

# Lifeline

January—March 2010

Volume 3 Issue 1

## 2010: A YEAR OF GREAT EXPECTATIONS

It doesn't seem possible that the new year has already disposed of its first month already. So, obviously, we are late in getting this newsletter to you. With the passing of each day, I can't help but think of the people who have not given their lives to Jesus. The calendar is not waiting for any person, so time is of the essence.

We are expecting great things this year at JWF Ministries International. I know that may sound like a cliché, but it has really been etched into my mind that the time is so critical in getting the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the nations. I was reminded not long ago by a great friend that last year I had preached a message from his pulpit about this not being the last days, but rather the last minutes and seconds before Christ's return. Since I truly believe that to be true, there is no time for wasting.

Habakkuk wrote in his prophetic book of the direction the Lord had given him. In Chapter 2, verses 2—4, he writes the following: "Then the Lord answered me and said: 'Write the vision and make it plain on tablets, that he may run who reads it. For the vision is yet for an appointed time; but at the end it will speak, and it will not lie. Though it tarries, wait for it. Because it will surely come, it will not tarry. Behold the proud, his soul is not upright in him; but the just shall live by his faith.'"

Through days of prayer and fasting, I believe that the time for this ministry is at hand. Therefore is it time to write the vision and make it plain so that others can read it and run with us in partnership for the work of God.

Here are the goals and objectives for this year, 2010, for this ministry.

- **Ministry budget goal** for 2010 is a minimum of \$30,000. We are looking for 100 people, families, churches, businesses to give either \$300 annually or \$25 per month. We are also praying for 2—5 donors who would give \$5,000+ and 1—2 donors who would give \$25,000+. **From this budget, the following items will be accomplished.**
- Two trips to Africa scheduled for this year. Tanzania is in June/July and Burkina Faso is in November. The average length of each trip will be two weeks. The average budget for each trip will be \$6,000. One of our goals for Burkina Faso is to take a worship team and prayer team.
- We are trying to raise \$100 per month support for 5 pastors and their families in Africa.
- \$10,000 to help Pastor Paul Kabore in Burkina Faso build another Christian school. This would make his sixth school in a city of 3,000,000 people. Currently, his schools have a total enrollment of over 3,000 children.

- \$8,000 to help Rev. Edward Mboya build his church in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.
- Sell a minimum of 5,000 copies of "Go Therefore . . . A Guide To Short Term Missions", which **100% of proceeds will go straight the to 2010 budget.**

We are hopeful that you will take these goals as prayer requests. Ask the Lord how we can partner together for His Kingdom. There are other areas that need attention as well. But the items stated in this article are the highest priorities. If we exceed our financial goals, there are other projects, such as: in Burkina Faso, constructing more schools, a water well, and an orphanage. In Tanzania, there are three other churches that need finances for their completion.

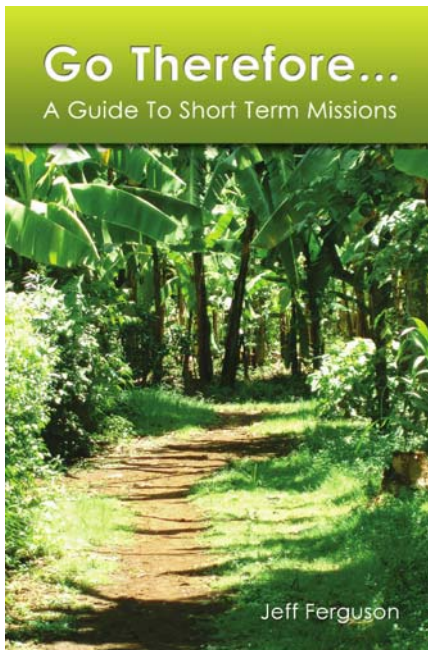
Thank you for supporting our ministry through your prayers and finances!

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# BOOK AVAILABLE MARCH 1ST

Well, as you can see, Jeff's first book has reached the publisher. Since the last newsletter, there have been more changes than we dare try to recall. One of the more noticeable changes is in the title and sub-title of the book. After submitting the manu-



script to the Library of Congress for the copyright, we discovered there were more than a few books entitled "The Missions Handbook". This new title actually better represents the nature and intent of this project. The final and technical aspects of the proofing process are now finished and we anticipate this to go to print within the week.

