

WORSHIP EQUIPPERS FOR CHRIST

Missions Partner Update / December 2019



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ.

Joy-filled greetings from Schultz's! Glorianne and I pray that this Advent/Christmas season finds you encouraged in the Lord! We are doing well and grateful to be celebrating our 40th year of missionary service here in the Washington D.C. area. We are also thankful for the Christian friends who have made these years of ministry possible and wanted to update you on our activities as we prepare for this New Year.

LIGHT AND LIFE TO ALL HE BRINGS

I don't know about you. Still, one of my very favorite Christmas hymns is "Hark the Herald Angels Sing," which contains a verse that describes our ministry experience over this past year; *Hail! The heaven-born Prince of peace! Hail! The Son of Righteousness! Light and life to all he brings, "Risen with healing in his wings."*

This year we had the privilege of ministering to people from many nations and walks of life at worship services, retreats, conferences, Bible studies, inner-city missions, and other outreaches. Some were struggling with a broken marriage and family relationships, drug, alcohol, and pornography addictions. Others with homelessness, grieving due to the death of loved ones from illness, drug overdoses, suicide, and other life situations that left them hopeless. As we preached the Gospel and applied God's Word to their life situations, we saw the light, life, and healing of Christ restore hope to many broken lives!

WE MISSIONS NETWORK

One of the highlights of our year was expanding our *WE* (*Worship Equippers*) *Missions Network* to help equip believers who minister in the *10/40 Missions Window*, a geographic region framing northern Africa, the Middle East, and Asia, which contains the least evangelized people groups in the world.



One of our new partners is Bishop Abraham Nhial, one of the "Lost Boys of South Sudan," who walked

over one thousand miles to freedom after witnessing the murder of his parents and other family members during the Sudanese war where millions died. His story was featured on 60 Minutes

and the movie entitled *The Good Lie*, starring Reese Witherspoon. Today Bishop Abraham, who God miraculously brought to the United States to attend seminary during the Sudanese diaspora, has returned home to South Sudan, where he serves as the Anglican Bishop of Aweil, a region of nearly 3 million residents.

We also formed a partnership with the *Good Shepherd Anglican Church of India (GSACI)*, who invited our ministry to develop an equipping curriculum for their pastors who serve approximately 4500 churches located throughout India, a nation that ranks among the top ten for the





persecution of Christians. We are especially excited about this opportunity since the *GSACI* is focused on reaching the Dalit people group (a.k.a. the Untouchables) who missiologists consider being among the most persecuted people groups in the world.

The term Dalit has its roots in Sanskrit, an ancient Indo-European language of India, which means "broken, cracked, trodden down, scattered, crushed or destroyed." The dominant Hindu castes of India believe that the Dalit's are animals — "outcastes" who live *outside* the caste system. Because of this apartheid-like attitude, the Dalits serve as manual scavengers who clean city sewers, remove human waste from homes, pick up the dead carcasses of animals from roadways, and other degrading tasks that have left generations of Dalits without hope.

Dalits are regular victims of caste motivated murders, rapes, beatings, and serve as the world's largest supplier of sex slaves. They are discriminated against in the areas of health care (many have contracted polio and leprosy), housing, property ownership, freedom of religion, free choice of employment, and equal treatment before the law. They are forbidden to enter a temple or public park. They cannot draw water from an open water source unless given permission. They must sit separately from other castes in public gatherings. Their children are required to sit in the back of the class in government schools, which they typically leave by age 11. As a result, most Dalit's are illiterate. Upon hearing the Good News, Dalits identify with our Lord Jesus Christ, who was "despised and rejected by men, acquainted with grief and sorrows" (Is 53:3) and "suffered outside the city gate" (Heb 13:13). Though persecuted and often beaten for their faith, the Dalits make up a majority of India's Christian community, which is estimated to be 2.3 percent of the country's 1.3 billion population.



I witnessed this persecution first hand while in India this year when I was honored to meet this dear pastor who had been attacked with an ax by Hindu militants who chopped off a portion of his buttocks and upper thigh. For the past two years, he has gone through numerous surgeries and physical therapy to walk, which requires a crutch that you see him holding. Though he endured great pain and suffering, this soldier of the cross and his family have continued to move forward in their ministry as have these pastors I was with at a conference who had all been beaten severely for their faith.



For security purposes, we will not be posting details or photos related to our ministry in India on social networks or other public forums. However, we welcome the opportunity to provide you with more information about our ministry to India (please email me at DSchultz@worshipequippers.org or call our office at 703.297.8139).

Other highlights of our year included gathering with over 13,000 pastors and worship leaders at the *Sing 2019 Worship Conference* in Nashville, TN, hosted by Getty Music and introducing our worship resources at the *New Wineskins Missions Conference* held near Asheville, NC, which was attended by over 1500 missionaries, church planters, and Christian educators from around the world.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Please Pray For the success of our Worship God India Missions Project as we co-labor with Christian Educators connected with the Weber Institute for Worship Studies and Operation Mobilization to develop equipping curriculums for pastors For safe travel as we lead our 6th Faith Pilgrimage Group to the Holy Land, January 20-30, 2020 For God's wisdom as we provide pastoral counsel and support for churches and ministries like Regeneration which ministers to those seeking healing for relational and sexual brokenness, pornography addictions, and other life issues. For God's leading as we schedule our ministry itinerary for 2020/2021 For the Holy Spirit to lead those who are to join our Faith Pilgrimage to Greece to "Walk in the Footsteps of Paul."

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GIFTS

Worship Equippers is a faith ministry made possible by the financial gifts of our mission partners. We are presently in need of Year-End Gifts and new Monthly Pledges to provide for the needs of our work in 2020. Your willingness to prayerfully

consider including our ministry in your missions giving is greatly appreciated! If you would like to partner with us in either or both of these ways, you can donate online at <u>worshipequippers.org</u> or mail your gift with this <u>Mission Partner Gift Form</u> to Worship Equippers for Christ, 21010 Southbank St. #225, Potomac Falls, VA, 20165.

Glorianne and I pray that this Advent/Christmas season and New Year will be filled with God's most abundant blessings for you and your family. As we move forward into the future, I would like to invite you to join me in praying the following prayer with the hope that God will use our partnership in ministry to help advance His kingdom here at home and abroad:

"O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near:

Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you; bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit on all flesh; and hasten

the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen." (BCP)



"Now may the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, equip you with everything good for doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen." (Hebrews 10:20-21)

Your friend in Christ,

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P.S. Glorianne and I would appreciate your letting us know if there are any ways that we can be praying for you; please feel free to call or text 703.470.1077 or email me at DSchultz@worshipequippers.org



WORSHIP EQUIPPERS MISSIONS NETWORK

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