



Victory

magazine

Hidden With Christ Ministries
November/December 2022

A Long and Silent Journey

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To demonstrate the love of God through mercy ministries and by freely teaching God's Word around the world.

OUR MISSION:

To care for orphans and abandoned children and other needy persons through practical outreaches and by producing free Bible materials and training.

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Finding the Beauty in Change

by Rita Langeland

Watching the leaves on the Maple trees in our backyard turn from lively greens to brilliant golds and reds, I have witnessed how glorious change can be. Autumn speaks of change, first subtle then absolutely stunning in its beauty. But then the season is transformed before our eyes, into one of loss. The leaves begin to fall. Their once spectacular beauty is soon forgotten as they are trampled underfoot. The trees stand barren and desolate through cold, deathly gray winter months. In such moments, we can wonder, “where is the beauty in change?”

Hidden with Christ Ministries has undergone an intense season of change over the last 18 months. There has been great transformation that has resulted from changes that felt like loss... and yet have brought amazing beauty.

The biggest example of this came when we transitioned from caring for orphans in Moshi, Tanzania, for 15 years in an “institutional setting” and moved all the children to live in foster families (or with relatives in the few cases that was possible). Closing the doors of the building known as Treasures of Africa Children’s Home felt like a huge loss. Yet, the tangible benefits for the children from experiencing love and life in a family setting have been outstanding. The second and equally enormous change was the move of the Hidden with Christ Ministries office from California to Virginia after more than two decades in the Orange County community. Both changes had a component that felt like a “death” and yet have birthed new things of great beauty.

Has Hidden with Christ Ministries stopped caring for orphans in Tanzania? ABSOLUTELY NOT! We have simply transitioned our methods of orphan care and support to a family-based model and strengthened our commitment to educating the orphaned and the vulnerable in East Africa through our renamed TREASURES OF AFRICA KIDZ PROJECT. We still believe the orphaned, abandoned, and vulnerable children of Tanzania are “treasures” worth investing in! You can read a few of their stories in this issue.

Another “thing of beauty” developed as we were freed from the 24 hour/7 day per week responsibilities that came with running an orphanage institution. We were able to redirect some of our time and effort into assisting the local community in Tanzania with some much-needed help through our newly minted REHEMA PROJECTS. (“Rehema” is the Swahili word for “mercy”) These gifts of mercy include such things as paying for medical care for a poor child who desperately needed medicine to buying a wheelchair for an elderly amputee who had previously scooted along the dirt floor of her humble home because she could not ambulate on her own. Our biggest Rehema Project yet is currently underway as I write this article and will be shared in the January Victory Magazine.

The third area of focus in our work in Tanzania are our CHURCH DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS. We help indigenous African churches and Pastors through practical assistance with their church buildings and through Pastors’ training and conferences. We are currently helping to renovate a church in a Maasai tribal area that was damaged by enemies who broke all the windows and doors. This project is also underway at this writing and will be highlighted in the January issue of Victory Magazine.

With the move of Hidden with Christ Ministries from California to Virginia, we were blessed with more office space and enabled to set up a long-dreamed of audio/video recording studio. This important expansion has allowed us to begin several BIBLE TEACHING PROJECTS we have longed to pursue. Producing Bible teaching materials is at the foundation of Hidden with Christ Ministries, and we look forward to “explosive growth” in this area in 2023.

Looking back over the past 18 months I can now see clearly how change (though difficult) has brought beauty. My prayer for you is that as you walk through your season of change, even if it feels like great loss, you can hold on to God in the midst of it all and watch as He brings beauty out of the ashes.

***... He will give a crown of beauty for ashes, a joyous blessing instead of mourning,
festive praise instead of despair.***

Isaiah 61:3 NLT



A LONG AND SILENT JOURNEY

By Faith Kaluse
Administrator
Hidden with Christ Ministries
Moshi, Tanzania

I arrived at Mwanga School for the Deaf around 11 am on Sunday, October 9, 2022. I was there to attend the Seventh-grade graduation Ceremony. On my arrival I was greeted and welcomed by students with happy faces, among them was Awadhi, one of our Treasures of Africa children.

Seeing Awadhi with a big smile on his face and wearing his graduation outfit, took me back to the first day when he was brought to Treasures of Africa Children's Home. It was April 27, 2007, and Awadhi was 3 years old.