Another major change that has taken place is that we are back to the original plan of this book being for people interested in missions and the process of preparing for a missions trip. The information for team leaders will now take on its own identity as a follow-up book. The name has yet to be determined and the writing has just begun. As it nears completion, we will keep you informed.

Also, in the works is a Study Guide for "Go Therefore". This project is well under way and the expected completion date is about three to five weeks away. As this entire project is unfolded by the Lord, it has become apparent that it will not be enough to just sell the book. Even with all of the resources the book contains, the Lord is prompting Lynne and I to make available training seminars to assist pastors who are looking to build or start a missions program within their own church body.

The Study Guide is being designed for, but not limited to, those who are seriously considering the idea of a short-term missions trip in their immediate future. The seminars will fully use the Study Guide and also contain a mixture of experience-based stories, audio/video clips, group discussions, and short classroom style presentations.

The missions field is not a playground for the unprepared. It is a real life battlefield of spiritual proportion. To send the children of God into such an arena without the proper training is most certainly an invitation to heartache and pain, possibly even spiritual or physical death. Ephesians 6: 10-18 speaks of the armor of God. The Apostle Paul was insistent about being prepared for the battle at hand. In 2nd Corinthians 10:3-6, Paul again stresses the importance of being properly positioned in the Holy Spirit for war.

Many people like to quote the Apostle Paul and his writings. But, most of us could never have carried the burden or suffered the things that he suffered. In Romans 1: 16-17, Paul declared that he was not

ashamed of the Gospel of Jesus Christ to a culture that was immersed in sin. But yet, in 2 Corinthians 11: 23-28, he talks about how he suffered for the cause of Christ. There is a cost to missions work, but there is an even greater reward for being obedient to the calling of God on our lives.

## **Book Availability**

Starting March 1st, and possibly before, you will initially be able to purchase this book at four different locations: 1) Lynne and I will have a small stock of books available, 2) the JWF Ministries International, Inc. website, 3) [www.CreateSpace.com/3426094](http://www.CreateSpace.com/3426094), and, 4) [www.Amazon.com](http://www.Amazon.com). The Study Guide will also be available on each of these sites when finished. Again, I believe we are still looking at about three to five weeks until it will be ready for use.

## **Seminars & Sunday School Classes**

This material has also been designed to be used also as Sunday school class curriculum. The book, "Go Therefore . . ." is thirteen chapters, perfect for a quarterly class. Contact us for group rates on the book and Study Guide.

If your church is interested in our seminar and material to help prepare their congregants for a missions trip, please contact us at [jeff@JeffFerguson.org](mailto:jeff@JeffFerguson.org). We believe the will of God for every believer can be found in the following verses: Matt. 28: 18-20, Acts 1:8, and 2 Corinthians 5: 17-20.

This has been a long, but very satisfying experience. As Lynne and I talked about this process, we discovered that it has taken well over 1 year to arrive at this point. It just doesn't seem possible. Thank you to all who have contributed to this work! Pray that it accomplishes all it was intended to do.

# WHO IS YOUR SALVATION FOR?

Each year, at the beginning of the year, I take time to just think about where I've been and how I have come to this place in my life. Usually this also takes me to the thoughts of how I came to know Jesus. This has always been a very valuable process for me. Without it, it would be much easier to fall into the strongholds and snares of the enemy.

During this past year, I found myself pondering a very interesting question. The question, as you might have guessed, is the title of this article; "Who is your salvation for?" Now, before you start digging out your bibles, Strong's Concordances, and other study helps, please allow me to make some comments about this topic.

As Lynne and I have traveled and as we met and become friends with other missionaries, I was overwhelmed with the lack of interest in missions, supporting of missionaries, evangelistic outreach, and also with grounded, whole counsel Bible teaching in this country. Even more interesting was the great interest in "financial prosperity" and healing. Continually, the question kept coming to me, challenging me, not only about my own life but the lives of those around me. It challenged the very existence of our ministry. This question, as interesting as it may seem, has shaken several people with whom I have spoken and shared this question.

Who is your salvation for? It just sticks to the gray matter of my brain, like peanut butter to the roof of a mouth. As I meditated upon this seemingly straightforward question, the Lord started revealing its simple truth.

