

# THE ENCOURAGER

## Voice of the 2nd Reformation

Feature Story...

### Josh and Kerri Walk America

Joshua Acosta and Kerri Hegarty dedicate three summers to backpack coast to coast, praying for people they meet along the way. Get in on their adventure. See Page 6

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**GO INTO ALL THE WORLD AND PREACH THE GOSPEL**

# FORWARD ....

Welcome to the first issue of the **ENCOURAGER Magazine**. The **ENCOURAGER** is published by C3M Ministries. C3M stands for Church in the Third Millennium. Our intention is to publish this digital magazine quarterly. The theme for the first issue is **“Go Into all the World....”** In these pages you will find some stories of people who were led by God to reach out in some unique ways. They are not “big-name” ministries; they are married couples and college students and individuals who are making an impact in lives all around the world.

You will also find some encouragement and instruction on how you can reach out. Our goal is to inspire every Christian to become “Missional” in their mindset and lifestyle. Truly, Jesus called His church to “go.” Too often the church has changed that command to “come.” Jesus did not tell the world to go to church, He told the Church to go to the world. The Church in America has largely lost its power to impact society because she has stopped “going into the world.” When we realize this, and take the appropriate steps to correct it, we will see the church changing lives and “turning the world upside down,” once again.

We invite you to be a part of this journey in several ways. First be **ENCOURAGED!** Step out and believe God to use you in some unique way outside the walls of the church. Second, please feel free to share this magazine with others. It is freely distributed and we want God to give it a wide distribution. A third way you can help is by responding back to us with a testimony. We would also ask you to consider submitting original stories or story ideas. And last, but not least, there is limited advertising space available if you would like to promote your ministry or Christian business. If you are interested please contact me at [steve@stevehighlander.com](mailto:steve@stevehighlander.com) for more information.

For now, be **ENCOURAGED** to live for Jesus and reach the world with the message of the Kingdom.

*Dr. Steve Highlander, Founder C3M Ministries*

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# DEVOTIONAL MEDITATION

## An Eternal Perspective

*“Since everything around us is going to melt away, what holy, godly lives you should be living! You should look forward to that day and hurry it along – the day when God will set the heavens on fire and the elements will melt away in the flames.” 2 Peter 3:11-12*

Occasionally a verse pops up that has the effect of hitting the reset button on our theology, our worldview, and even our lives. A verse that puts things into an eternal perspective and sheds light on many of the secondary things we consider important. This is one of those verses, if we care to take it seriously.

“Everything around us will burn.” My car, my home, my computer – everything attached to this world. The apostle paints this picture as a backdrop for a “burning” question: “What kind of lives should you be living?” The question is rhetorical; meant to provoke a private, unspoken response from you and me. It is not a question someone else needs to provide an answer to -- like when you sit in Sunday School and the teacher asks a question and everyone either waits for someone else to answer or the teacher to provide the answer. Here Peter doesn’t let us off the hook. I can almost image the old guy looking directly at each person, his eyes searching for that spark of understanding that he has carried since Jesus called him from his nets to be an apostle.

Indeed, “What kind of holy and godly life should “I” be living?” Does something need to change, as I look to the future?

**Prayer Point:** Father today I want so much to understand the power and reality of this scripture. I invoke your Spirit to break the hold this world has on me; To set me free from the control of materialism and worldly success, from the addition to comfort and convenience and entertainment, so I can be more focused on eternal things. Father help me to put all things into an eternal perspective. In Jesus’ name, AMEN!



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# The Domestication of the Spirit

By Dr. Steve Highlander | C3M Ministries | [steve@stevehighlander.com](mailto:steve@stevehighlander.com)

**M**an is good at domesticating things. From powerful Elephants to small dogs and cats, we've learned how to make naturally wild things tame and subservient to us. It is little wonder we try to do the same thing with God's Holy Spirit.

That may sound strange, but I've been around church long enough to know that man likes to be in control of what happens. Just step into 90% of the churches on any given Sunday morning and you will find a bulletin with an "order of service" including what songs will be sung and when, who will pray, who will preach and usually what the topic will be. You can even find out exactly when the offering will be taken. I would almost bet if you timed it, the same things would happen within a couple of minutes each week. Far be it for anyone to deviate from the schedule. Oh, and let's not forget: Church gets out at noon. (Isn't that in the Bible somewhere?)

Have we not "domesticated" church and made it serve us? Have we not told God when He can do something and when He can't? A great number of churches would claim to let the Holy Spirit move, but each week there are the same number of songs, the same person (or two) will preach a sermon for the same amount of time. The offering will be taken in the same way at the same point in the service. God can do whatever He wants as long as He fits it into our predetermined order of service.

This is domestication.

I want to make it clear that we will never domesticate the Spirit of God; no matter how hard we try. But the definition of domestication so closely parallels how we try to control the Spirit it is scary. The Holy Spirit longs to fly free in our fellowships, but we have got to learn to loosen our grip of control and the performance oriented attitudes we have developed.

In His book *Wild Goose Chase*, Mark Batterson writes:

"The Celtic Christians had a name for the Holy Spirit that has always intrigued me. They called Him 'An Geadh-Glas,' or 'the Wild Goose.' I love the imagery and implications. The name hints at the mysterious nature of the Holy Spirit. Much like a wild goose, the Spirit of God cannot be tracked or tamed. An element of danger and an air of unpredictability surround Him. And while the name may sound a little sacrilegious at first earshot, I cannot think of a better description of what it's like to pursue the Spirit's leading through life than Wild Goose chase. I think the Celtic Christians were on to something that institutionalized Christianity has missed out on."

"A Wild Goose indeed," (I can almost see the sneer and hear the 'hmmmp' in the voice of those stodgy traditionalists) "the Holy Spirit is dignified!"

Well, let's consider our first introduction to the Holy Spirit as He relates to the Church. Acts chapter two paints a vivid picture. They accused the disciples of being DRUNK! They were all preaching and speaking in a bunch of different languages. No doubt some people were weeping with conviction when they realized they had crucified the savior. Others, freed from the burden of sin and religion, were laughing and smiling. No doubt they were rushing around finding friends and family to bring them the message. While the Bible doesn't say so specifically, I am sure there were many healings and deliverances as the Spirit of God testified to the Word as Jesus promised He

would. The book of Acts does not paint a picture of a decently ordered service with a slick bulletin.

The apostle John records a conversation Jesus had with a religious leader named Nicodemus. Jesus used the wind to symbolize the Spirit. He said, the wind blows where it wants and you can hear the sound and see the effect, but you can't tell where it comes from or where it goes. Oh, and Nicodemus, that's the way it is for everyone that is born of the Spirit too.

Religion wants to domesticate The Spirit of God and the spiritual person. To often it has succeeded. Let's reverse the trend.

Let's look at some definitions of DOMESTICATION from a few assorted dictionaries. I've used bits and pieces of four different ones.