Awadhi's mother died shortly after his birth due to AIDS. He was left in the care of his father who had also tested HIV positive. His father later became mentally ill and unable to care for him.



Right: Awadhi in 2008 at age 4



Treasures of Africa was contacted by the Medical Social Welfare Officer at Mawenzi Hospital to see if he could be admitted into our Children's Home. When we visited him at the hospital, Awadhi was extremely thin, weak, and had tested HIV positive. The hospital had already started him on Anti-retroviral treatment. At the age of 3 years old, he was unable to walk as he did not have enough strength in his muscles to hold his own weight.

He was also unable to talk. We later found out, after a medical evaluation, that he had profound hearing loss. But after receiving good care and a nutritious diet at Treasures of Africa Children's Home, we were extremely happy and gave God all the glory as Awadhi began to walk. He was almost four years old.

Awadhi was able to start Primary school at Msandaka School for the Deaf. Later he was transferred to another special needs school, Mwanga School for the Deaf, where he just completed seventh grade. In Tanzania, students

in Deaf school take 10 years to finish seventh grade. After that, they can join a special needs secondary school for further education.

We are grateful for your prayers, kindness, and support which not only rescued Awadhi's life, but also helped him to get the best education possible for a deaf student in Tanzania. Though it has been a long and silent journey for Awadhi, we are so thankful for how far he has come. We are looking forward to Awadhi continuing with special needs secondary school and later joining vocational training college to obtain skills for his future life. Once again thank you for continuing prayers and support.

Asante sana!

Above: Awadhi on his graduation day

Right: Awadhi ready to move on to Secondary School



Stepping Toward The Future

Both Samweli and Magdalena came to live at Treasures of Africa Children's Home in 2007 at the tender age of 4 years. Unrelated and from different villages, they both had lost their parents.

Because of the generosity of supporters of Hidden with Christ Ministries, both children were cared for and educated while living at Treasures of Africa. Fifteen years later, after having been supported through Advanced Secondary School level, we find these two young people ready to step toward their futures.

Samweli was accepted into a medical training program



at Machame Health Training Institute. Situated at the edge of the lush rainforest, not far from the entry gate to one of the famous climbing routes up Mount Kilimanjaro, Machame Hospital serves thousands of people who live in the villages on the mountainside. Sam is studying medicine in a three-year diploma program to become what is known as a "Clinical Officer." He hopes to continue on after that program to study Social Work, with the goal of becoming a Medical Social Worker.

Above: Samweli at his new college
Left: Machame Hospital

Magdalena was accepted to Mzumbe University in the city of Morogoro. Located in the eastern part of Tanzania, Morogoro lies at the base of the beautiful Uluguru mountain range. Her desire is to study accounting and has followed two other Treasures of Africa students to the city of Morogoro. Witness is attending Sokoine University of Agriculture, and Glory is one year ahead of Magdalena, studying Health Management at Mzumbe University.

We believe both of these students will succeed in their goals as they step toward their futures. You can be a part of the continuing stories of these two precious Treasures. Make a one-time or a recurring monthly donation to the Education Fund to help us pay school fees, and room and board for these college students in Tanzania. We are determined to raise up leaders for East Africa by educating orphaned, abandoned and vulnerable children. Your gift really can change a life! Donate online at www.treasuresofafrica.org/donate or mail a check to: **Hidden with Christ Ministries P.O. Box 745 Forest, VA 24551**



Right: Magdalena today
Below: Magdalena's new campus at Mzumbe University in Morogoro



NYERERE



NAMED FOR A LEADER

In East Africa, the Maasai tribe lives suspended between two worlds. The traditional world of the Maasai culture involves a nomadic pastoral lifestyle of herding cattle. In that world, young Maasai boys are trained to become warriors and protectors of the herds and young girls are trained by their mothers to build the mud and thatch huts in which the families reside. The wearing of the traditional, colorful Maasai clothing and jewelry is still a vital part of Maasai identity. The modern world of cell phones and motorized vehicles often intrudes into the otherwise quiet Maasai existence. Added to that "intrusion," was something the tribal traditionalists have resisted for many decades - the government's requirement that Maasai children be sent to school.



