

# Every Child Ministries

## *“Serving the forgotten children of Africa”*

### *Carolyn and Jim Driscoll Update November 11, 2006*

Proverbs 29:18 - Where there is no **vision**, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he.

**Vision:** chazown (Hebrew) - a *sight* (mentally), i.e. a *dream, revelation, or oracle* (Strong’s Hebrew dictionary).

If I had to give a short summary of what God is doing in our lives over the last month, I could say it in two words – **“expanding vision”**. Since Carolyn and I started sharing our calling to Ghana, West Africa, we have talked about how God has given us a vision for the ministry He has planned for us. We’ve attempted to encourage all of you to seek the Lord on what He desires for your life and to give you a vision for “your” ministry. We’ve talked about every believer being called into the ministry and about all believers being gifted to serve in their local church and beyond. This month has been a stretch month as God continues to develop within us a vision for what He desires to do through us.

I’ve met with two pastors who have blessed me beyond what I could express with the words I write here. In one-on-one discussions with Dr. Rick Sadler, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church, Charlottesville, and with Pastor Jimmy Alexander at Liberty Hills Baptist Church, Rock Hill, SC. I caught glimpses of true pastor’s hearts. My heart ached as I heard them share their vision and hearts desire for their respective congregations. I left both of these wonderful brothers in awe of the passion these men have for their flocks. I left them thinking how difficult it must be for a pastor to want God’s best for those who often ignore God’s call on their lives. Both have a fire in their hearts to see individuals in their local assemblies grasp God’s call. Their burden must grow heavy when they see individuals squander their talents and giftedness on temporal things of this world, as they have an eternal perspective of that person’s life. Such is the life of the called pastor.

I had the opportunity to spend a couple of hours with Dr. Sadler, founder of several mission ministries including Mission *LINK*. Yes, this is the same Dr. Sadler who is pastor of Calvary Baptist Church mentioned in the previous paragraph. And, yes, he is a very busy man. I’ve often heard it said, “if you want to get something done give it to a busy person.” They are the “doers” in this world and, Dr. Sadler is the epitome of this truth.

Mission *LINK* has partnered with Kid Against Hunger, a ministry founded by businessman, Richard Proudfit, who has experience in manufacturing and distribution. Mr. Proudfit called on assistance from several food manufacturing companies including the likes of Cargill, General Foods, Pillsbury and Archer Daniels Midland to develop a food for starving children (I’ve written about this in my previous newsletters). Feeding *LINK*, a ministry of Mission *LINK*, has developed a ministry to establish and staff as many international feeding centers as possible using local national ministries to oversee the work.

Dr. Sadler and I agreed to keep in touch and to investigate how we could partner together in ministry when we arrive in Ghana. Thank you, Dr. Sadler, for your vision and

willingness to think “outside the box” as you have followed God’s leading. Also, thank you for the words of personal encouragement to me as we spent time together. Your godly wisdom and advice is already helping me, as we enter this calling on our lives. To all our supporters, please pray that we will have wisdom as all this unfolds. If this is another cord that God is weaving together with us as we serve in Ghana, we want to be open to God’s leading in this area.

We were blessed to again be able to visit our friends in Rock Hill, SC. This time we were visiting Liberty Hills Baptist Church, and again our friends Marty and Phyllis Faunteroy from Rock Hill Bible Church graciously opened their home to us. This was a special blessing because we they make us feel so much at home. Marty and Phyllis have given their home to the Lord and bless missionaries coming through with awesome hospitality. This time with them allowed us a better glimpse into their hearts. Phyllis and Marty we love you both so much and count ourselves blessed, in having friends such as you praying for us, as we pray for you.