**"To tame (an animal), esp. by generations of breeding, to live in close association with human beings as a pet or work animal and usually creating a dependency so that the animal loses its ability to live in the wild."** (Dictionary.com based on Random House Dictionary.)

Regardless of what most say, taming the Spirit is exactly what we want to do. Apart from some churches that have learned to let the Spirit move, the majority of churches don't really want things to get out of control. I know from experience.

As a young pastor of a Full Gospel church in Western Kansas I believed in and practiced the gifts of the Spirit. However at that time I was also conscious of trying to make our small fellowship grow. At times I was afraid the Spirit would move in the gift of tongues and scare visitors away. I wanted God to move but I also wanted Him to do it in a way that wouldn't "upset the applecart." In other words, I wanted Him to be TAME, not controversial since we lived in a small conservative Midwest town.

Another part of this definition is "to live in close association with human beings as a pet or work animal." Don't we want God close? However, sometimes I think we want Him to serve our needs, wants and purposes. We ask Him to anoint our plans without asking what His might be. I've been in some –fill in the blank– [Pentecostal, Full Gospel, Spirit Filled, and Charismatic] churches that treated the Holy Spirit more like a mascot (pet) than Lord.

You'll note that according to our definition the thing domesticated loses its ability to "live in the wild." When we attempt to "tame the spirit" we effectively lose the spontaneous and unexpected moving of the Spirit.

**"To make more ordinary, familiar, acceptable,**

**or the like: to domesticate radical ideas."** Dictionary.com based on Random House Dictionary

This definition hardly needs any commentary. Be honest. Would you have to say that your regular week to week services or pretty ordinary? By that I mean predictable. Outside of a few specifics in songs or sermon, do you know what is going to happen every week when you get to church? Even some of our Spirit-filled churches with lively worship and dynamic preaching and teaching start to get ordinary after a while. We really stop expecting too much out of the ordinary. I always got a chuckle out of my church when they would say, "Oh it was so good today, and pastor didn't even get to preach because the Spirit was moving." That should be the rule, not the exception.

We want God to be acceptable. We want the message to be acceptable. We don't want people to think we are strange, especially in our seeker sensitive culture. However, the very nature of the gospel message is a slap in the face to mankind – at least the real gospel message is. Paul tells us in I Corinthians chapter two that the things of God are FOOLISHNESS to the natural man. He also talks about the reproach of the cross and the mockery of those who can not reason out the resurrection from the dead. No, the gospel will never be acceptable to the lost, except the Spirit of God anoint it and bring conviction to the sinner's heart. Perhaps the problem is that we've tamed the spirit so much that He can't anoint the message. As a result we've had to water it down to make it acceptable so people would respond.

Another issue we have here is the concept that people like the familiar. Don't change things. Things seldom change in most churches. It is too messy. It causes too many problems, with too people who like things a certain way. The mere suggestion of changing worship styles or trying something new sends shivers down the spine of many a pastor. In some churches the spirit may be allowed to move, but only in certain ways. We want the Spirit to move, but make sure it is in ways we are familiar with. At times you may go to a church that seems radical with some unusual (to us) practice or manifestation (falling down when prayed for, tongues and interpretation, prophecy, running around the pews, etc). But on further examination you will find that it is a regular event with that group. Part of it is faith. God moves according to where people are at and what they have faith for, but as often as not, it is simply something we've become familiar with. The sad thing is, after a while the Spirit really isn't even needed, because



# Walk Across America

Joshua Acosta and Kerri Hegarty dedicate three summers to walk from coast to coast praying for people they meet.



**By Steve Highlander** -- One of the metaphors the Bible uses for the lifestyle of the Christian is a “walk,” indicating that the Christian life is not a destination, but a journey. For one couple, Joshua Acosta and Kerri Hegarty, the concept has a much more literal meaning.

A typical day finds Josh and Kerri walking down the side of a road wearing backpacks and pushing a pet stroller. In the stroller -- Skitch, -- their half-Dachshund, half-Yorkie puppy.

Often confused for a homeless family with a baby, passersby stop to ask if they need help; or on occasion, reprimand them for hitchhiking with a baby – neither of which they are doing. Josh and Kerri set out in May 2012 to walk across America for Jesus.

Josh and Kerri, both 22, met in college. “We met in 2010,” Kerri said, “but we didn’t really connect as friends until November of 2011.” Kerri graduated in the Spring of 2013 with a dual degree in Deaf Education and Elementary Education, and is headed to Las Vegas to start a new job in the fall. Josh is headed back to school for the fall semester to finish his degree in Biology and Pre-Med, with a minor in Chemistry.

The idea to walk across the country first came to Josh in 2009. He shares his motivation on his website, [joshwalksameric.com](http://joshwalksameric.com). “I’ve made a commitment to myself to backpack across the country. The idea first formulated itself about four years ago, and I had initially intended to use my travels as a way to reach people through a sort of hitchhiking “truck-stop ministry.”

Through prayer and fasting however, I have come to the understanding that I am to simply walk the land and go where [God] will lead me. I have decided not to do this for any financial gain or for publicity; neither am I affiliated with any charity or non-profit organization. My intent is just to walk the span of the country to reach people for Christ. I also really hope to make many friends along the way!”

Their walk is a three-year commitment. They started from

Cape Henlopen, DE in the summer of 2012 and reached Sedalia, MO by the time they had to stop to head back to college for fall classes. The couple picked up the journey this spring in Sedalia, right where they left off last year. “We hope to make it to Colorado or farther this summer,” Josh said. The goal is to start again next spring where they will end this fall, and make it to San Francisco in the fall of 2014.

To prepare for the physical part of the trip, Josh and Kerri would get up and meet at the gym by 6 am and work out for an hour and a half, before heading to class. An illness put Josh in bed for about two months before the walk started in the spring of 2012, and he ended up losing much of the strength and endurance he had gained. It did give him a chance to work on his spiritual life though, and it was during this time that he felt God gave him some different direction. Instead of something Josh was going to do for God, the walk was to be something God was going to do through Josh.

When asked what difficulties they experience on the road, the couple looked at each for a bit and replied, “We really don’t have any.”

This seemed kind of strange after having to sit out the storms in

West Central Missouri for a few days.

Josh and Kerri typically sleep in a tent and carry only the supplies they can get in their backpacks and the stroller.

Those supplies include: soup, beef jerky, cheese, peanut butter, trail mix, tuna, pop tarts, dried fruit, and Chef Boyardee – all typical foods found in a college dorm. (A complete list of items can be found on their website, along with a whole lot of other fun facts about the trip.)

Because they are not doing this to raise money, they have never asked anyone for anything -- including a ride. “We set out to walk across America,” Josh said. “We don’t accept rides and if someone does pick us up to take us to dinner or give us a place to stay for the night, they take us back to where they picked us up and drop us off. We want to maintain the integrity of the vision to walk across America for Jesus.”