Nyerere is a young man who was raised in a traditional mud hut in a Maasai village. Named after the first president of Tanzania, Julius Nyerere, his parents had hopes for him to become a leader. Then tragedy struck the family when Nyerere was only six years old. His father became ill and died, leaving his mother widowed and destitute, and Nyerere fatherless.

Unlike many of his brothers, Nyerere's uncle believed it was important for the future of the tribe that Maasai children go to school. He made sure his fatherless nephew attended the local government Primary school. Each day Nyerere walked to Esilalei Primary School and came home to the mud hut where he lived with his mother. When Nyerere completed Primary school, his uncle saw to it that he continued on to Secondary School. Nyerere attended Manyara Secondary School, a government-run boarding school, near the famed wildlife area of Lake Manyara in Northern Tanzania.

Left: Nyerere Wearing his traditional Maasai "Shuka" wrap

When Nyerere completed Secondary School, his National Examination scores were high enough to be selected to attend a government University. But the family could not afford the fees, so Nyerere lost the opportunity.

When Hidden with Christ Ministries was presented with Nyerere's case, he had been out of school for two years. But his desire to study at the college level had only increased. His dream is to become an accountant. He was inspired by a Mathematics teacher he had during Secondary School. This teacher taught basic principles of accounting and bookkeeping. Learning about cash books and balance sheets, and finding out how much he enjoyed it, created a passion in Nyerere's heart to become an Accountant.

When HWC Administrator, Faith Kaluse, accompanied Nyerere to the Business College in Moshi to inquire as to whether they would accept him as a student, the registrar was very excited to see a Maasai young man, in traditional Maasai clothing, standing in his office. When he heard that Nyerere wanted to study accounting, he was even more pleased. He excitedly told Nyerere of a lecturer at the college who was also from the Maasai tribe and wanted them to meet. He arranged the meeting, and the lecturer strongly encouraged Nyerere to pursue his dream.

Nyerere is scheduled to begin studying at Moshi Cooperative University this month. But we are in need of one or more sponsors to help us cover his college fees, boarding expenses, books and other basic needs of a college student, including a laptop computer. Would you consider becoming a sponsor for this precious young man?

You can donate on our website [www.treasuresofafrica.org /donate](http://www.treasuresofafrica.org/donate) and select **EDUCATION FUND** from the drop-down menu. In the COMMENTS box at the bottom specify "**NYERERE sponsorship**" to designate the donation toward his college expenses. Or you can donate by mail – Write your check to HWCM and in the memo line write "**NYERERE sponsorship.**" Please mail your donation to:

Hidden with Christ Ministries P.O. Box 745 Forest, VA 24551

Thank you for helping us CHANGE LIVES in Tanzania!



Above: Logo of Moshi Co-operative University where Nyerere will be attending classes
Above Right: Nyerere's Uncle and relatives outside one of the family huts in Tanzania

UPDATES ON OUR

Treasures



Josiah was born May 19, 2020. He was extremely premature, weighing just over two pounds at birth. Tiny but beautiful, this precious boy was abandoned by his birth mother at the hospital. After a three month stay to gain weight and strength, little Josiah was discharged from the hospital to Treasures of Africa Children's Home in Moshi, Tanzania, weighing just under five pounds.



Josiah's first year of life was rough, as he had to undergo several surgeries. Nurse Elizabeth, our longtime orphanage nurse, cared for him night and day. She spent 24-hour shifts at the hospital with him to make sure he was alright during those weeks he was admitted for surgery. The two developed a strong bond during those long nights in the hospital.

When the opportunity arose to become a foster parent for a child at Treasures of Africa, Nurse Elizabeth did not hesitate. She applied to take in little Josiah. Because of his delicate health condition and her nursing experience, the Social Welfare Office deemed Nurse Elizabeth the most appropriate choice as a foster parent. Josiah went to live with Nurse Elizabeth and her previously adopted "treasure," Charity Joy, in May 2021.

During the last year, Josiah has grown in strength and stature. His baby-faced cuteness has given way to boyish good looks. Though Josiah had to undergo further surgery earlier this year, Nurse Elizabeth walked him through that challenge once again. At age 2 1/2, Josiah is now running and playing like any other toddler. He loves to kick a soccer ball.

Next year he will start Pre-school. We are thankful that Josiah is in a family setting and able to receive the special attention he needs.

