

# The Link

## Looking Up Reaching Out

**T**he events occurring today are causing people from all walks of life to be concerned about the future of America and the world. Many within and outside the church are conversing about the End Times more frequently. While there is nothing wrong with sharpening our knowledge in the doctrine of Eschatology, problems arise when the church allows our focus to be blurred, and we no longer remain obedient in carrying out the mission of God. What exactly is the mission of God, or Missio Dei. The Apostle Paul explained it as the mystery that has been revealed to His saints for the purpose of sharing the gospel and the knowledge of the indwelling Spirit of Christ that brings salvation (**Col. 1:24-28**). While many have correctly interpreted the words of Jesus after Zacchaeus experienced salvation that the Lord's mission was to "**Seek and Save**" the lost members of the house of Israel (**Luke 19:10**). However, when the entirety of the scriptures are examined, they reveal that God's mission is to offer salvation to all who will submit/repent and call upon Him (**Isa. 56:6-8; Mal. 1:11; John 10:16; Rom. 10:12.**)

Now that we know what God's mission is, how do we keep our vision focused on the task of walking in the path the Lord has planned for us (**Eph. 2:10**)? After all, time is one thing we cannot create more of, and we are encouraged to redeem the limited time each of us have remaining to share the gospel of Christ (**Eph. 5:16; Col. 4:5**). Sadly, many within the church have fallen to one of Satan's greatest distractions. As the late Rev. Adrian Rodgers stated in one of his sermons, "If Satan can't make you bad, he'll make you busy." There are many ways that Christians have become distracted from staying on point with sharing the gospel. Without going into detail on the numerous distractions to keep us busy, let's stay on point with the one previously mentioned: End Times. The solution to not allowing this subject to interfere with bearing fruit for the kingdom is to revisit the following words of our Lord Jesus. Just as He taught His disciples, Jesus gave specific promises and instructions for everyone who is Born-Again (**John 3:3**), regarding how to handle future events. In John chapter 16, the Lord assured His disciples that the indwelling Holy Spirit

would not only "**guide them into all truth**," keeping them from being deceived in believing lies (fake news), but would "**declare to us things that are yet to come**" (**v.13**). This promise, if understood correctly, is very liberating to every believer. We can rest and experience sweet peace by fully trusting the Holy Spirit of God to guide and protect our steps and thoughts. By returning to these words of Jesus, we can then remove all the stress of trying to make sense of world events that tend to stir up a spirit of fear, blurring our sight in loving our neighbor as ourselves with real compassion. Debating details of the rapture of the church, the Great Tribulation, Seven Seals, Trumpets, and Bowls, etc. may be exciting for those that are already certain of their salvation. However, it becomes more of a distraction for the lost that do not have a personal relationship with Jesus as Lord.

**FIRST**, we need to Look Up! Let us remove our eyes (physically & spiritually) from the things here on earth and fix them upon Christ and the promise of heaven (**Col. 3:1-4**). This step naturally leads us to the next.

**SECOND**, we need to Reach Out! May the church regain their vision and focus on being obedient to the commands the Lord Jesus gave to all that wish to follow Him. We have been called to "**Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you**" (**Mat. 28:19-20a**).

Since God Himself never changes, neither has His mission of saving souls. May God shower His blessings upon you for continuously supporting Mission Link International, which helps us to keep looking up and reaching out with the gospel of Christ.

Todd



The Board of Directors of Mission Link International are excited that **Pastor Todd Childers** will be joining the MLI staff beginning August 1, 2022. Please pray for Todd's transition to his new position with Mission Link International.



Mission Link International

### Earth Bag Homes

Mission Link International has started to construct their first EARTH-BAG HOME for a poor widow. We have purchased 500 - 50kg poly bags from a local factory in Jinja. Donors have contributed a little over \$3000 to construct this home. MLI is hoping that this amount will be sufficient, but we may need a little extra boost. Though this is a trial home, a widow will live here when finished. If successful, many more homes will built.

**MLI NEWS FLASH:** Mission Link Christian Study Center will graduate 22 students from two locations on June the 28th in Kamuli District.