When asked what has changed most in their lives, Josh was quick to say his ‘attitude toward people.’ “I have a greater respect of all of God’s people. It’s easy to assume people are self-centered, or have it all together and don’t need anything,” he said, “but when you meet people and get the full story of what has happened, or is happening, in their lives, it really causes you to see the individual and have a greater sense of understanding. Prayer is needed everywhere!”

Josh also said he has gained a great respect for God’s creation. Most people pass by nature at 60 or 70 miles an hour. Josh and Kerri pass by at about 15 miles a day. “We have time to see nature. We hear the birds sing and see the plants and animals -- and feel the bugs,” he added.

“We meet lots of great people along the way,” Kerri said. “Some people will invite us to dinner or to stay at their home or at least pitch our tent on their property. We always take this opportunity to get to know people and see if we can minister to their needs through prayer.” According to Josh, “Just loving on people is what we do.”

Kerri shared how the trip has impacted her personally. “I’ve always believed in God, but I never really relied on Him in my life,” she said. “I am learning to trust God for everything; and that God can be trusted with everything.”

When asked to illustrate, she told a story of something that had happened the day before. They were three miles east of the small town of Walker, MO when a lady in a car stopped to check on them, and then went on. Two miles later, as they approached town, it was 8:00 pm and they quickly needed a place to set up their tent, and make camp for the night before it got dark. Kerri prayed for a safe place to make camp. At the same instant a car stopped. The man was the nephew of the lady who had talked to them earlier. His house was just up the road in the direction they were headed and he invited them to stay with him for the evening.

Josh told a story about a divine encounter. The story starts two days before the encounter itself. According to Josh, “We had stayed with a married couple a few towns back. John, the husband, related to me the amazing experiences and divine connections he received when he participated in his church’s annual Emmaus Walk.

He gave me the necklace he received from being a participant. It was a silver cross necklace with special designations on it. He told me that its purpose is that it is to be passed on from person to person, when the current wearer feels that another person needs it more than they do. When he gave it to me, I asked him, “Who do I give it to?” He told me that ‘I would just know.’”

The story picks up two days later. Josh and Kerri found themselves in a very small town at the end of a 19-mile day.

“We stumbled into a small diner and had a much needed meal, taken care of (unbeknownst to us) by the man we sat next to and talked with, who left before we even knew.”

As they were leaving the diner, “a young man bursts into the diner with reckless abandon.”

Josh continued the story. “We said our apologies for almost running into each other, and Kerri and I walked outside.”

Less than a minute later, he comes back outside and kind of sarcastically asks, “Hey, are you guys walking?”

Josh replied that yes, in fact, they were.

He was flabbergasted. I guess he asked the question jokingly.

We explained to him what we were doing and why we were doing it.”

“He just broke down to me and started telling me all about his current struggles and spiritual plights. He told me all about his home life and upbringing and his parents’ battle with drugs, the trailer park life, him having two children and another on the way. He shared about all the different women he had been with and all of this in spite of the fact that he was only 20 years old.”

Josh and Cameron talked for almost an hour in front of the diner. As they were talking Josh began to see a change in him. One of hope.

Cameron related how he had asked God to save him a few years back at a youth camp, but hasn’t done much for God since.

“I could just tell that he had been spiritually edified and uplifted and changed,” Josh shared. “I reached in my pack and pulled out a spare Bible that had been given to me and highlighted some passages and gave him the Bible to keep.”

Cameron was in awe. No one had ever given him anything before.

Josh went on, “It was then that John’s words, from two days earlier, resonated in my head. I took off the Emmaus Walk necklace and put it on Cameron.”

“He fell on his knees and began crying. It was both heart-wrenching and beautiful at the same time. I could just feel God in the atmosphere”

Cameron rededicated his life to Christ on the street in front of the diner in that moment.

Josh and Kerri moved on shortly after that, but Cameron told them that his life had been seriously changed as a result of our talking, and he was going to, “pursue Christ like never before.”

Cameron, and people like him, are the very reason Josh and Kerri have committed their summers to walk across America. According to Josh, “There are broken people everywhere, looking for some sense of hope.”

Going on this journey has brought them closer together as a couple. Josh and Kerri aren’t married -- yet! According to Josh he had some real concerns when Kerri said she wanted to come with him last year.

As committed Christians, how would it look for a young, unmarried couple to be travelling across country, sleeping in a tent? “I was iffy about it at first,” Josh said, “but with a lot of prayer and counsel, and the incredible experiences we’ve had, it just couldn’t have been any other way.” With a commitment to God, each other and good accountability partners back home, they have remained faithful to their Christian commitments.

Touching lives is what the walk across America is all about.

Josh and Kerri shared another story about a man they met, who walked with them for three days. He was a really a hard man, but they ministered to him the whole time. He called them recently to say that he had continued to go to church and had made it a priority in his life. According to Josh, “Seeing the change in people through the hope that the Gospel brings into people’s lives is what this trip is all about.”

Josh and Kerri are not trying to raise money for anything. However if people would like to help them along the way, they do accept donations on the web site for necessities on their walk and to buy Bibles to give away.

You can follow their journey, watch the video blog, find out more about their trip or make a donation at [joshwalksameric.com](http://joshwalksameric.com). |END



# A Ball of Many Colors

*“Wordless” soccer ball now bearing witness in over 125 countries.*

Mike and Betty Morris | Childrens Evangelistic Ministries | CEMI.Mike@gmail.com

To children he is the “soccer ball man”. To adults he’s the president of Childrens Evangelistic Ministries, Inc. To his family he is husband, father, and provider. No matter which hat he is wearing, Mike Morris of CEMI sees himself as a child of God whose mission is to introduce others to his best friend and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Mike did not know much about organized religion and even less about a personal relationship with Jesus until the age of 33. That was the year a pastor in his home area of Nevada, MO, introduced him to God and to the young woman who would soon become his wife. For Mike, this would be a pivotal moment in his life, changing all of his goals, desires, and even his personality forever.

Within two months of his salvation experience Mike began attending a local chapter of Child Evangelism Fellowship, Inc.®, a ministry to children and children’s workers. Because he wasted so many years of his life in the 1960s hippy and drug culture he knows first hand the importance of reaching children with the saving message of God’s love for them, Jesus death on the cross for their sin, and the abundant new life they can have when they receive the Lord Jesus as their Savior before they are trapped in Satan’s clutches. When Mike and Betty married four months after they met, they became active in working with CEF. Betty was already a member of the local committee and Mike now became their committee chairman. As time passed he was hired as Nevada District Chapter director. Mike’s favorite part of the work was going to fairs and festivals, setting up the Wordless Book story tent and sharing the gospel message with children of all ages from three to eighty-three and above.



Mike and Betty Morris, founders of Childrens Evangelistic Ministries, Inc. with the “wordless” soccer ball they designed.