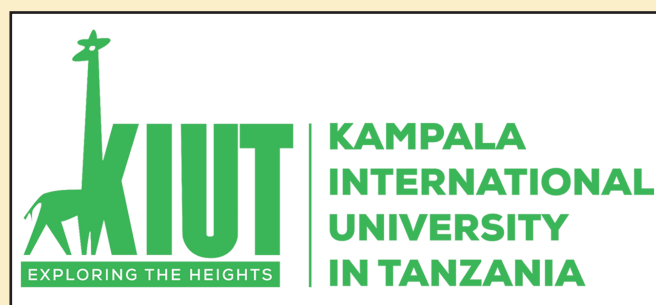
Helena came to live at Treasures of Africa Children’s Home after the death of her father, just after it opened its doors in 2007. She was 9 years old. She grew up at TOA with her sister Glory, who was two years younger. Thanks to the generosity of so many Treasures of Africa donors, Helena was given a good education in English-medium schools. She graduated from Secondary school and moved on to a three-year diploma program in Pharmacy, at St. Luke’s Foundation in Moshi. She successfully graduated and was accepted to Kampala International University in Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania, to pursue a bachelor’s degree in Pharmacy. KIU has a reputation as being one of the top private Universities in East Africa. Helena began classes in January.



We caught up with her in Dar Es Salaam and asked about her experiences at Kampala International University. She related that the coursework was very challenging, but the professors were excellent teachers. She shared that she felt it was the best school she had ever attended.



Emmanuel is the son of foster parents who care for three children from Treasures of Africa - Awadhi (see page 3), little Christina, and Brian. As a part of our TOA KIDZ project, Emmanuel’s higher education is being sponsored by Hidden with Christ Ministries. Emmanuel previously completed a three-year diploma in Pharmacy, and like Helena, desired to go on to study for a bachelor’s degree in the same field but did not have the resources to do so. Emmanuel is an excellent student, and we are very happy to assist him in reaching for his dreams. He and Helena started studying at the same time at Kampala International University in Dar es Salaam. He is extremely grateful for the opportunity to pursue his bachelor’s degree. Emmanuel is also a talented keyboard player, and loves helping lead worship in his church.

