get involved in short term missions.

Some Christians say "God has not called me to international missions, but home missions." There is a radical problem with that vision: it is not supported by the Bible. Yes, there are needs in our own back yard and we need to demonstrate love to those in our community. However, our vision is to be for the world and anything less than world impact is not worthy to place in the hands of Jesus to bless. We are to be His hands and feet – He wants to live all over again through us.

Four Corners Ministries (FCM) follows Christ's model by taking ordinary people like you on short-term mission trips to demonstrate His love through simple activities. In the October newsletter you were introduced to one of those ordinary people, Wilbur Steward of Roanoke, Alabama. "Mr. Wilbur" as he is affectingly known, had never flown, never left the country, much less participated in a mission trip. In spite of his age, he got off the couch and joined God where He was working.



Wilbur Steward in his own words:
"I'm 82 years old - what's your excuse?"

Here's how it works. God can take a specific trade or skill and use it to meet a physical need, which opens the door for people to be receptive to the gospel. FCM sponsors two trips each year to Uganda and Sudan where we provide team

members an opportunity to get involved in emergency relief, community development, leadership training or evangelism. Each area of ministry provides a practical way for Christians to become the hands and feet of Jesus.

Think about it - if you gave 7 days next year to those who are really hurting and in real need it only represents 2% of your days next year, 2%. God always takes the small and simple and does great things with it. What could God do with 2% of your days next year? He would use it to transform the rest of the 98%.

Medical and Pharmaceutical Teams

Each year, FCM sends teams of doctors, nurse practitioners and pharmacists to some of the most remote villages in Africa. These committed men and women take ten days away from their practices to offer medical care to the hurting and needy. Many of the people served are in desperate need of basic medical care. It is not uncommon for them to walk several miles and wait in line for hours in order to receive help from our teams. Medical examinations are given by volunteer medical personnel. Afterwards, the patient is sent to the on-site pharmacy, where team members distribute any necessary medication.





Dental & Optical Care

Dental care is another desperate need for many of the poor. FCM seeks to serve this need through a well-equipped dental station set up at a local church. FCM volunteer dentists provide patients with basic dental care. Restorative dental work, including fillings and extractions, is also provided as necessary.

FCM's optical station uses an auto-refractor to quickly determine the strength of correction needed for each patient. The team optometrist conducts the examination, and then, out of an inventory of frames and lenses, assembles the needed pair of glasses right on site. It is not uncommon for patients to break down in tears at the sudden improvement in their vision.

Veterinary Teams

The FCM Veterinary Team provides veterinary services and animal husbandry training to impoverished farmers. The team consist of veterinarians, vet students, family and friends, many of which have graduated from Auburn University in Auburn, Alabama.



Carnival for Children

With a generation growing up on video games, it is easy to forget that children can have a good time with just simple games. Can you imagine what it would be like if a carnival was taken to a poor community where the children have to search for food. It would be like taking Six-Flags to the most rural area in America.

It is easy to make children smile – they are desperately waiting for someone to demonstrate love to them. Beautiful, smiling children flock to ministry sites in Africa to play a soft-toss game, have their faces and finger nails painted, receive a balloon, enjoy a puppet show, or just dance to the sounds of native music.



Food Distribution

FCM recognized that before people can be receptive to the Good News; their basic needs must be met. Food distribution is one component of every trip that FCM facilitates. All relief is channeled through the local church that FCM partners with on the ground.

We hope that this month's focus helps give you a better vision of what is involved, what to expect and how you can join us in reaching hearts and changing lives. Isaiah heard the call, people like Wilbur heard the call. Consider your response to be "Here I am Lord! Send Me!"

We hope that this month's focus helps give you a better understanding of how simple it is to participate in a short-term mission trip. It want be easy – you will be stretched. You will get hot, dirty and tired but you will love every minute of it! Reflect on 2010 and as you make plans for the coming year consider joining FCM on one of our spring trips to Sudan or Uganda. Detailed information can be found online at www.4cornersministries.org

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.