Fast-forward a few years to more changes in Mike’s world. Heredity plays many parts in our lives and for Mike high cholesterol and heart problems tried to slow him down. By-pass surgery at the age of 43 and two heart attacks following that caused him to reflect on where God wanted his ministry to go now. As he lay in a hospital bed looking out the window he saw a television tower and felt impressed that God was asking him, “Don’t you think it’s about time to get on with the film project?”

Mike had been thinking for some time that an evangelistic film for children with the story plot based on a soccer team and a soccer ball of many colors (wordless book colors) should be developed for secular children’s television audiences. After much discussion and prayer Mike and Betty made their first trip to the annual International Christian Visual Media conference. The last



day of the conference they said “yes” to God and took a giant leap of faith. When they arrived home they told their committee that Mike would be resigning CEF at the end of the year.

In January, 2004, Childrens Evangelistic Films International, Inc. was formed. They also found a supplier who could manufacture the Energia© soccer ball of many colors. This began the journey that brought Mike the name of “soccer ball man”. During the next five years the ministry has undergone a name change to Childrens Evangelistic Ministries, Inc. and the development of many more products that are used as tools to share the message of salvation around the world.

Missionaries and children’s workers in over 125 countries now use the soccer balls, tens of thousands of soccer ball tracts, basketballs, volleyballs, key chains, hacky sacks, wristbands, and handmade bracelets to tell people about a loving God who wants to forgive their sins and make them a part of His family.

As the Lord opens doors the ministry of CEMI assists churches, mission agencies, and the precious saints to share the “Good News” with their witnessing items. Mike and Betty’s greatest joy is hearing from friends in the ministry sharing about children coming to know the Lord Jesus Christ as Savior.

For more information on the Morris’ ministry or to order Energia Products please visit [www.energia-products.org](http://www.energia-products.org) or [www.childrensevangelsisticministries.org](http://www.childrensevangelsisticministries.org). | END



Shem and Japeth Cordova, sons of Rodel (deceased) and Edah Cordova, a South East Asia Ministry Teams missionary in the Philippines, pose with the soccer ball and basketball donated by CEMI ministries. Shem is already leading other children to the Lord and assisting his mother in the mission work.



# Missio Dei

## The Sending of God

Dr. Steve Highlander | C3M Ministries | [steve@stevehighlander.com](mailto:steve@stevehighlander.com)

God is a “sending God.” He sent His Son into the world. He sent His Spirit into the World. He sent His Word into the world. He sent angles to do His work. He sent His corporate Church into the world, and He sends his people, as individuals, into the world. We are a sent people serving a sending God.

Missio Dei, Latin for “the mission of God,” or, “the sending of God,” is a term that the church needs to bring to the forefront of its understanding.

God is “missional,” and if the church understands that, she too, will be “missional.” To the extent that a church is not missional is the extent to which they really don’t understand the larger scale of God’s plan for the ages.

There are a couple of major problems with our 21st century church thinking. First, we assume that missions are another program of the church -- competing for time, attention and money with all the other church programs. The second error we make is thinking that missions occur somewhere else, with someone else (who is a little weird from spending so much time away the good ‘ole US of A.) Both of these conceptual errors greatly hinder what God wants to do in the hearts and lives of His people.

This is one reason why Christianity in America is on the decline. The Church has lost her first love: The passion, direction and commitment of understanding that she is sent. In the Book of the Revelation, Jesus had the most positive things to say to the Church at Ephesus. They were strong, they tested the word and remained faithful, yet they had “lost their first love.” I know there is a big debate on what that “first love” was. And honestly, it is a matter of interpretation, since none of us really know what Jesus was referring to. They obviously did, or they would not have understood the admonishment and been able to correct it.

The fact remains that people are tired of just going to church. I have known people that have gone to church for years and, for them; the epitome of Christianity is their attendance. As a pastor I appreciate faithful attendance, but is this really what Jesus died for - so we would all go to church? A church where the same few people typically do the same work week after week while everyone else watches? I don’t think so.

Connection with the Body of Christ -- the fellowship, corporate worship, prayer and instruction -- that we find in church are all im-

### *Ways You can Become more Missional*

#### **Eat with Non-Christians**

We all eat three meals a day. Why not make a habit of sharing one of those meals with a non-Christian or with a family of non-Christians? Flee the Christian subculture.

#### **Walk, Don’t Drive**

If you live in a walkable area, make a practice of getting out and walking around your neighborhood, apartment complex, or campus. Say hello to people you don’t know. Strike up conversations. Attract attention by walking the dog. Make friends. Get out of your house!

#### **Be a Regular**

Instead of hopping all over the city for gas, groceries, haircuts, eating out, and coffee, go to the same places at the same times. Get to know the staff. Smile. Ask questions. Be a regular.

#### **Hobby with Non-Christians**

Pick a hobby that you can share. Get out and do something you enjoy with others. Share your hobby by teaching lessons, such as sewing, piano, knitting, or tennis lessons. Be prayerful. Be intentional. Be winsome. Have fun. Be yourself.

#### **Talk to Your Co-workers.**

How hard is that? Take your breaks with intentionality. Go out with your team or task force after work. Show interest in your co-workers. Pick four and pray for them. Work on mission.

#### **Volunteer with Non-Profits.**

Find a non-profit in your part of the city and take a Saturday a month to serve your city. Bring your neighbors, your friends, or your small group. Spend time with your church serving your city. Once a month. You can do it!

#### **Participate in City Events**

Instead of playing Xbox, watching TV, or surfing the net, participate in city events. Go to fundraisers, festivals, cleanups, summer shows, and concerts. Participate missionally. Strike up conversation. Study the culture. Reflect on what you see and hear. Pray for the city. Love the city. Participate with the city.

#### **Serve Your Neighbors.**

Help a neighbor by weeding, mowing, building a cabinet, or fixing a car. Get creative. Just serve!

**Editor’s Note:** The above list was in a file of resources that have been collected over a period of several years. The original source is unknown. If someone wants to claim authorship we would be glad to give appropriate credit.

portant, however there comes a point in everyone’s life (the sooner, the better actually) where we must give out, rather than just continue to take in. God created us to serve Him and the Christian life simply does not work well over the long haul unless a person finds their place in the “Missio Dei.”

We need to correct the two major false concepts of mission if we are going to fix the problem and empower the church to “turn the world upside down” once again.

The concept that Missions are a program of the church must be turned on its ear. The church IS the mission of God. God sent the church -- not a mission program -- into the world. Until we understand that as a part of the church we are a part of the grand mission of God in the world, we will be content to find something else to do. After all, (some may think) it is only one program among many.

This leads to the second and third false conceptions: Missions is what happens with someone else -- someplace else. The typical idea that missions only happen in a place “far, far away,” is devastating to our understanding of Missio Dei. Absolutely there are people who are sent to unreached people groups around the world - someone has to go. But if we let that concept keep us from being missional at home we have failed to understand the most basic principle of God. There are lost people all around us. If we believe what Jesus said --straight is the gate and narrow the way and few there be that find it --then there are probably more lost people around us than saved. Could God send you to a lost person -- across the street, in the store, in a nearby town?

