



Kingdom Wok Ministries Int.

January 2018 Newsletter

I really like country music, especially some of the older songs, and a few of the Christian country songs. One song in particular that I used to sing when we had a potluck or a church birthday party or some other occasion where it fit, was "I will carry my cross for you" by Paul Overstreet. (The same guy who wrote "Forever and Ever Amen" that was recorded by Randy Travis years ago.)

The words to the chorus are: "I will carry my cross for You, walk in Your footsteps my whole life through; do anything You will have me to do, Jesus I will carry my cross for You."

You may or may not know that the mission statement for KMI is "Serving



Christ wherever He calls." It could just be shortened to "Serving Christ", since that is what all believers are called to do. The scripture tells us that we are to take up our cross and follow Jesus. We find the verse in Luke 9:23: "And he said to all, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me." Have you given that much thought? Let's take a look at Christ and see His example, then see applications for us.

We celebrate Christmas when Christ came to save the world. He was born for that purpose. God Himself became hu-

man to draw all who would come to Himself forever. Jesus knew what His job was: to follow the leading of the Father---through thick and thin, storm and calm, threats and friends, ease and discomfort, joy and hurt---until He had fulfilled what He was put on earth to do. The cross was well known by all of His disciples, and when Jesus said we must take it up daily, He was letting us know that our lives are to be lived for the Father as well. Christ's cross was literal and brutal, and in total humility, obedience, and love, He was raised up in our place. His entire life was spent leading to that moment.

No matter what the circumstances, each believer is called to rely on the Holy Spirit as The Perfect Guide, listen to His instruction---since it too comes from the Father---and follow the footsteps of Christ.....daily! We are each a Divinely special creation, made for a purpose. Our job is to find that purpose, and fulfill it in the vapor of time that we call life. But there is more! God has given us very specific instructional guidance. If you don't have Micah 6:8 memorized, you might consider doing that. "He has shown thee O man what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? But to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God."

That has become a "life verse" for me. I read it, I recite it, I sing it, and I share it every chance I get. The cross of Christ was His alone to bear; your cross and my cross are each ours to bear. But the good news is that He is right beside us making the yoke easy and the burden light. We serve an Awesome God, and one day, we will get to be with Him and all believers in Glory. I look forward to that day. In the meantime, He has work for me to do: Going out into the world, Making Disci-

ples, and baptizing them into the blessed Trinity. Lord Jesus: Even in my imperfection, I will carry my cross for You Lord, because Easter has made that possible!

2017 was a busy and good year for KMI. Let me be clear about something though: KMI did nothing---GOD did everything. These are not just rhetorical words: they are Truth. God used us, but it is always He who accomplishes the good works. He built a secondary school, two dormitory buildings, a women's ministry building, two more latrines, and a school kitchen. In addition He put in three new wells at K & K, and has provided funding for three more. The Amazing Grace Schools are running well, and God has provided start-up funding for the 2018 school year. It is not fully funded yet, as we need more child sponsors for that to happen. The Lord purchased 12 truckloads of food for the starving, and He provided pastors with training so they could continue to "GO" and make disciples for Jesus Christ. 2018 looks to be busy as well. Here is how we think the Lord is leading KMI for next year:

Three ministry trips to Uganda; 2) possibly a trip to Tonga to work with Sea Mercies, a medical organization that takes medical teams to islands where there is NO medical care what-so-ever. 3) In Uganda the plan is to build the two teachers housing buildings, a

kindergarten classroom, and start on the fencing around the school complex. 4) A very intentional program of personal evangelism to the Kupsabini people, forging a renewed relationship with Dr. Val Shean and her husband Waffle in their work at taking the Gospel to the Koromajong people, and 5) Entering into a new relationship with Shepherd's House in Bend. We are very excited about next year.

It is always on my heart to take time to say Thank You to the many of you who have supported KMI this past year and over the course of our ministry. We started in 2011, and are 7 years old now. Our focus has remained: "Serving Christ wherever He calls," but we never know when and where that "wherever" is going to be. In my August newsletter I shared a rather lengthy list of all that the Lord had accomplished in the K & K area up until that point of the year: School buildings were built, broken wells were repaired, new wells were drilled, food was purchased for the starving and distributed to hundreds of the needy---people of all faiths and people professing no faith. These are all good works that God allowed us to be a part of, and we loudly and clearly give all praise and honor to the blessed Trinity for them. Please bear with me as I share my favorite moment among many of the year, a story about baby Jeremiah...who passed away, as story that has deepened in my heart and will last for eternity

As we were leaving from praying with and comforting the mother of Jeremiah, the father of Jeremiah arrived. We shook hands and talked briefly; he kept staring into my eyes questioningly; he would not look away. I looked back into his eyes. The Lord put I into my mind to ask him a

question, "Do you want to ask me something?" I said. He replied that he did; he wanted to know why we would pay the medical and funeral expenses for a boy and a family that we did not know. "Why would you do that?" he asked. Thanks to the leading of the Holy Spirit I shared that it was because of the love that Christ has for all people, and we wanted to share Jesus' love with them in this time of need and sorrow. I assured him that Jeremiah is now with Jesus in a wonderful place for eternity called heaven, and than anyone who knows Jesus would get to see Jeremiah someday in the future in heaven. Immediately he said that he wanted to know this Jesus---right now! So we sat together, Pastor Chemonges Mike shared in the local language with him what it means to be born again. We prayed with him and he asked Christ into his life! This was the highlight of my day, and of my year of ministry with KMI under the Holy Spirit's leading.

Jeremiah's father will be in heaven with us some day thanks to your giving to the Lord. **YOU DO MAKE A DIFFERENCE: YOU ARE VITALLY IMPORTANT TO CHRIST AND HIS WORK.** YOU made it possible for that encounter to take place by following the Holy Spirit as He led your heart to pray, encourage, and support KMI. Thank you, and may the Lord bless your year in 2018.

Serving Him,

D.C.