In the fall of 2007, I went to Uganda on a mission trip. When Tripp Skipper and Jimmy Sprayberry went to Uganda in January of that same year, a mutual friend sent Jimmy an e-mail that said, "Jimmy, I hope that you will get there and find that they don't need us." She was being funny but also making a point that Uganda was a place totally different than other places we'd gone like Venezuela and Guatemala. I laughed when I heard about the e-mail, but deep down that's what I hoped, too. Uganda, Africa—the other side of the world—a place where the likes of Idi Amin had ruled at one time and a place where diseases are so common that visitors must get numerous shots before entering! I knew that Jimmy and Tripp would find needs there and would go back, and I knew that I would be going because God was calling me to do this even though I was frightened.



God showed up in so many ways and spoke to my heart while I was in Uganda. The preachers from the small churches that we served while there were so excited to see Jimmy and Tripp coming back and bringing others from the United States with them. I remember one in particular named David. When he saw Jimmy and Tripp get off the bus at his church, he literally picked them up and kept saying "you came back, you came back!" Can you imagine how encouraging that was to these people who had been praying for help and were now seeing how God was answering their prayers in a way that none of them could have anticipated?

God showed up in the beautiful music and voices in Africa that would make the hair rise on the back of my neck as they sang, their only musical instruments being different types of drums. God showed up in a Bible School class of children, where my friend and fellow teacher with me in Wadley read a Bible story to the children from books sent by people from my hometown. God showed up in a little boy about the age of my second graders coming up a dusty country road who, as he saw us, bowed and extended a small, shaking hand to us and remembering his manners, said "Welcome, Madame." Amid poverty so extreme, and, at times, so sad, God showed up. That's what I learned from going to Uganda. When we do things for God that take us out of our comfort zones, He is faithful to show Himself to us in ways that we would never see any other way. He is just waiting for us to make that choice so he can teach us, bless us, and sometimes take our breath away!

Lynn Baggett
Wadley, Alabama

Something to Think About

More than just a follower, as a disciple of the Lord Jesus Christ, I must biblically understand the payment He made for me was not only for my sins, but for all of me. That means, my whole life, soul, spirit and most tangible asset in this world; my body. My body is no longer meant to serve my desires. God's great purchase in Jesus, brings all of me into His use and His service.

I must realize two things as a disciple wanting to reflect my Savoir to the world:

First, I must consider my body like a pipe that channels and not a like a reservoir that holds. I must see that there are two immense realities in the world I live in: the incalculable, though often ignored, reality of human need and the immeasurable, and often untapped resources of God's infinite supply.

The connection between the two is my body. So often we act like a reservoir and call out to God to, "Bless us," or, "Have mercy on us," or, "fill us and revive us." Such prayers indicate that God is hesitant to touch our lives or meet humanities vast needs. The Bible teaches He is just the opposite; He longs to pour out His richest mercies upon us. The trouble is not with *The Source*, but with a clog in *the pipe*. Meaning, how many bodies are available for His kindnesses to flow out to a world that can only be healed through Him?

Second, I need to realize that people are far less opposed to hearing about or knowing God than I think they are. They deeply desire, as I did at one point, for the reality that only God can give them. Too often they are turned away from God because He is misrepresented to them by His children. They see our clog and not *His Source*. They see our preoccupation with our comforts and ease, our emphasis on material possessions, our ambition for place and prominence, and we clog what God intends to flow!

The place for a seeking God and an indifferent world to unite is through the use of my body. If I yield my body to Jesus, who is My Lord and The Payment for my sins, He will use my body as a conduit of Himself to be tangible to the unsaved and to the suffering. I will and I must let Him who owns me, posses me, and I will let others see Him in me. Lord, remove any clog so that you may flow unrestricted through my body. I claim your written Word that my body is "a temple of the Holy Spirit" and I am not my own. So I will glorify God in [my] body" (I Cor 6:19-20)