I have often said that no one could convince me that there is not someone right now, within easy reach of every Christian, who would not get saved if a Christian connected with them. All around us people are praying for God to do something in their lives. The missional Church, and the missional Christian, is looking for and even creating opportunities for those encounters. They are not waiting for those people to come to them -- they probably never will. Their “outreach” efforts are not an ad in the newspaper or on the radio. Missional people “mix it up” with the world. They are out in the world looking for opportunities to start conversations about God.

I once suggested a missional approach to my small, rural church in western Kansas and was answered with, “I’m not going to knock on doors, that doesn’t work.” It probably won’t (incidentally the Mormons just announced that they were no longer going door to door because of its ineffectiveness). Is that the most creative thing we can think of? Another whole article could be written on creative ways churches and individuals are reaching out in their communities. God is a creative God -- ask Him for a way for you to become missional, right where you are.

I challenge you to accept the fact that God is a “sending God,” and that you are a sent person. Find your place in the “Missio Dei” and you will never be the same. |END

## Help Your Group Discover the Missional Heart of God

Host a KAIROS Course in your church or city and get a life-changing perspective on world missions.

Contact Richard and June Bartz 928-502-2375 for more information

we've learned how to do it.

**“To adapt (a plant) so as to be cultivated by and beneficial to human beings.”** (Dictionary.com based on Random House Dictionary.)

One of the most serious errors I believe the church must recover from is the error that we (read that you and I) are the center of this whole God thing. Much of the message preached in past 30 years has been about how I can be better, richer, healthier ... BLESSED! In short the American Church wants to be comfortable. For many, the Bible has been reduced to a self-help book. God is presented as the cosmic benefactor that is just waiting to do good things for us.

I am wondering whatever happened to the concept of sacrifice for the sake of Kingdom? For a lot of Christians our modern church sacrifices include getting up a bit early on Sunday morning or volunteering for a Saturday youth event maybe an extra offering for missions or the building fund. So many the things we call sacrifice come directly from our surplus time and money. I am reminded just now of the widow's mite. The religious bunch gave their offerings, measured out according to the law to the last grain of wheat; but they gave out of their abundance. The widow gave out of her need. Of course this isn't just money we're talking about, but our entire lives. Jesus said, “no greater love has any man than he lay down his life for a friend.” My life entails my time, my attention, my money, my possessions, my family, my friends, my job, etc. I can only die physically for God once, but I can “lay down my life” everyday for Him.

As good as God is to us, from the forgiveness of sins and salvation to healing and blessing, HE is still the center of this whole thing. We are to be His servants, not the other way around. We're to serve God regardless of the circumstances. It makes no difference if I am blessed or healed at the moment or not.

**“To bring down to the level of the ordinary person.”** (The American Heritage® Dictionary of the English Language.)

There is a tendency in some churches to eliminate the supernatural. They talk about the Spirit, but they don't want anything supernatural. Paul

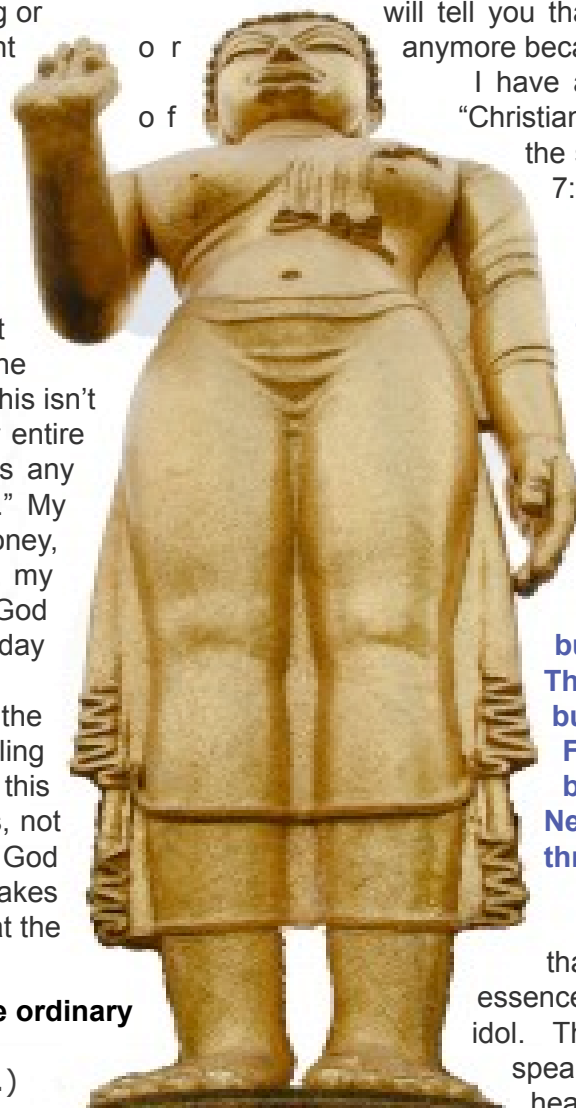
said there were those that “had a form of godliness but denied the power thereof.” Such people are religious, not spiritual. Religion does not require the supernatural – and many people like it that way. They want a practical religion that they are comfortable with. They like it rational and “doable.” They want something they can take pride in accomplishing – which is why religion loves legalism.

Many denominational churches have their doctrines about the Spirit, but they don't HAVE the Spirit, or at least they never let him out the ecclesiastical box they keep Him in. You'll hear it in a good many churches, “God doesn't do miracles today.” It never fails to amaze me that sincere, born again Christians believe that satan has miraculous power today, but God doesn't. Many of these same Christians will tell you that God doesn't talk to us anymore because we have the Bible.

I have another message entitled “Christian Idolatry.” It is taken from the scripture in Psalms 115:4-7:

**“Their idols are silver and gold, the work of men's hands. They have mouths, but they speak not; Eyes have they, but they see not; They have ears, but they hear not; Noses have they, but they smell not They have hands, but they handle not; Feet have they, but they walk not; Neither speak they through their throat.”**

It is a very sad fact that many people believe, in essence, that Our God is Christian idol. They don't believe He can speak to us, or touch us, or heal us or work through us supernaturally. Their concept of God is not consistent with the Bible, but is rather the “work of men's hands,” as they reduce the infinite God



to something manageable and understandable to finite man.

Spirituality -- on the other hand -- requires the supernatural, because we need God to get the job done. That hurts our religious pride and takes away our legalistic tendencies. To rely on the Spirit of God day by day is much harder than having a set of religious rites, ceremonies and rules to live by.

**“They have forsaken Me the fountain of living waters, and hewed them out cisterns, broken cisterns, that can hold no water.” Jer 2:13.**

Many churches have done this very thing. They want the water, but they want the water that is stored in their doctrinal wells, not the freshness of the free-

but I cannot let those things dictate to me how or if the Lord will use me. I've learned if God doesn't give me something in advance, that I just need to wait and see what spontaneous thing He has planned.