*This is our home away from home at Marty and Phyllis’.*



*Oops! Sorry, Phyllis, for interrupting your time with our Father.*

Liberty Hills Baptist Church was celebrating youth Sunday and it was a tremendous blessing seeing the youth taking part in the service. We did our presentation during the Sunday school hour and were blessed by the worship service. I’ve always enjoyed the old spirituals and the song service was awesome in that respect. Hearing an elderly gentleman singing with his rich voice and the congregation singing

responsively to him blessed us very much. The interaction during Sunday school also revealed several men who obviously, diligently studied God's Word. Carolyn and I were encouraged by this and felt an immediate connection with these brothers. Thank you, Pastor Alexander, for allowing us to come to Liberty Hills. Please, thank your congregation for the warm welcome we received. We will continue to pray for you and your congregation, as you seek to follow God's leading for your church. For those of you praying with us, please lift up Pastor Alexander, as he leads his flock to follow the great commission of our Lord.

In the last month, Carolyn and I received a tremendous blessing from John and Lorraine Shaw and their daughter Dea Hamilton. They made it possible for us to attend a mission conference at Colonial Baptist Church in Cary, NC. Some of you have probably heard Pastor Steve Davey, of Colonial Baptist on BBN Christian radio network. Steve is the nephew of BBN founder Lowell Davey. The conference was hosted by David F. Williams, Pastor, Outreach Ministries at Colonial, who was a very gracious host of the event.

John and Lorraine paid for the event and even drove us there and since we were able to stay with my uncle Leonard and his wife Paula our total cost for the week-end was \$0. That's right, no cost to us. Thank you, Lorraine, John and Dea, for providing us this opportunity. It truly was a life changing event for both of us.

The title of the Seminar was "Develop Your Vision for the Indigenous Church. Featured speakers were Dr. Bobby Gupta, President of Hindustan Bible Institute & College (India), and Steve Saint, Missionary Statesman, Founder of Indigenous People's Technology & Education Center (I-TEC), author of two books, "*The Great Omission*" and "*End of the Spear*". Many of you have probably seen the recent movies "*End of the Spear*" and "*Beyond the Gates of Splendor*", telling of the great sacrifice Steve's family has made over the last half century in reaching the Waodani (formerly known as Auca) people of Ecuador. His life story is one of God reaching out through His obedient servants to reach the most hostile people group the world has ever known.

I can't begin to tell you the impact this week-end had on us. Through these servants of our Lord, God has opened our hearts and minds to the amazing things God can do in and through His obedient children. He taught us through Dr. Bobby Gupta and Steve Saint that traditional missionaries are needed, but not in traditional ways.

No longer can American missionaries from American culture go to a foreign land with its culture and develop American churches in those lands. When that happens all we do is to make the people dependant on us, and little or no duplication occurs. What we should do is to proclaim the gospel, disciple new believers, let them form the church within their culture and just help them avoid doctrinal error through continued discipleship. Does this sound familiar? Try Matt. 28:18-20. To often missionaries take their culture and traditions into other countries and try to make them us. That is not scriptural, nor is it effective. That leaves them with a model that cannot be duplicated as they try to reach their own people and establish new churches. Just the sheer numbers of un-reached people make it impractical to reach all of these people ourselves. However, if we follow Christ's model and reach and make disciple's of these people and they do the same within their regions the power of multiplication takes

over and great numbers are reached in relatively short time.

Steve told us that it took him about twenty-five years to become a dentist. However, when the Waodani people asked him to come back to Ecuador, not as a missionary, but to help them learn to do what the missionaries had done for them, a whole new vision came about. They didn't want to depend on missionaries; they wanted to minister to and reach their own people. He taught a Waodani man with no education how to do basic dentistry in three months. He did this by showing them the mechanics of tooth extraction, etc. and using pictures. Later a professional dentist came to the village and found that an experienced dentist had drilled and filled teeth. Upon questioning the Waodani dentist he said that since he had already deadened the teeth to pull one he decided to go on and fill others. Now this practice is being used to reach otherwise unreachable people by providing a needed service.