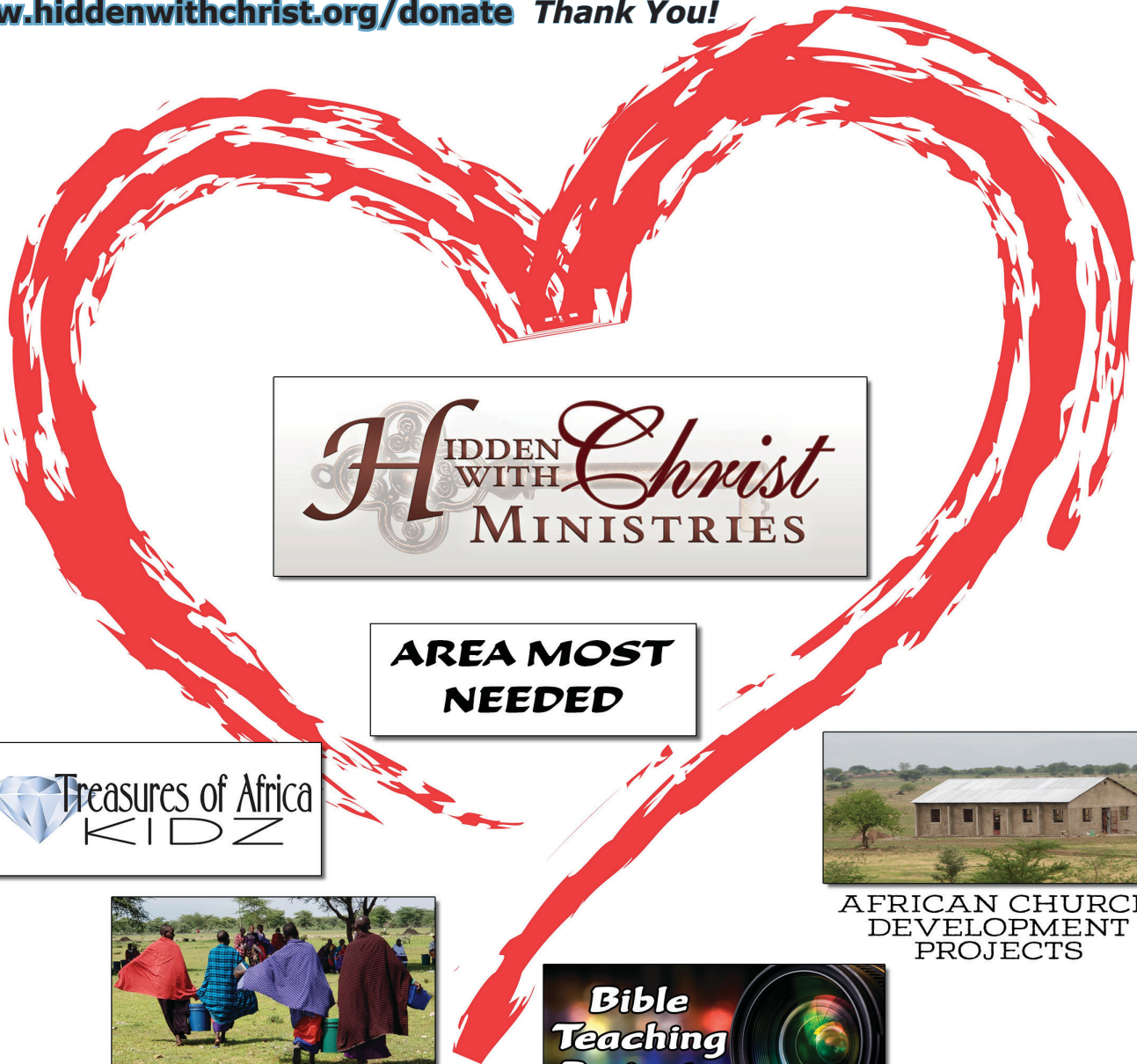


Your donations to the TOA KIDZ EDUCATION FUND help us to educate these special students in Tanzania. Thank you for your support!
www.treasuresofafrica.org/donate

Where is Your Heart to Give?



Would you prayerfully consider Hidden With Christ Ministries for your YEAR-END giving? We invite you to partner with us by choosing one of the areas of ministry below to give toward a project that resonates with you. Or choose **AREA MOST NEEDED** and we will apply your donation to the project most in need at the time your gift is received. You can mail a check in the enclosed envelope or give online at: www.hiddenwithchrist.org/donate Thank You!