I have to chuckle at the E-Mail advertisements I get for sermon sales. They usually start off with, “For the busy pastor who doesn't always have time to study.” Just buy your sermon complete with notes, PowerPoint presentation, coordinated worship service and complimentary bulletin graphics. “Jesus in a box” for just \$19.95.

God never intended one man to do all the work. This is why the Bible teaches a plurality of leadership and instructs us in Ephesians chapter four that the job of the five-fold ministry is to train the people of God to

**The Church of Jesus Christ is a living organism. Paul calls it the Body of Christ. That is not a literary device or a simple analogy; it is a living, spiritual reality. Jesus is head of the church, not a man, ministry or board. It needs the free-flowing life of the Spirit to energize and propel it along.**

flowing water of the Spirit. (By this I do not mean any wind of doctrine, but rather the fresh application of the Word to people's lives and situations.) Having a cistern lends some security to the thing. We can control the depth of the water and know there's always some in reserve.

I know from experience that I have no need of a cistern. God has proven to me, time and again when I have gotten up to preach or teach without having anything on my heart and no message “prepared” that He has something special planned.

If I approach the ministry from the aspect of having to have a prepared message, I struggle. I worry that I'll have to get out exactly what I have prepared, rather than allowing God to use me to get His word across. I can't count the times I have gotten up with one message ready to go and, before I started preaching, God had totally taken me a different direction. This is not to say I don't study, pray and make a few notes,

do the work of the ministry. Many ministries focus on keeping people dependent on themselves, rather than working to produce more ministries.

Cisterns work great because you don't have to depend on the spontaneity of the Spirit. However, as the scripture says, they can't hold water. It keeps leaking out and we have to keep filling it up with more man-made stuff to meet the “needs” of the people. Fleshly ministry doesn't produce long-term change and spiritual satisfaction in people. It promotes a spiritual immaturity that requires its next bottle of milk to be prepared for it. This makes for great job security for the shepherd, but a dismal failure in producing strong disciples of Christ who are growing toward ministry.

The Church of Jesus Christ is a living organism. Paul calls it the Body of Christ. That is not a literary device or a simple analogy; it is a living, spiritual reality. Jesus is head of the church, not a man, ministry or board. It needs the free-flowing life of the Spirit to



# Against the Tide

Bill Lewis | River of Life Church, Butler, Ohio | wflmac@icloud.com



***Living in a Post Christian nation makes us live differently. If you still think we are a Christian nation, you are out of touch. However, we are called to be a kingdom of believers.***

*“Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.”* Psalm 105:19.

The tide in our generation is a rush of secular humanism and blatant anti-Christian world views. The purposeful, unrelenting tide is to strip the populace of morals, truth, and order. In its place there is this surge of legalized immorality, lies parading as truth, and chaos defined as law.

No culture can continue to exist without a foundation that provides protection and service to the constituents. These functions have to be based in some sort of absolute that becomes the source upon which judgments are made. If the courts, the congresses, and police make situational, personal decisions based on feeling rather than law or the absolutes, the people then can no longer have trust or confidence in the government. If our educators, our schools and universities are teaching there is no truth or absolutes, we have returned to the place of Divine judgment, as in when everyone was doing “what was right in their own eyes.” The flood then had to come to cleanse the earth of the folly and ungodliness.

The problem with relativism is that it brings society to a place of reprobation. Too long, we have been drinking the Kool-Aid of the world. It is poisoning us to death -- slow, but sure. The pace of the poisoning has picked up dramatically because the one-time guardians of truth, the church and the schools, have been overrun by wolves in sheep's clothing. In Russia the pastors of the state church are KGB agents. In the US and western world, many pulpits are filled with unbelievers who have a social agenda contrary to the word. With no absolutes, they mirror the world and exacerbate the problem of declining Bible knowledge and worldview. This is the only way you can justify the gay marriage acceptance in some churches; they have forsaken the word and twisted it to mean nothing.

The warnings continue to go out and are continued to be ignored. To stem the tide of the decline, there has to be another generation of young people raised up who love the word, who love God, and are not polluted by the current philosophies of man. Someone has to see through the lies and grab the truth. Someone has to wake up and realize this is taking the world into judgment.

When we begin to speak of the truth being a person (Jesus) and his word being the basis of existence, we are shouted down. The reason for the shout down is the truth convicts, and no one wants to change their lifestyles to comply with the word of God. Our job is to ignore the shout down and continue to preach the truth, regardless of the consequences and the rejection.

The church has become anemic because we want to appease the world and make it comfortable. We must accept the stigma of the truth. We may be branded as “those people,” but we must wear it in confidence of the absolute truth revealed in the word of God. We must study to show ourselves approved.

## The Loss is Exponential

- 82% of Americans - including Christians - believe that “God helps those who help themselves,” is a Bible verse (not)
- 50% of high school seniors think that Sodom and Gomorrah were husband and wife.
- A large number believe the Sermon on the Mount was preached by Billy Graham.
- Only one third of Christians believe in absolute truth.
- Only 68% of Christians have heard of Spiritual gifts and only one third could name one.

*Bill Lewis is the pastoral team leader of the River of Life Church in Butler, Ohio. It is a church he helped plant in the late 1970s. Bill functions prophetically and apostolically and has been involved in numerous starts and re-builds of churches. He has been involved in planting and consulting with churches since he was twenty eight. He holds his bachelor's degree from Malone University. He has been married to Catherine for nearly fifty years. They have four children, eleven grandchildren, and two great grandchildren. | END*

## MISSION MOMENT

# Balancing the ‘Greats’

Richard D. Bartz | Founder, South East Asia Mission Teams | richard@seamist.org

**T**hanks to Matthew, Christians everywhere know the Great Commandment: Love! Love God with your whole heart, soul, mind, and strength. Along with that Jesus included loving our neighbors like we love ourselves. (Matthew 22:36-40) What a challenge! Loving like that requires putting me last in everything, it requires me to sacrifice me! That's tough.

Most churches emphasize the love of God and the love of Christians for God and for one another. You probably heard in church last Sunday that God loves you. You may even have been challenged to love others because God loves you. That's a good thing and a common thing. We need to remember and remind each other God's love and about loving often.

One discipleship course for Sunday schools and small groups emphasizes the “one another” passages in the gospels and epistles. It's a great method for learning to get along in unity. Love one another, tolerate one another, prefer one another, spur one another to good works, encourage one another, etc., -- good Great Commandment stuff.

Thanks not only to Matthew, but also to Mark, Luke, and John, Christians everywhere also know the Great Commission. Go, tell the good news to and make disciples of every kind of people everywhere! (All the gospels...) Let's see, that means to preach to and to make disciples of about 17,000 kinds of people living all over the world. What a challenge that is!

Did you hear about the Great Commission in church last Sunday? Probably not, although you might have. The truth is that the Great Commission is not nearly as emphasized in most of our churches as the Great Commandment is. World mission gets some attention, but not much compared to the other commands of Christ.

