



Driscoll's Diary

"I will make you fishers of men"

I sat quietly in the dark behind a group of about 200 people of the Anomabo fishing village who were gathered around a small television watching the Jesus film. I looked around at the dozens of home-made kerosene torches that lined the small street that snaked through the village. My watch said 8:00pm, yet the street was full of children and adults, many of whom were still trying to earn their daily bread.

Spending time in these villages reminds me how close we are to the way things were in the days of Jesus. I could imagine what Jesus must have thought as He entered villages of lost souls. Thoughts of His compassion filled my soul.

I had been frustrated because both my laptop and video projector failed so we had to resort to a small television and DVD player. The sight of so many without Christ and 200 hungry souls crowded to hear and see the gospel brought my head low as I prayed, "Oh Lord, you are a gracious and loving God who can save to the uttermost those who receive you. Do your work in the heart of those you are calling in spite of our deficiency, for your glory" . . .

Over a hundred decisions were made though I told them that Christ said that to follow Him required denying yourself, taking up your cross, and following Him. Praise God!



Anomabo fishing village greet returning fisherman as they pull in their nets.



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Special points of interest:

- Jesus film in villages.
- Haven of Hope update.
- Construction
- A woman's perspective
- Reaching the lost

Happenings at Haven of Hope Children's Home and Academy.

School is out! Yeah! We have completed third term and now during the month of August the children get a break. That means we the staff do double duty since the children must be kept occupied all day long. We're having VBS this week and are also having time to work in our gardens. We

have taken the girls swimming and will be taking the boys on Tuesday the 25th of August. We are enjoying walks with the children and also have managed to weed some areas close to the dormitories and they now make great reading areas.

We have killed 12 poisonous snakes in two months on the

compound and for about a week have not seen one. Praise God for His protection of the children and staff.

We have had several breakdowns of the main generator that is used for pumping water. Pray for reliability. Pray that God will sustain us all as we seek to glorify His name.



"I'm sorry you'll have to come back next week for your visa."

"But this is the eighth time you've told me that and it's an hour and a half drive one-way. Please help me."

Immigration Irritation

"You've got to go back where you came from!"

"And leave the children on the street to die?"

"There are children all over the streets. You can't save them all."

"No, but I can save one at a time. Everybody here wants help but then you do everything possible to make it difficult to be here to help."

This is not the conversation you expect to have with immigration visa officials. Yet this is how my meeting with a high level official after six months

of trying to get a workers permit (required now by law in Ghana) started off. By the time I got to my last sentence I was standing and pretty animated. She asked where I was going and I said, "Well, I've got to obey the law so I'm going back where I came from?" She then calmed down and I was able to explain that I had fulfilled all that they have asked me to do, yet they still have not given me my work permit to apply for a resident visa. I explained, "that's why I have been constantly coming to you for visa extensions. Carolyn came in later and connected with the lady, finding out that she

needed a Bible, and ended up promising her one. We gave her the Bible a couple days later and now she has extended my visa and we have the work permit. We're confident that my newfound friend will help us with the resident visa.

Through this Immigration Irritation and Carolyn's patience and sweet attitude along with God's sovereign might, we now have a high level official to help with our residence visa. Please pray that our visa will go smoothly without any of the hitches we have experienced in the past. .

Village rescue for women and children.

About five months ago we started a pilot program aimed at rescuing children from the street by attacking it at the heart of the problem. The root of the problem of children abandoned in Accra, the capital and largest city in Ghana, is not in Accra. The problem is in the poor villages where women abandoned by their husbands are forced to move to the city to try to find work since they can't afford to

stay where they cannot be gainfully employed. We started with three groups which consisted of fish mongers, maize (corn) sellers, and second hand clothes sellers. Though this has proven to be a huge benefit to the mothers, they are not paying their interest free loans back the way they agreed too. This is a huge disappointment to us because the intent is to reinvest their payment into

other groups and villages. Please pray that God will give us wisdom in how to teach these ladies the importance of saving part of the profit for repayment of the loan to help others. We have a new friend in the court there in Nsawam who is willing to help us in dealing with the ladies staying true to their word and using his position to do it. Pray that all the kinks will be worked out so that many children benefit.

The Great Wall of Haven of Hope Home and Academy

Those of you who have been on our mail list for some time are aware that we have had a major push to complete the wall around Haven of Hope. The obvious reasons are for security in keeping those who would want to cause harm out and secondly to keep the children in where they are safe. Another side benefit is to prevent snakes from over-running the property.

The property is just over eight acres so a block wall around the entire property has been a very large project. Our goal has been to complete the wall before the government moves a very wild area of Accra called Sodom and Gomorrah to Kotoku which is about a mile from the home.

The wall and gates are complete and now we are pouring the final piers that will allow us

to have three strands of barbed wire on top of the block wall. Also, within this project we are finalizing a two story guard shack that houses a waiting room on bottom and an observation tower on top.

Our next major project will be a two-story school building that will house about six classrooms, a library and a computer lab. Pray for funding of this facility as building is begun.

"The problem is in the poor villages where women abandoned by their husbands are forced to move to the city to try to find work. . ."

A new addition to our news letter is a construction update.

This is for those of you who are interested in short-term missions building projects.

You say the chief is a tailer?

Just outside of Cape Coast the capital city of the central region of Ghana there is a small village called Asafra. I met Chief Nana there when we showed the Jesus film earlier this year. His village is where we found Peter the 12 year old orphan now living at Haven of Hope.