Steve's dentistry discussion was of great interest to Carolyn since she had worked as a dental assistant. When asking I-TEC personnel if they could teach her to do this they said, "not in this country, however when you get to Africa let's talk." This is just another link that God has given us that may be possible to benefit the destitute people of Ghana. Think of the thousands of children in Ghana who have no access to this kind of care.

I even caught the vision here realizing that I have some pretty detailed auto body and fender experience (putty, sanding and grinding). If any of you would like to volunteer to be my guinea pig let me know (for some reason I don't think I'll get a call on that offer). All kidding aside, I'm amazed how God is using this to reach the unreachable.

It is amazing as we consider how God has worked the last couple months to prepare us for meeting Steve Saint. We had read of Jim Elliot's story before. Two of our most precious disciples, Wes and Sara Armentrout had gotten the movie, "The End of the Spear" and said that it made them think of us, so they wanted us to see it. We loved it! And, oh, how it impacted us. A couple of weeks later Carolyn was at a store and saw "Beyond the Gates of Splendor" and felt moved to buy it. Again, we were strengthened even more by this story. When we took John and Lorraine up on an offer to go the mission conference, we had no idea the impact Steve Saint would have on us. God knew though and wanted us there. Thank God for His obedient servants, who responded to God's bidding to get us to N.C. God bless you John, Lorraine and Dea and of course Steve. Our lives will never be the same.



*Yours truly, Jim, Steve Saint and the love of my life, Carolyn*

On Sunday morning we went to Aversboro Road Baptist Church where I spoke about three weeks ago and Carolyn couldn't go because of a death in the family. They had asked me to bring Carolyn so they could meet her.

Dr. Whaley preached a preparatory message to prepare their church for a 90 day season of prayer beginning in January to seek God's direction for their churches ministry. His message was like an arrow to my heart. He made one statement that nailed me. He said, "When we work, we work; when we pray God works!" I realized that I had gotten so busy with meetings about our ministry that I had taken less time to pray. The net effect was my frustration and only the fruit of my labor not God's engagement. Thank you, Dr. Whaley, for giving us the perfect closing of a wonderful week-end.

I also had the privilege of meeting for a couple of hours with Pastor David Kurtz at Waynesboro Free Methodist Church. I could sense his heart for reaching others with the gospel of Jesus Christ and had a great time with him. Please pray for us as we present our ministry at this church this Sunday morning, November 12<sup>th</sup>. Pray that God will accomplish His purpose in this service. Pray that we will be absolutely consistent with the Word of God. We'll report on this meeting next month.

Prayer needs:

- God's continued provision for our spiritual and material needs.
  - Jim needs more work hours to sustain us while we raise support.
  - Praise! Our God is sufficient to meet this need and has shown His mighty hand in this over the last year.
- Physical health
  - Praise God for finding the source of the problem I've been having with my knee (the company changed the formula on the glucosamine / chondroitin joint supplement I've taken for five years). I'm now taking another brand in original formula and consistently improving.

- I, Jim, have been fighting the flu this week.
- Carolyn will be sustained as she works and continues the first responder class she is taking in addition to her BSF duties as Assistant Children's Supervisor.
- Pray that we will come into contact with those God is calling to come along aside us in this ministry.
  - You can help here by introducing us to leadership of churches that you know.
  - Pray about your own involvement.
- Pray that God would continue to develop within you and us His vision for us.
- Pray for Lisa Mims, a young lady from our church youth who has a tremendous desire to come next summer to ECM in Ghana to minister with the kids at Haven of Hope Home. She is raising her own expense money to serve the Lord there. Anyone wishing to support Lisa can mail checks to: New Covenant Community Church, 78 Somerset Drive, Weyers Cave, VA 24486-2442. Please denote on the check that this is for: Lisa Mims Ghana mission trip. We'll keep you all apprised of her progress.



*We love you Lisa for your desire to serve!*

May God continue to richly bless you as you serve Him with gladness and thankful giving of yourselves to His service. May the Lord be exalted in all our lives.

Tax exempt donations should be sent to:

Every Child Ministries  
P.O. Box 810  
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