

The Link

MISSION LINK'S NEWSLETTER

Consuming Fire of God *Don't be Consumed by the World*

Whatever consumes our time and energy becomes our master, enabling our thoughts and actions to be controlled by whoever is behind that thing that consumes us. History has proven that consumer-driven markets are the most profitable economic systems for all who work to fulfill the needs of others. Producers and consumers benefit through what is known as supply and demand. However, our world economic structures have drastically changed to become more beneficial for silent investors while all others suffer.

Did you know that all world religions created by man are nothing more than "Consumer-Driven Religions?" While churches and ministries struggle to keep up with the changing trends of the culture, a sacrifice is made to remain faithful to the standards set forth by God's Holy Word. Nothing has changed, nor is anything new, regarding how the church markets itself to attract people. Inspired by the Holy Spirit, King Solomon wrote, "**there is nothing new under the sun. Is there anything of which it may be said, 'See, this is new'? It has already been in ancient times before us.**" (Eccl. 1:9b-10) While we may claim that specifics and methods have changed, the mindset or motive behind our actions remains the same. Many people are not even aware of how easily we can be manipulated. After years of being conditioned by successful marketing programs, many religions and churches have been using the same tactics upon people as consumers. There is no harm in conducting activities, programs, selling books, etc., that glorifies Christ and draws people into a deeper relationship with Him. However, let us ensure we are not being led as consumers, looking for what we will benefit from joining a church or body of believers, but as surrendered "**living sacrifices**" willing to do whatever pleases our Lord.

Solomon ended Ecclesiastes explaining the vanity of life whenever man attempts to be happy without complete surrender to God's plan for our lives. "**Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God and keep His commandments, For this is man's all.**" (Eccl. 12:13) Our unchanging Lord laid out His plea to Israel through Malachi in that they were allowed to continue existing as a people because of His faithfulness, regardless of the generations that turned away from His holy commands (Mal.3:6-7). All of us need to return to the basics with God. Just as His word reveals that **He is a consuming fire**, we need to place the fear of God above all the desires of our hearts (Deut. 4:24; Prov. 1:7).

"What consumes you?" It becomes natural to start justifying ourselves, but the Lord knows everything, even the secret things. Our hearts need to be consumed by His presence. God spoke His laws to Moses, and what is said of the Burnt Offering is significant. The Lord instructed that the fire upon the altar shall never cease from burning. "**A fire shall always be burning on the altar; it shall never go out.**" (Lev. 6:13) Over a thousand years later, the Apostle Paul wrote to the Christians in Rome, "**I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.**" (Rom. 12:1-2) Only total surrender will allow us to be living sacrifices, laying ourselves down to be entirely consumed by God. The fire of God removes all impurities from those things we have allowed to consume us. Nothing unholly shall remain.

May our heart's desire (*fire*) forever burn for the Lord.

Prayer Requested for the following ministry areas:

- ◆ For the many needs to be met for our pastors, churches, and areas we serve in Kenya and Uganda
- ◆ Pray the Lord calls people to Join us On the Mission Fields of Uganda in Feb. 2024. Maybe He is calling you?
- ◆ Todd and Rick will be leaving for Uganda Sept. 21 to Oct. 6 to help plan for our next mission in Feb. 2024 and other needed tasks for God's glory.

Please Rejoice with us and continue in Prayer for Jesus to be magnified by our efforts.

* Please know that each of your prayer requests sent in are received and prayed over by us.

Let us continue lifting each other up before the throne of grace. (1 Timothy 2:1)



Todd Childers

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Scan image



Come Join Us "On Mission" - UPCOMING MISSION TRIPS -



UGANDA: Feb. 2-16, 2024 (Fri.-Fri.)

Come join us in the fields ready for harvest.
Focus: Medical & Discipleship training.

For more info: Call Todd (540) 871-0517 or
Email: todd@missionlink.org

Medical & Ministry Volunteers Needed. 😊

KENYA: June 13-25, 2024

Strong possibility focus will be on Medical but the priority will be on presenting the Gospel of Jesus Christ for salvation to all.

Logistics and details still being planned. More will be known in the Fall of 2023.

To Sign Up and Learn more, visit: www.missionlink.org/missiontrips



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JESSICA NAIWUMBWE

Available for Adoption

Age: 74 years

Children: 2 grandchildren

Death of husband: Died from ideocele

Testimony: Jessica thanks God for saving her because before salvation, she was alcoholic. Also thanks God for gift of life and protection.

Challenges: Lack of food, sickness, too weak to work garden.



[Adopt Now](#)

Our Widow Adoption section on our website allows for each widow to have their own unique page, explaining their situation and challenges of life.

Praise the LORD with us because our widow in last month's Newsletter has been adopted!

Including Jessica to the left, there are 12 more widows available on our website and waiting on the Lord to send someone to help them in their time of need.

Simply visit the following page: MissionLink.org/widowsministry
There you will see the list of widows available and some recently Adopted.

Through your support the entire widow's community benefits because God's blessings are more than we can measure.

Needs and Ongoing Projects

MLI CHRISTIAN STUDY CENTERS: Our #1 objective is to be obedient to our Lord's command in making disciples that make disciples. Donations to MLI helps us to continue this work.

MEDICAL FUND: During the month of July, four Ugandans and families received medical attention through this fund.

MISSION TRIP ASSISTANCE: Please consider helping with our mission efforts to give hope in part of the world that has great poverty. Funds given to this cause help us provide trip scholarships for many that want to Go but may lack funds.

DEAF SCHOOL: Administrative expenses to pay teachers, feed deaf students, supplies, etc. This school enables deaf students to learn skills that builds their self-esteem and to feel "loved as a Child of God." ❤️

GENERAL FUND APPRECIATES GIFTS of ANY SIZE, which helps us meet the many needs of ministry work in Africa.

SPECIAL PROJECTS:

WIDOW HOME PROJECT: We are about to begin our third Home Building Project for a widow in need. The cost per build is **\$4,500**. Good News! We have also begun surveying other sponsored widow homes to see if they need minor repairs to improve their living conditions. Many widows may have shelter, but still get rained on and some houses are not safe. If you can help with a special donation to this cause it will go a long way in blessing a suffering widow.

ELDORET, KENYA: Southville Christian Primary School needs two additional classrooms. Cost: \$12,000
We also would like to build Pastor Anthony Ndambuki a home. Cost: \$12,000. This may seem like a lot, but the LORD reminds us that "nothing is impossible with God."

Luke 1:37