

# The Link

## MISSION LINK'S NEWSLETTER

### Family is Everything *Be sure Heaven is your Home*

The Family was the first instituted social structure ordained by God at creation. He created Adam and Eve to bear His image and gave them the orders to be fruitful and multiply (**Gen. 1:28**). You could say that the family has been under attack ever since the first temptation and sin, which caused both Adam and Eve to cast blame for their disobedience rather than confessing and taking responsibility. It is safe to say that the family is a big deal to God. Many of the world's economic and social problems are a result of the breakdown of the family unit.

As Jesus told the story of the prodigal son, even though he left with his inheritance and wasted it, he never stopped being his father's son who waited patiently for him to return home ... to his family.

When we review how this young man was treated by his father, we learn how our Father in heaven must feel when one sinner gains salvation by realizing what He has done for them through Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection. We are also given a glimpse of how God must feel whenever one of His children returns after leaving the family or church, which is the bride of Christ as Jesus promised to return for her.

In the last church I pastored, we began our services by singing the song "**The Family of God**" to remind us that we are bound as brothers and sisters in Christ through the adoption God arranged when He opened up salvation to who-so-ever shall come and call upon Jesus as Lord (**Rom. 10:9-13; Gal. 4:5**). Even Jesus Himself stated to those who informed Him that His mother and brothers were waiting for Him outside where He was teaching, "**For whoever does the will of God is My brother and My sister and mother**" (**Mark 3:35**). Jesus' words alone should be enough to convince us that He cherishes the bond between those who are willing to submit to the Father and obey His revealed will for our lives. However, there remains a problem within the church that is nothing new. Jesus explained the situation to His disciples by giving the parable of the tares, or weeds, which were sown among the wheat (**Mat. 13:24-30**). Jesus teaches that some among us will not be born-again and are not truly part of the family. The Lord will deal with them when He separates the tares from His wheat in the great harvest to come. As a family, his followers are not perfect and have differences that may cause divisions. The apostle Paul addressed this issue in several of his letters to the churches and instructed them to stop walking according to their flesh as before Christ saved them. It is true; there is no such thing as a perfect church because we are all struggling with the same battles against the flesh.

Like the prodigal, there will be those who leave the family of God or church. We should always be eagerly awaiting, with open arms, for them to return. Like the father that "**ran**" to his returning son, who had lost his way when his choices led him to a state of despair by following his fleshly desires. Too many times, when we fail to keep our eyes fixed on the Lord Jesus, we fall prey and are deceived by the vain philosophies and ungodly principles of this world (**Col. 2:8**). The most powerful lesson here is that once you are adopted as a "Child of God," the Lord who began a good work in you will finish it (**Phil. 1:6**). God never let's go of any heart after He has sealed it with His promise, the Holy Spirit, and to give "eternal life" to all who call out to Him as Lord (**John 10:28-30; Eph. 1:13-14**).

So, are you part of God's family? If not, then call out to Jesus today. Maybe you have played the prodigal by trying to live your way instead of pleasing the Lord? If so, it only takes one step to turn around and return home. The Father is waiting patiently for You.

Todd Childers

#### 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 will be leaving at end of Sept. to Uganda to help prepare and plan for our next mission 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)

Mission LINK International



Scan image to visit our website:



[www.missionlink.org](http://www.missionlink.org)

**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](mailto:todd@missionlink.org)  
**Medical & Ministry** Volunteers Needed. 😊

 **KENYA:** June 13-25, 2024  
 Still up in the air, but here are some tentative dates for a Kenya Mission!  
 Visit: [www.missionlink.org/missiontrips](http://www.missionlink.org/missiontrips)

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



Introducing:  
**SHIDAH NANGOBI**  
 60 yrs old with 3 grandchildren to look after.  
**Husband:** Died from malaria.  
**Testimony:** Thanks God for Life and hopes to be adopted through Mission Link.  
**Challenges:** Pain in legs, sick grandchildren, has to walk far for water.

## Picture Story Time

*Here's where we are able to display **God's Hand** at work through **your support**.*

Our recent Mission Trip to Kenya was a huge success, thanks to the LORD for His hand guiding and protecting our small team.

Right: Our team filled over 1,000 two kilogram bags of Sugar & Rice to add with Maize Flour for distributing to over 650 families.








Left: The crowds for food were overwhelming at times. Yet, the Lord allowed us to feed more than signed up. Praise Jesus!

Top R-L: Pastor Euticauls given a goat from the Maasai people; Todd & Pastor at Church; team packing pills for pharmacy; Bottom R-L: Andrea receiving patients in Triage; evening time w/students in Perry Jane Girls H.S.; Helena with students in Korogocho school








### "Praises" for Needs Met and Ongoing Projects

- **MLI CHRISTIAN STUDY CENTERS:** As our #1 objective in East Africa, we aim to be obedient to our Lord's command in making disciples that make disciples. As one school comes to a close, our teaching staff is out mobilizing for the next location to train students in the Word of God. Donations to MLI helps us to continue this call of making disciples.
- **WIDOWS SUPPORT FUND:** MLI is constantly caring for a growing number of widows in Uganda. We would like ask for you to consider joining our James 1:27 projects in caring for widows in their time of need. Your generosity is appreciated and needed. Visit our Widows Ministry page on our website to see the complete list of widows available.
- **WIDOW HOME PROJECT:** This unique project is for providing a home to a widow in need that owns land or is provided. The cost per build is **\$4,500**. **PTL for the completion of our second Widow's Home.** (*Dedicated webpage coming soon*)
- **MEDICAL FUND:** During the month of June your support helped several Ugandans receive urgent medical attention, along with medical expenses for staff & family for treatment of malaria or other sickness. The healthcare in Uganda is not comparable to what we have in the USA.
- **MISSION TRIP ASSISTANCE:** Our Next Team Mission Trip is to Uganda and scheduled for Feb. 2-16, 2024. Todd will be returning to Uganda late Sept. thru Oct 8, 2023 to help plan for the upcoming mission. 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:** Ongoing administrative expenses to pay teachers, feed deaf students, and many other needs of managing a school in Uganda. To witness the students (deaf and others with disabilities) learning actual skills to help them in life is Amazing. **PRAISE the LORD** for donors helping to secure the second needed sewing machine. This school enables deaf students to learn skills that builds their self-esteem and to feel "loved as a Child of God." ❤️
- **SPECIAL NEED:** The church in Budondo pastored by Paul Akise (one of our MLI Teachers), needs to move its location due to renting space from a school. Some of the materials for the structure can be reused. However, much of the timber and iron sheets will need to be purchased to put up the place of worship not far from their current location. Pastor Paul has submitted a budget of \$1,000. A Donor has committed to pay **HALF** if we can raise the other \$500 in May. This is a chance to practically **DOUBLE** your giving. Your \$100 becomes \$200! **AMAZING Giving Opportunity!**
- **GENERAL FUND** APPRECIATES GIFTS of **ANY SIZE**, which helps us meet the many needs of ministry work in Africa.