Should our churches be paying more attention

to the Great Commission? Is there any difference between obedience to the Great Commission and to any of the other commands of Christ? How can we find the right balance? These are all good questions that deserve good answers.

First of all, we need to realize that God is on a mission to redeem man and establish His Kingdom in the earth. It started with creation. He loved the world so much He sacrificed Jesus to accomplish redemption and to establish His Kingdom in our hearts. Jesus did it! That is the good news! The church is all about getting this good news about the Kingdom to the ends of the earth because that is what God is all about! Missions is the very heart-beat of God.

Next we need to realize that Jesus' commandment to go and tell everyone the good news was not just for His disciples at that time but for every single disciple to follow. They were told to teach the new disciples to obey everything Jesus commanded. Therefore, you and I are commanded by Jesus to go and tell everyone the good news about the Kingdom and to make disciples of every kind of people!

The Great Commission is an overwhelming responsibility, one we have to take personally. Of course, one person cannot do it all, we have to do it together. However, this does not allow us to disobey. Each of us has a part to play and yes, it will require sacrifice. True love always does. If you want to obey the Great Commandment you will obey the Great Commission! One question remains....

## What is your part?

*Richard and June Bartz are veteran missionaries with 23 years experience in S.E. Asia. They founded South East Asia Mission Teams (SEAMisT) in 2009. SEAMisT's vision is to preach the gospel and plant churches among unreached people groups in S. E. Asia. You can reach them at [www.seamist.org](http://www.seamist.org). | END*



## Spotlight On Youth

# WHAT TEENS REALLY NEED

Ed Apida | New Horizons Christian School | [eapida@gmail.com](mailto:eapida@gmail.com)

Will many of our churches survive to the next generation?

Many will not, but they all can survive if they reach out to this generation now! It may be easier than what we think.

There is a lot of discussion why we are losing so many young people. So many churches lose their teens by high school and those they keep, they lose by college. Yet, here and there, are churches that really reach the youth.

I hear debate after debate on why so many youth are lost, and the blame starts: schools -- especially colleges, mass media, social media, texting, other technology, fun, relevancy, worship styles and a myriad of other subjects are blamed as the reasons we are losing the young.

Then the debate carries over to how to reach them for Jesus. What new program or idea will get past these issues and connect the youth with God. How much money will it take? What technology is needed? What training should we study? These are all issues that have some truth and need to be considered but are we missing the point?

Years ago (early 1980's), God had me become a youth pastor at age 20 of a small youth group of about 50 teens (of which 30 came from homes where the family did not profess Jesus or even go to church). This youth group, by most standards, looked doomed to fail. I definitely did not look like a youth pastor that would inspire. I was 5'10" and all of 115 pounds. I looked and dressed like a nerd. Half of the youth group consisted of football players from the high school, and school rejects made up the other half.

I was not into sports or cars, which means most people thought I could not relate to youth. We sang choruses from the 50's, and the kids played some sports and games while I watched. One time, while reading a leading youth ministry magazine at the time, I found a list of what makes youth groups strong. I read the list to the kids and we flunked (I think our score was 5%).

We met on Sunday nights for some games, a lower key Bible study and about some worship time. Then on Thursdays we met for a discipleship bible study and a longer worship time. We would sing for half an hour. Then the Bible study would last for about an hour. We would usually meet on Friday or Saturday night for a social activity. Many times the teens did not want to leave and we would have to kick them out of the church and they would end up at the local fast food place. Yet that youth group still had teens coming,

and 30 years later, most of them are still serving the Lord and even their kids are strong Christians.

Was it the methods? The songs? The athletic and attractive youth pastor? No. What was there that was different from other groups?

God's definition of himself is love. In that group love abounded. How was that love shown? Teens accepted each other, worried about each other, the adults and teens spent lots of time together. When one succeeded, they all succeed, when one failed, they had a group to pull them up.

This was before the Internet, cell phones, and social media but the phone would ring constantly. Teens would pick up other kids, and there was constant interaction. They were community, they were family, not acquaintances that met together at church. There was a lot of connection and intimacy.

Of course you never knew what would happen. Once I got a call late at night from a 16 year old boy who is now an esteemed high school principal, asking the great theological question, is it a sin to drop your pants in public?

I do not have scientific studies or a doctorate degree where I have studied this. I can only share based on what I have seen and experienced over the last 30 years. However, if we want to reach the young, we need to love them. And if we say we love them, that does not mean we just say hi to them, or include them in a youth meeting once a week and pray that they will turn out with a dynamic relationship with Jesus. If we love them, we need to spend time with them, lots of time. If we get to know them—really know them well, are concerned about them, even if we don't know all technology or the latest fads or lingo, we will reach them.

Teens now, just like teens of every generation, need adults to love and spend time with them. They need to love and spend time with each other. Sometimes that is all that they need! Yes, it sounds so simple, perhaps too simple, but so is the gospel, and like the gospel, it requires commitment and change. Reaching teens may seem hard, but if we keep trying and working at it we will succeed. The future church depends on this!

*Ed Apida is a former educator who has decades of experience with teens for all walks of life. He is currently in the process of setting up a Christian home/school for troubled kids in a rural setting near Nevada, MO. There are some current needs to make this happen. If you are interested in helping troubled teens please contact Ed. | END*

# A Prayer and \$35 Dollars

A modern mission story of reaching an unreached people group.

By Dr. Steve Highlander | C3M Ministries | [steve@stevehighlander.com](mailto:steve@stevehighlander.com)

In 2005 the Aeta tribe living on Negros Island in the Philippines was considered an unreached people group. There were no known Christians, churches or even missionaries. In December 2011 I had the privilege of ministering at the 4th anniversary celebration of the Aeta Tribal Church of the Philippines.

Today the Aeta Christians number in the hundreds with four churches in different villages. They are a recognized Filipino, non-profit organization with their own indigenous leadership and an ISOM Bible School that graduated the first 16 Aeta students in 2013. A few years ago they couldn't read.

Our part of the story started on the deck of a beach front hotel in Moal Boal, on the Island of Cebu in the Philippines. Richard and June Bartz, founders of South East Asia Mission Teams (SEAMisT) sat on the deck with their son in law George Rennau, an Assembly of God pastor from Arizona. I'll let George share the story in his own words...

The Bible says in Matthew 9:38 "Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest." In 2006 my daughter Elizabeth and I made a trip to Cebu, Philippines for the inaugural meeting of SEAMisT's new training center. I was given the privilege of preaching and teaching and, after a solid week of meetings, we took a break from ministry and drove to Moal Boal and stayed in a resort area on the Tanon Strait. As I stood on the shore looking West toward an island with tall mountains and dark foliage I wondered about this dark place. I asked about the island and was told it was called Negros (black in Spanish), the third largest island in the Philippines with a population that was mainly unreached with the gospel. As a ministry team we prayed for the lost people of Negros that God would expand the work of SEAMisT to this native shore and send workers into the harvest field.