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**AREA MOST
NEEDED**

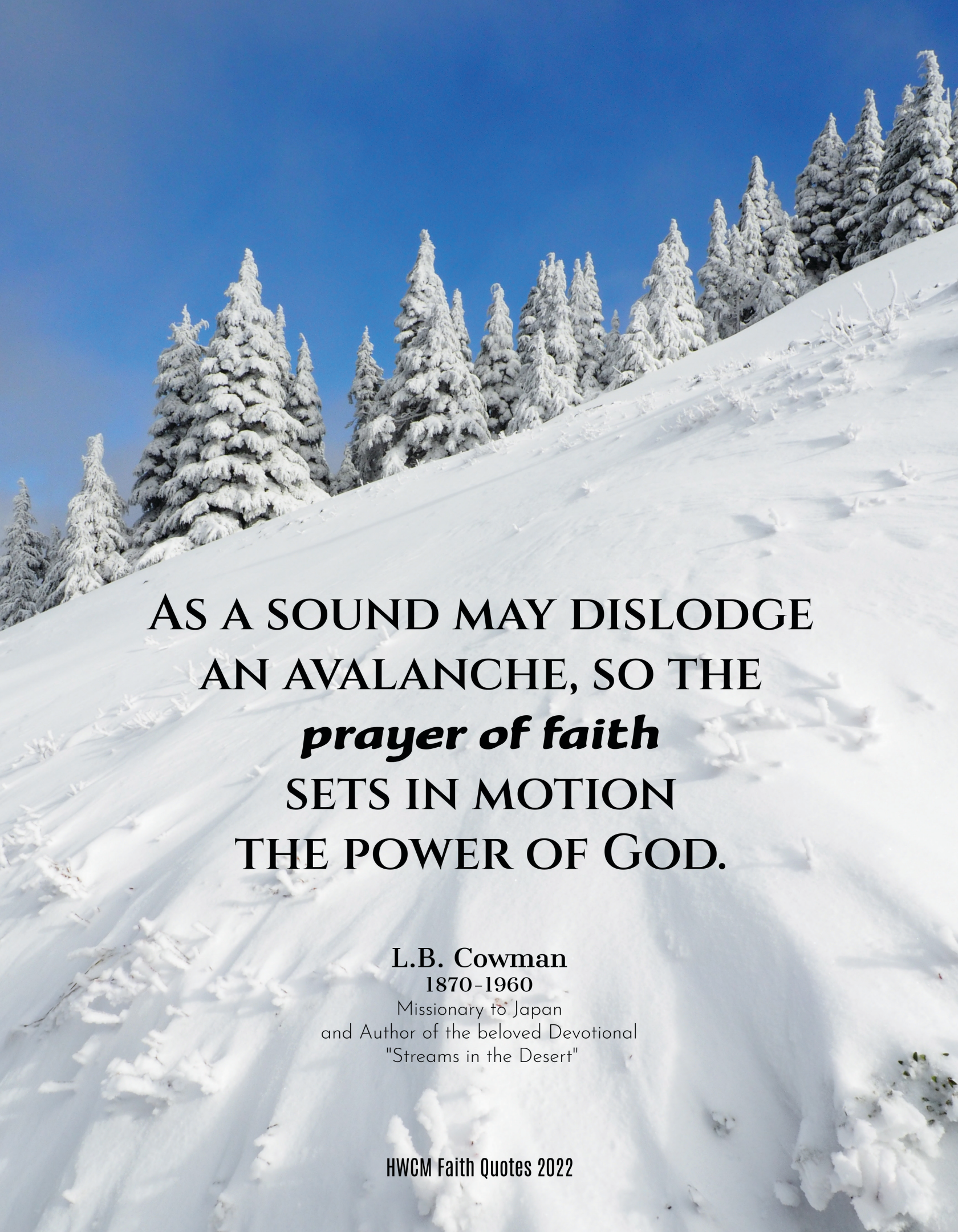


REHEMA (Mercy)
PROJECTS



AFRICAN CHURCH
DEVELOPMENT
PROJECTS





AS A SOUND MAY DISLODGE
AN AVALANCHE, SO THE
prayer of faith
SETS IN MOTION
THE POWER OF GOD.

L.B. Cowman
1870-1960

Missionary to Japan
and Author of the beloved Devotional
"Streams in the Desert"

HWCM Faith Quotes 2022

The Power Of Giving Thanks

Why Everyday Should be Thanksgiving Day

by Rita Langeland

Of all the holidays we celebrate throughout the year, my personal favorite is Thanksgiving. It is not because of the traditional meal made from recipes pulled out only once per year and certainly not because of the marathon of football games on television. The reason I love Thanksgiving is because of the original purpose of the holiday. To me, setting aside a special day to gather with family and friends to focus on remembering all that God has done in our lives and to give thanks for it – is priceless. If you are ever invited to my house for Thanksgiving, you will only be required to bring one thing – a willingness to share a simple but heartfelt statement about that for which you are thankful. (But feel free to bring your favorite Thanksgiving dish as well!)

In 1863, when President Abraham Lincoln established the last Thursday in November as an official holiday in the United States, he never envisioned that the over - consumption of turkey and pumpkin pie would become the main focus. Instead, his intention for establishing Thanksgiving was clearly stated in his national proclamation:

We have been the recipients of the choicest bounties of heaven; we have been preserved these many years in peace and prosperity; we have grown in numbers, wealth and power as no other nation has ever grown.

It has seemed to me fit and proper that God should be solemnly, reverently and gratefully acknowledged, as with one heart and one voice, by the whole American people. I do therefore invite my fellow citizens in every part of the United States, and also those who are at sea and those who are sojourning in foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November as a day of Thanksgiving and praise to our beneficent Father Who dwelleth in the heavens.

Lincoln was a wise man who recognized the danger inherent in becoming an ungrateful nation. His wisdom is borne out in the following scripture which clearly points to unthankful hearts as a sign of spiritual deterioration in society.

But realize this, that in the last days difficult times will come. For men will be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, arrogant, revilers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy... (2 Timothy 3:1-2 NASB)

This scripture places the attribute “ungrateful” in a long list of sinful traits that will be displayed by people in the “endtimes.” It also reveals both God’s displeasure with the sin of ungratefulness and the fact that it will be a sign of the corporate spiritual decline of society as the last days approach.