On one of my earlier visits Chief Nana informed me that he was a tailor for years before he came back to the village to reside as chief. He certainly is an odd character when it comes to village chiefs. He has a huge interest for the people of his village. He has single-

handedly started a trade school for girls in his village. They learn tie-dying and batik dying of cloth, sewing, and cooking or catering as it is referred to here. Also, he is working with young boys in the village to start a boys trade school.

Nana's desire is to train skills that the young adults can stay in the village and still have gainful employment in the area surrounding the village.

He and I were discussing the problem in the village and he mentioned that he needed to develop a market for the clothes the girls make in the

village. I told him that I would like to help him with the project kick-off by bringing some shirts that he made himself to the states when I come in October. We decided on 35 shirts in small, medium and large. The profits from these shirts will be used to fund establishing a market in Accra for the village clothes. These shirts are unique in that both the cloth dying and the sewing is done by an active African chief.

Anyone interested in helping this village can have one by donating \$15-20 to the village. I will deliver them in October.



Chief Nana giving of himself to help his village young people achieve their dreams. Also, more importantly a brother in Christ.

Viscous Guard Dogs



Zack and Zoe have become more than guard dogs. They are some of the kids favorite playmates. A picture is worth a thousand words. Here's 3000 words.

Don't let the pictures fool you. At just 10 months and 120lbs and 85lbs nobody is going to walk into the Haven compound unescorted.

Carolyn's Corner

I'm often asked what I do all day. I thought this might be a good time to describe what my days are like. Many think that I must have a lot of time to myself. Just to give you a small inkling of what it is like, I'll ask you mothers what do you think it would be like to take care of your husband and 48 children? You grandparents can probably relate to what it would be like having 48 grand chil-

dren from 6 am in the morning to 8:00 pm seven days a week. That gives you ladies a starting point to get a feeling for what I do. There are many days that I feel that I haven't gotten anything done, yet I've been on my feet all day rushing at whatever I did or did not get done.

Anytime a child has a pain, sprain or runny nose they come to me. We've tried to insist the

children go to the mothers but it still isn't happening. It may be a natural thing as children do often come to the grandparent rather than the parent when they are together. Sometimes I'm sure that they are not sick or hurting but just wanting some TLC.

With all of Jim's responsibilities he's being pulled on non-stop so I try to help wherever

possible by handling anything that I can or deflecting them to others than can handle the issue.

Due to the heat, humidity and dirty environment clothes get filthy and I end up doing laundry nearly every day. Cleaning must be done everyday due to the sandy soil and wind blowing it into the apartment. Dogs need walking every morning,

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so I walk two of the girls to school who are attending junior high about a mile and a half away and take the dogs with me. This gives me about 45 minutes of exercise and time to pray.

I constantly work with the children on scripture memory and started to work on teaching them to use the hand bells which all the children love. We hope to be able to do a program at Christmas and invite Raffikki, the children's home down the road. We are hoping that by performing for each other the children will develop more of an interest in the activities.

Another function that has fallen to me is to prepare for any guest or missionaries that are coming to assure that they have a clean

place to settle into while they are here. We have a young lady, Dana Neevel from the U.S. who is coming to teach this year so I coordinated electrical repairs, painting, and cleaning of her apartment.

I really look forward to having Dana here. I love mothering the young ladies who come here to serve and it gives me a sense of family while I'm here apart from my own children.

In closing, I'm sure all of you mothers must know the sadness of being apart from your children. I really do miss being able to run to my children when they are hurting. I have learned that I must surrender them to my Lord. After all, He is infinitely more able to meet their needs.

Reaching the Lost



Odd place, cheap equipment and as always the children arrive first.



It's Saturday night, 11:07 pm. I'm thinking back over my last two nights in villages near Cape Coast. About a hundred made professions of faith at the first village we visited. Last night we went to a very small village near Biriwa. We pulled up in front of the only church (Catholic) in the village and set up to show the Jesus film.

The village children, as usual, were the first to come and sit down in front of us to see what we were going to show on the small TV. About ten minutes into the movie people started coming. Very soon we had about half the village of three hundred watching. There were approximately 75 confessions of faith after the film.

I don't believe I will ever get over the impact the film has on those hearing and seeing it. On the door-step of this place, where the gospel is not proclaimed, many came to Christ.

During our follow-up on Saturday morning three men said they wanted to work with us in a follow-up discipleship program and have a desire to establish a church in the village. We spent two hours with them, hearing their testimonies and assuring they were sound in doctrine. I left feeling that at least two of these men would be useful in establishing a work leading to a church plant.

What a blessing to see the impact the gospel has on these villages. I believe we sometimes become complacent because we feel that everyone has heard the gospel. We see so many churches that we assume everyone has heard. This is a false assumption. Many, perhaps even most are not proclaiming the truth of the gospel. We should never assume a person has heard a true presentation of the gospel. Both here in Africa and in the U.S. there are

a multitude of folks that have not heard the truth. Most have a wrong impression about what the Christian message is truly about.

God has invited us all to participate with Him in His redemptive plan. He doesn't hold us accountable for the results, He only asks that we share the truth of the gospel. He assumes responsibility for the saving.

Christians often put so much stress on themselves for the results, which is not our responsibility, that we develop a fear of witnessing at all. Our part is simple: declaring the gospel (death burial and resurrection of Christ). His part is regeneration. We are only the conduit for the message.

We have nothing to fear as the results belong to God Almighty.

Carolyn and I want to thank all of you for your prayers and support in our service to the Lord. Without you none of what we are doing here would be possible. Thank you for your obedience to His call on your life. God bless you all.

Jim