

Beautiful Feet

How beautiful are the feet that preach the Gospel!



WAKE UP CALL! Thirty years ago, I recall an aging Christian man (named Jim)

sharing an experience that literally rocked his spiritual world. Jim's neighbor and friend, Bob, was mowing grass in the sweltering summer heat when suddenly, without warning, he had a massive stroke. Before this incident, Bob seemed to be in great physical shape! Two days before Bob's death, they had played 18 holes of rigorous golf. The evening of Bob's death, Jim had a horrific dream that would forever change his perspective on the urgent need to evangelize the world. He dreamt that his deceased neighbor was standing on a conveyor belt, moving toward a massive furnace bellowing out smoke and scorching flames. Jim, a dedicated member of a local Baptist church, realized this was an image of hell. Suddenly, Bob turned and locked eyes with Jim. Tears streaming down his cheeks, and with a trembling voice, Bob screamed out to Jim: "If you knew the way to heaven, why didn't you tell me! Why Jim! Why didn't you tell me about Jesus Christ? Why Jim! Why! As Bob was being engulfed in unquenchable flames, Jim abruptly awoke to a pounding heart and a sweaty brow. Lying in bed, Jim wept bitterly, realizing he could have possibly rescued Bob, his neighbor, and good friend, if he had taken the time to share with Bob the precious life-altering gospel.

I often wonder why believers are silent about the most important event in all of history-the cross and the empty tomb. I am shocked that those who embrace Christ as their personal Savior have little or no passion for the lost. Even more appalling is the lack of urgency seen by most congregations. The majority of churches in America rarely fill their baptistry. Consequently, you and I must ask the question: If salvation is so precious and important to us, why don't we lift up our voices? Some Christians believe that the "elect" (those predestined for salvation) will be saved regardless of what man does, and those not chosen before the foundation of the world will suffer eternal separation from a Holy God. This topic is too deep and has divided the body of Christ. Yet, to bring fairness and balance to the scriptures, the Bible emphatically declares that God wishes no one to perish (1 Timothy 2:4 and 2 Peter 3:9). Regardless of where one stands on this theological debate, we are commissioned by God to share the gospel and make disciples. LISTEN: Though a believer may not have the "gift" of evangelism, ALL believers should consistently and passionately share their life-changing testimony and the precious gospel. This whole discussion unearths a multitude of questions regarding our evangelistic complacency, which I pray will pry open our eyes to the seriousness of the Great Commission. In other words:

- Do you believe there is a literal eternal hell reserved for those who have rejected the Savior?
- Are you sincerely concerned for those in the world who
 may die without Christ, especially those you rub elbows
 with each and every day? If so, am I consistently looking
 for openings to sow precious gospel seeds...seeking
 opportunities to share Christ?
- When you pray, do you often ask God to open a door for a divine breakthrough to share the gospel?
- Are you mentally and spiritually prepared to share the Good News with family, friends, and work associates? Do you have passages memorized (or your Bible marked) so you can share the Word with one who is open to receiving Christ?
- Have you ever prayed with someone to accept Jesus as Lord and Savior? If the answer is no, then my question is WHY NOT?

Many Christians in the USA raise funds for a two (2) week mission experience in a foreign country. Yet, how many do so with the intention and passion to share their testimony and the plan of salvation with those they meet? When team members muster up enough courage to share their faith with another, it "can" have a life-changing affect the hearer and the one sharing. However, most pastors tell me that the mission experience is short-lived and forgotten when their members come back from a foreign field. I believe one of the mandatory prerequisites for being part of a mission trip is having previously prayed with someone to accept Christ. Does that thought disturb you? Everything we accomplish on the mission field must have as its goal "redemption." Digging a well, feeding the hungry, building a house, and a host of other well-meaning projects must have as their primary goal winning the lost (which is the first step in making a disciple-Matt. 28:19ff). Once a person receives Christ, we are to help mold and shape (disciple) the new convert to grow in Christ.

In the Epistle of Romans, the Apostle Paul penned: "And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written: 'How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, who bring glad tidings of good things'" Romans 10:15. Paul quoted an Old Testament passage from Isaiah 52:7, "How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who proclaims peace, who brings glad tidings of good things, who proclaims salvation, who say to Zion, your God reigns." Are your feet beautiful to God's eyes?

Rick Sadler



Come Join Us "On Mission"

UPCOMING MISSION TRIPS



UGANDA: Feb. 2-15, 2024 (Revised Dates)

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 are welcome.

Sign-Up today!

KENYA: June 6-18, 2024 (Revised Dates)

Focus will be on Medical with a priority on presenting the Gospel of Jesus Christ for salvation to all.

Logistics and details are still being planned.

More will be known in the Fall of 2023.

To Sign Up, visit: www.missionlink.org/mission-trips to complete our Trip Application

ATTENTION: CHURCHES, PASTORS, YOUTH GROUPS

If you would like to experience mission work in Uganda or Kenya, and benefit from Mission Link's 24+ years of experience, *contact our office* to learn if we could assist in planning a special trip for your group.

One leader of a group of 10+ will have their trip covered by Mission Link!

Mission Link International has a Brand New Website!

www.missionlink.org

This NEW website has many new features and can accommodate the numerous ministries we are focused on in both Uganda and Kenya. Our Widows Ministry has its own webpage, displaying widows available for adoption. (www.missionlink.org/widows) There is a simple Adoption Form to complete for sponsoring one of our lovely widows in Uganda. We are also EXCITED about our NEW DONATION page. The vendor we chose allows donors to give through every possible method. In addition, this FREE service takes no processing fees! This allows Mission Link to receive 100% of each gift.

AMAZING! They simply rely on donor's generosity in tips with each gift, that can be adjusted. Donors can also designate their

gifts by selecting a purpose. **SHARE** our site with everyone.





- Please Select Gift Purpose(s):
- General (where most needed)
- ─ Widows support (incl. building homes)
- Uganda support
- Kenya support
- Medical support
- Mission Trip Payment



In Memory of

Mary Baluka (85)

On Aug. 3, 2023, after a long day harvesting maize with the widows of Itukulu, Mary had a stroke and was hospitalized. Aug. 21, our MLI widow director found her crying & struggling to breathe at home (bottom left). MLI helped every step of the way to ease her suffering, having her sent back to the hospital. Mary was received into heaven Aug. 22, 2023. PTL! Revelation 21:4 comes to mind, Mary's tears have been wiped away by our Lord forever.

Continuous Needs - Projects

MLI CHRISTIAN STUDY CENTERS: Fulfilling the Great Commission is our #1 goal.

MEDICAL FUND: Gifts to this fund helps Ugandans receive needed medical attention.

MISSION TRIP ASSISTANCE: This helps us provide trip scholarships for many that want to GO but lack funds.

DEAF SCHOOL: Gifts help keep this school operating to enable deaf students to learn skills that gives them purpose as "Children of God." ♥

GENERAL FUND APPRECIATES GIFTS of ANY SIZE, which helps us meet the many needs of ministry work in Africa. This fund also helps us care for Emergency situations like with Widow Mary Baluka.