**TEAM TRIP SCHEDULED FOR JUNE 3-17:**

Pastor Todd is working hard on the logistics for the team. Nine people will be part of the summer team. If you have questions about the trip, please contact Pr. Todd Childers: [musumbatodd@gmail.com](mailto:musumbatodd@gmail.com)

**RICK IN UGANDA:** I am currently in Uganda preparing for Pastor Todd and the June Team. I am also working on legal matters concerning the transfer of MLI assets in Uganda to our new NGO. Finally, we are making some improvements on our MLI headquarters as well as preparing the foundation for the innovative "earth-bag" home for widows.

**A Sampling of Mission Link Projects and Needs**

- **PASTOR STANLEY SSEMPBWA:** Pastor Stanley, MLI teacher, is attending seminary while teaching in the MLI Christian Study Center. He will need **\$720** to finish school which will take him through 2023. Also, his daughter has one more semester in pharmacy school. She desperately needs **\$550** to finish her training. She will be a pharmacist technician.
- **REMODELING MLI'S HEADQUARTERS:** We continue to remodel MLI headquarters. We presently need small microwave, exhaust fan for outside shelter and paint for the building. Your gift of **ANY AMOUNT** will be much appreciated.
- **WEDDING:** Pr. Emmanuel, of a MLI church plant, is getting married to Mebrone. Dowry and ceremony requirements are needed. Your gift of **ANY AMOUNT** will be much appreciated.
- **MEDICAL FUND:** Thanks to donors who have given to this fund! This fund is used consistently each month. Additional funds continues to be needed. **ANY AMOUNT** will be much appreciated.
- **SCHOOL FEES:** Many Africans are still stressed to raise funds for school fees. As inflation continues to increase in Uganda, prices of fuel and commodities are rising. **ANY AMOUNT**
- **DEAF SCHOOL:** —**ANY AMOUNT** still needed to complete the school (plaster walls, install ceilings, wiring and road work to the school) as well as monthly budgeted requirements.
- **THE GENERAL FUND APPRECIATES ANY SIZE GIFT TO MEET PRESSING NEEDS**
- **MANY NEEDS MET LAST MONTH—Sampling:** Though **Albinos** have been greatly helped in May, the budget for the feeding of albinos will be depleted by the end of July; **medical support to various individuals**—Pr. Charles Bubale's wife, Andrew Okello, Pr. Wampande Moses, Pr. Waswa James, Shelia, Pastor James Abalyawo, Jackie (Philip's wife), etc.; **financial Assistance:** Andrew Okello, Sarah Kibeddi, Regan Twinomugisha, Charles Alule, Dr. Sam, Rhema, Philip Tenywa, Nasser Kayemba; **tuition assistance:** Pr. James, Esthers, Carolyn Adikini; School Fees—PLUS...Rent/Food for Street Kids: Abraham, Azam, Zack and Joshua; **Other Needs:** Garden needs for Pr. James Abalyawo, metal sheets for roofing Walumbe Church, power bill for Mary Kunya, Pr. James Mafabi, Mission Link Christian Church, funds to work on his house, attorney fees, support for Esther who lost all her pigs.



**NOTICE:** Again, **JUNE** is a continuation of MLI's cell phone collection. Please ask your family, friends, Bible study group and church (Pastor) to donate old cell phones ("**especially**" old "**reset**" **iphones**) to Mission Link. Also needed are laptops, tablets, keyboard. Thank you for helping!

**Thirty (\$30) a month brings great happiness & needed provisions for our African widows in Uganda**



**Name:** **Agnes Nambi** was born in 1932; she raised 2 children and 3 grandchildren who are staying with her. **Husband deceased:** Her husband became blind and died in 2006 of high blood pressure. **Testimony:** Agnes is extremely thankful to God for care and provisions through Mission Link. (She thanks MLI "100xs" for provisions). She said she was born again early in life. However, a grandchild takes her to the Seventh-Day Adventist Church. Agnes really wants to go to Itukulu Baptist Church. **Challenges:** High blood pressure & paralyzed legs. She lives in a borrowed home (living with someone) and needing to move out.



(From Top Left to Right) Albino kids given food, school supplies & the gospel; Pr. Emma of Kagira Church Plant, is getting married; Widows standing in front of the newly built Maize Mill (From Bottom Left to Right) Heaven Sent Ministries graciously helped MLI move to their new location in Bedford, Virginia; A number of donated Christian books will be shipped to Southern Sudan to be given pastors; Mission Link Christian Church is growing under the pastorate of Pastor James Mafabi. Please continue to pray for the various ministries and projects.