The first example given was that of Christ Himself, which is always the ultimate example. Why did Christ come to the earth, temporarily giving up His heavenly royalty, to walk the face of this earth? Was it He alone who needed salvation? Was it He who was the only person that benefited from His relationship with God

Almighty? I strongly declare, with all my heart, that the answer to each of these questions was that He was here for the benefit of others. In Matthew 28:18-20, Jesus tells the disciples to go and make disciples of all nations. In Luke 19:10, Jesus declares that He has come to seek and save that which is lost.

Jesus goes on to speak in Acts 1:8 that we are to be His witnesses in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. Why? So that others can see the goodness of God in us and be brought to reconciliation to God through repentance and forgiveness. 2 Corinthians 5:18-20 gives a direct command, through the Apostle Paul, that when we become born-again, we all have the ministry of reconciliation, the Word of reconciliation, and we all become ambassadors for Christ. This passage completes with the words: "as though God were pleading through us; we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God."

I believe Paul had captured a con-

cept/discipline from the Scriptures that most Christians have missed. Paul displays the concept of mentoring (sharing his salvation) and its importance throughout the New Testament. He knew the value of our work, as Christians, was in the imparting of Truth to our brothers and sisters of the Lord and helping them grow and mature in their faith. In 1 Thessalonians 2:19-20, he writes, "For what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Is it not even you in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at His coming? For you are our glory and joy."

Who is your salvation for? Before you dismiss this question as silliness or bad doctrine, examine its core. There is someone waiting to hear the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the only one that may get through to them is you. Let your salvation be seen by others. Don't just speak your testimony, live it. Allow others to see Jesus through your actions, thoughts, and speech. Fill your hearts with the passion of Christ and compassion for others.

## Jehovah—Jireh The Lord Our Provider!

JWF Ministries International, Inc. is a para-church organization, not connected with any one denomination or church for its funding. We trust the Lord for our finances. If He has put it on your heart to give or support this ministry, that is fantastic. If not, we pray that you have been blessed by this ministry and will pray for us as we come to your memory.

- Monthly gift of \_\_\_\_\_
- One time gift of \_\_\_\_\_
- I will prayer for the ministry.
- I am interested in going on a missions trip. Please send me information.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form, with your check, money order or cash **payable to JWF Ministries International, Inc.** Your donation is tax deductible and you will receive a receipt if your name, address, city, state and zip code information is complete.

# MISSIONS TRAINING SEMINAR

With the publication of "Go Therefore . . . A Guide To Short Term Missions" and the upcoming release of the study guide, we are now pleased to announce the offering of Missions Training Seminars for your churches and organizations.

These seminars consist of 1 1/2 days of group and individual training, using the materials contained in "Go Therefore" and the Study Guide, as well as audio/visual presentations, stories, and displays that are not included in the book. With 12+ years of experience in short term missions, Jeff will give insights and challenges to all who are looking to fulfill the directive of Christ to "go therefore, and make disciples of all nations".

It is the will of God for everyone who calls themselves Christians to make disciples of all the nations (Matt. 28: 19), to be His witnesses

(Acts 1: 8), and to reconcile ourselves and others to God (2 Cor. 5: 18-20). The problem is that most of us don't really understand how to go about doing this. Pastors have their hands full with the daily grind of sermon preparation, staff meetings and issues, and counseling. Not all churches have the luxury of having multiple pastors on staff.

Our desire is to help pastors and church leaders in organizing and training members of their congregations in the ministry of missions. Whether it is a group going overseas or across town, preparation for the ministry of missions is vital.

Once the next book project is finished, the addition of leadership training for short term missions trips will be added to this offering. Again, our goal is to help others find the calling and destiny that God has

placed over their lives. While the Scriptures do declare to "go", they also state that we are to "study to show ourselves approved."

Contact us for more information regarding this training opportunity for your church or organization.



## Contact Us

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## Upcoming Events

- March 2010** "Go Therefore" goes on sale at JWF website, CreateSpace.com/3426094, and Amazon.com
- June/July 2010** **Tanzania Missions Trip**
- November 2010** **Burkina Faso Missions Trip**

As you can see, we have many open dates on our calendar. Please contact us and help us fulfill the call of God by introducing countless numbers of people in Burkina Faso, Tanzania, and beyond to Jesus. They need your help in this moment. We have many individual partners contributing to this new work as well, but more are needed. Please pray and ask the Lord what you can do to reach and change lives through JWF Ministries International, Inc.