In every person’s life, the path to an ungrateful heart begins with complaining. The word “complain” means “to express displeasure or unhappiness about something; to find fault; or to make an accusation.” Have you ever observed a person who has a hard time talking without complaining about something? This habit of grumbling about circumstances and other people is a reflection of their heart condition. Jesus said, “***...out of the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaks.***” (Matt. 12:34)

An amusing story was told of a monk who joined a monastery and took a vow of silence. After the first ten years his superior called him in and asked, “Is there anything you want to say?” The monk replied, “Food bad.” After another 10 years passed, the monk had another opportunity to express his thoughts. He said, “Bed hard.” Another 10 years went by and he was again called in to appear before his superior. When asked if he had anything to say, he replied, “I quit!” His superior shook his head and said, “It doesn’t surprise me one bit. You’ve done nothing but complain since you got here!”

Many people spend their whole lives complaining about what they don't have or focusing on what is wrong, rather than giving thanks for the good things that God has given them. The Bible is very clear in exhorting us to avoid complaining.

Do all things without grumbling and faultfinding and complaining... (Philippians 2:14 Amplified Bible)
In everything give thanks for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you. (I Thess. 5:18 NASB)

Complaining will quench a grateful heart but choosing to give thanks will chase away that ugly spirit of complaining. God would have us choose the latter course of action on a daily basis! A thankful heart can always see something to be thankful for in every situation. A person who constantly complains about his job or his boss should consider the jobless person who would be grateful to be employed! And so it is true about every condition in our lives. Keeping a proper perspective will help you to appreciate and give thanks in every situation.

A Scottish minister named Alexander Whyte was known for his uplifting prayers in the pulpit. He always found something for which to be grateful. One Sunday morning the weather was so cold, miserable and gloomy that one church member thought to himself, "Certainly the preacher can't think of anything for which to thank the Lord on a wretched day like this." Much to his surprise, however, Whyte began praying, "We thank Thee, O God, that it is not always like this!" God wants us to cultivate a perspective of gratitude at all times.

Are you aware that giving thanks is God's anti-anxiety prescription? Anti-anxiety medication is one of the most prescribed pharmaceuticals in the United States. Many millions of dollars are spent on anti-anxiety pills each year. Yet the Bible gives a clearly stated (and free!) prescription for the relief of anxiety:

Be anxious for nothing but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God which surpasses all comprehension, shall guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. (Philippians 4:6-7 NASB)

Verbalized thanksgiving is powerful – it releases the peace of God to your heart. It is vital that we utilize God's anti-anxiety prescription. When you are tempted to give into fearful, worrisome or anxious thoughts, PRAY but do so with thanksgiving. This means to speak to God by giving thanks for the past answers to prayer, miraculous interventions, deliverances and provisions He has made in your life as well as His promises in the Word. This very act of thankfulness will build up your faith as you recall God's faithfulness to you. And it will drive back anxiety and fear because genuine gratitude to God and anxiety cannot cohabitate simultaneously in your heart.

We live in an age when complaining comes much more naturally to people than expressing thanks. In order to overcome that tendency, we will have to pursue the cultivation of a grateful spirit in our lives with intentional effort. Make a choice every day to look for things and people for which you can give thanks. But be aware that it is important to express your thanks not only to God in prayer, but to people as well.

A university professor once pondered the many "unthanked" people in his life. He decided to write letters to each one of them. This act brought amazing results not only to his own heart, but also to those to whom he had written to express his thanks. One elderly schoolteacher who had influenced him greatly as a child wrote back to tell him that in 50 years of teaching, his was the only letter of thanks she had ever received. It had touched her deeply.

Practice giving thanks in a variety of ways. Express your thanks verbally to others, in writing, in prayer and with your actions. If you have small children, start a tradition of having each family member express thanks for something or someone each night before they go to bed. Establishing a lifelong habit of giving thanks daily will yield powerful results in their lives.

Cultivating a grateful heart will help you cure a habit of complaining, protect you from discouragement, guard your heart from anxiety, and help you mature spiritually. It will dramatically enrich and transform your life.

Don't go to sleep tonight without taking time to give thanks!

Happy Thanksgiving

I will give thanks to the Lord
with all my heart; I will tell of all
Your wonders.

Psalm 9:1

