



MISSION LINK'S NEWSLETTER



Proclaiming the Good News

The goal of Mission Link is to proclaim the gospel of Christ, just as we have been instructed by the Lord Himself and the apostles who followed His commands to Go and make disciples. Many people get missions confused with humanitarian projects. Although many benefit from providing medical aid, feeding the hungry, building homes, etc., these actions are tools for opening an opportunity to extend Salvation offered through Love that was perfected by the Lord Jesus (1 John 4:17). Performing such acts of kindness has its place in the kingdom work, but often becomes a stumbling block by creating dependents of those who deliver what was meant to be blessings.

Looking at the life of Jesus, we can ascertain what He focused on to help us in our attempt to live like our King and Lord. At the beginning of Jesus' ministry, He began by preaching, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." (Matthew 4:17) This may sound familiar, as it echoes what John the Baptist was known for preaching that drew large crowds and many were baptized after repenting. However, many translations of Matthew's text of what Jesus proclaimed show it was slightly different, indicating He was stating that "the kingdom of heaven has drawn near, or has come." Mark's Gospel record also reveals this: "Now after John was put in prison, Jesus came to Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel." (Mark 1:14-15) Moreover, Luke's account gives us even greater insight into the fundamental mission of Jesus from His own words as He read from the scrolls in the synagogue on the Sabbath:

And He was handed the book of the prophet Isaiah. And when He had opened the book, He found the place where it was written:

*"The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me, Because He has anointed Me
To preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted,
To proclaim liberty to the captives And recovery of sight to the blind,
To set at liberty those who are oppressed; To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD."*

Then He closed the book, and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all who were in the synagogue were fixed on Him. And He began to say to them, "Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing." (Luke 4:17-21)

Wow! Jesus left no doubt of the meaning of His words there. Jesus stated unequivocally that He has come to usher in the kingdom of God and fulfill those deeds as foretold long ago by the prophet Isaiah. Jesus then spent all His days doing exactly what He stated from the text He read in the temple that day. The Apostle Paul uses the word "reconciliation" to further explain the goal of Jesus' ministry. This includes restoring all of creation back to how it was from the beginning, in a world without sin, as Jesus Christ took on our sin for us to become His righteousness in this world. (2 Cor. 5:17-21) What, then, is the mission of the church? Should our mission line up with our Lord's mission? Absolutely.

This is why Mission Link International's primary purpose shall remain to provide biblical education and training to those answering the call to preach the gospel (Good News) of Jesus to their fellow Africans and the world. This activity of multiplying disciples is what changes the world, and above all other good works, is the purest act of love. As stated earlier, all other acts of kindness have their place but should ALWAYS be used as complimentary to the primary purpose of sharing what has the power to give "Eternal Life." "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek." (Romans 1:16) We will continue feeding the hungry, providing medical clinics to those who do not have access to healthcare, and looking after the widows the Lord has placed in our care, all while making sure every person we encounter hears about how much they are loved by our Heavenly Father through the Lord Jesus Christ. Please support us with your prayers. We welcome the chance to come and share with your church or group regarding the impact your support is making in the kingdom of God.

Todd Childers, CEO

MLI CHRISTIAN STUDY TRAINING CENTERS

Mission Link's goal is to train pastors with the word of God through our extensive ten volume bible courses. Providing a thorough biblical foundation is imperative to equip against all forms of spiritual warfare and from being deceived by so many false gospels of today. Even in 2024, all things must align with God's word for us to be found faithful when our Lord returns.

"All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work."

2 Timothy 3:16-17 (NKJV)

(Left: Dry-Erase Board for training in Budondo pastor's class with Lugandan notes on 1 Peter.)



Just Thirty (\$30) a month brings hope & provisions for a widow in need.



Introducing: **AIDAH MPAYENDA** 63 yrs old with four (4) grandchildren.

Testimony: Thanks God for providing in all circumstances, and mostly for eternal life. **Challenges:** Lacks food, too weak to work a garden.

More widows are available on our website. www.missionlink.org/widows

CELEBRATION PRAISE



MLU Staff Christmas Dinner & Widow's Blessing



Completion of Peace's House & Anthony's PhD.



UPDATE! "Special Need": \$4,000



We are needing to replace our 1997 Toyota HiAce (Top-Left), for a newer version, example pictured (Bottom-Left). After last month's Newsletter a few very generous donors sent in \$8,000 towards our \$12,000 GOAL. We are trusting the Lord provide the remaining funds through a Church, or donors, to help us secure dependable transportation that will benefit our mission work for years to come. Will you Pray with us? For those that have given:

THANK YOU & BLESS YOU

Join Us "On Mission" - UPCOMING MISSION TRIPS -

UGANDA: Feb. 2-15, 2024

Our team is preparing final steps and ready to "GO" and share Christ all we encounter. Focus: Medical & Discipleship training Please Pray for a Great Harvest.

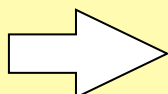
KENYA: June 6-18, 2024

Focus will be on Medical with a priority on presenting the Gospel of Jesus Christ for salvation to all. **Sign-Up** today on website or contact Todd (540) 871-0517

Email: todd@missionlink.org

www.missionlink.org/mission-trips

ATTENTION: CHURCHES, PASTORS, YOUTH GROUPS



EXPERIENCE MISSION work in Africa, and benefit from Mission Link's decades of experience. *Contact our office* to begin planning a **SPECIAL TRIP** for your church or group. One leader of a group of 10 or more will have their trip covered by Mission Link!



Needs and Ongoing Projects

MLI CHRISTIAN STUDY CENTERS: Our **#1 objective** is to make disciples that make disciples. Donations to MLI helps us to continue this work.

MEDICAL FUND: Gifts to this fund helps us care for the sick that lack the means to seek medical attention.

MISSION TRIP ASSISTANCE: Our Missions Fund could use a boost to help some on our upcoming Uganda Team that are willing to "Go", but lack funds. Please consider giving towards our Uganda Mission efforts. It will make an everlasting impact.

DEAF SCHOOL: Administrative expenses, supplies, feeding the students, etc. This school enables deaf students to learn skills that gives them purpose as "Children of God." ❤️

Special Need: *Replacement Vehicle* for Mission LINK. (See above)

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



Dana and I would like to wish all of You a Happy and Blessed New Year. May we exalt the Lord Jesus even more in 2024!

Todd & Dana Childers