Part two of the story occurs a few months later. Richard Bartz and I were chatting over the Internet one evening when he asked me if I had \$35.00. SEAMisT Missionary Rodel had an opportunity to do a survey trip to Negros

*Continued on page 19*

**The Second Reformation is happening now! God is retooling the Church for the days ahead.**

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- **Encouragement for people who are trying to do things differently in the Church, but can't find others who see the same things**

Church in the 3rd Millennium  
Drs. Steve and Brooke Highlander  
727 West Sycamore  
Nevada, MO 64772 - USA  
[C3MMinistries.com](http://C3MMinistries.com)





energize and propel it along.

I believe that Jesus is quite capable of leading and directing His Body without requiring our approval. Rather He wants our cooperation

It has been asked, “Where Do We Go from Here?” How do we get from where we are to where we see we need to be? It requires doing things differently.

It has been my repeated observation that, in any given service, we have the option of having a good service or a Holy Ghost service. The pivotal point in any service comes when someone in the service must step out and obey the Spirit of God. That person becomes the “cork in the bottle” for the moving of the Spirit. Sometimes that is the worship leader, who feels to break the predetermined plan and flow spontaneously. It might be the pastor or speaker who is willing to change a message in midstream or step out of the way altogether and let someone else speak. Just as often it might not be someone “up front.” It may be someone in the congregation that needs to obey God and allow God to use them in a gift of the Spirit, or even to stand and give a teaching or exhortation.

When that single person fails to obey, for whatever reason, be it fear, timidity or simply that they are never given the chance, the Holy Spirit cannot, and will not move in a way that He wants to. They remain a “cork in the bottle.”

You can see why domesticating the church throttles the Holy Spirit. If our prescribed order of service does not allow for spontaneous change, we lose the ability to uncork the bottle. If the congregation is never empowered to step out, or it is not given the encouragement and opportunity to do so, they will never realize that they might well be hindering the moving of the Spirit. If the celebrity status of ministry won’t make room for anyone in the congregation to share, then we have effectively squelched the Spirit. When we reduce the participation of the congregation to a testimony or a prayer request, we limit both the Spirit and Body.

We cannot domesticate the Spirit, for no one can control God, but we can domesticate the Church and in doing so, grieve the Spirit to the point where we are left to have “good services” without the life-imparting, life-changing power of the Spirit that we so desperately need today.

Do we dare let the goose loose? Can we trust God enough to take our hands off? Do we love our traditions more than our God? Do we continue having “church as usual” or will we risk letting God take over in His Church? | **END**

God will have a Church that displays the fullness

of Jesus Christ in the last days. That is not the question.

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### ***A Prayer and \$35 continued from page 17 ....***

and contact the tribe. It would cost Rodel \$35 to take a bus up the coast and then ride the ferry across to Negros Island to meet with the Aeta tribe. I quickly transferred \$35 to Richard's account. The rest is an amazing story of how God used a prayer and \$35 to send a man to preach the gospel and plant a self-sustaining church among an unreached people group.

The Aeta has a bad reputation for drunkenness and violence. No one wanted to go there to preach the gospel. However, Rodel contacted the Aeta tribal chief, Rostom Bornea, to see if SEAMisT could bring some groups up to observe tribal life. After some discussion Rostom asked if Rodel would be willing to build a community center (consisting of a pole structure and a tin roof) for the tribe so they could meet out of the weather. That community center became the first Aeta church building.

It was not long before Rostom accepted Jesus Christ as his savior. In doing so his key village elders also became Christians and many villagers followed their leaders. It was not long before Chief Rostom made a critical decision. His grandfather has been a famous and powerful witch doctor on the island. All of the tribal fetishes were passed down to him as tribal chief. In a public ceremony Rostom burned the ancient fetishes and declared the Aeta a Christian people.

As Christianity spread among the Aeta the reality of it became obvious. The Aeta were changing. Once known for drunkenness and violence, this trait began to disappear. The Barangay Captain used to have to send the local police up the mountain weekly because of the problems. Later he mentioned to Rodel that he didn't have to send police up there anymore. Rodel suggested that since they were saving money on police they should see about providing electricity to the area. The Aeta now have electricity in some areas. Many other blessing began flowing into the Aeta Tribe. A group providing animals ran a program where they gave breeding stock to individuals with the stipulation they must give the first offspring away to another family that did not have one. God has truly blessed the Aeta as they have opened their hearts and accepted the Lordship of Jesus Christ.

Just recently an opportunity to reach the neighboring tribe has opened up. We need some financial support for a SEAMisT worker to be travel to the area regularly to begin the preliminary work just as Rodel did with the Aeta several years ago. Would you like to be a part of the next miracle? It doesn't take a lot. Remember, the Aeta story started with a prayer and \$35.00. If you would like to know more about how you can adopt a people group or support a specific worker please read the back page for more information and how you can be a part of reaching the unreached for Christ. | **END**

# SEAMisT

South East Asia Mission Teams

# YOU CAN

be a part of preaching the gospel and planting churches among the unreached people groups in 11 countries in S.E. Asia.

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- **ADVOCATE** the adoption of unreached people groups and missionaries
- **MOBILIZE** workers and resources for the tremendous harvest that is ripe
- **FACILITATE** the transfer of funds and materials to the mission field

# seamistusa.org



# REACHING THE UNREACHED

## In South East Asia

SEAMisT is dedicated to preaching the gospel and planting the church among the unreached people groups of S.E. Asia. There are over 500 unreached people groups within the geographical area targeted by SEAMisT. Out of those 500 we have specifically targeted 123 people groups as the most unreached. These groups have been a focus of prayer for the past several years. You can be a part of cutting edge mission work that plants churches among truly unreached people that have never heard the name of Jesus.



**There are several ways  
you can be involved in  
reaching the unreached in S. E. Asia:**

### ***Adopt a people group***

SEAMisT gives you a unique opportunity to adopt a people group instead of simply supporting a missionary. You can visit the SEAMisT web site at [www.seamist.org](http://www.seamist.org) and learn about the various people we have targeted. If God lays a people group on your heart you can pray and financially support the preliminary work that is necessary to set the stage for church planting in that particular people group. This is great for churches, Sunday Schools or youth groups.

### ***Adopt a Missionary***

If you prefer to support a particular missionary with prayers and financial support, that is always encouraging. Missionaries rarely have enough money to do everything that needs to be done. Your direct support gives them encouragement and hope that someone is with them in the battle.

### ***Go to the Mission Field***

SEAMisT recruits and trains mission workers for 11 S.E. Asian Countries. As Jesus said, "The harvest is truly plenteous, but the laborers are few." Perhaps you feel the call to become more personally involved. We would be glad to talk with you about your vision and call and if SEAMisT is the right organization for you.

**For more information please visit**

**[www.seamist.org](http://www.seamist.org) or contact**

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