



MISSION LINK'S NEWSLETTER

Alive in Christ

This world sets its hooks in us early in life, appealing to our sinful nature, which is fleshly. Adults often criticize young toddlers for crying whenever they do not get what they want, even if it would be harmful. Have you ever considered that this is how God must look at us when things do not go our way? Somehow, we are deceived into believing we have either lost a blessing or are no longer favored by God when our happiness does not increase. The deception is real and affects all of us. No one is immune to having personal pity parties, no matter our age.

God's word explains everything we need to know regarding how and why adults continue acting like children throwing tantrums. "The Fall" of man, as recorded in Genesis 3, illustrates how temptations lure us away from what our Lord has forbidden. The deceptions from this world will only increase as we continue to approach the day when our Lord returns. The Apostle John warned us how this world and its ruler entices us with great details.

"For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world." (1 John 2:16)

Many believe this is how Satan deceived Eve as he drew her attention to the appearance of the tree, its fruit, and its ability to give wisdom (Gen. 3:6). Once both Adam and Eve disobeyed God, their fellowship with Him was broken. Spiritual death had occurred. The Apostle Paul explained how this pattern continues within us today. **"Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned."** (Rom. 5:12). Those times we break fellowship with the Lord we are leaving ourselves open for continual deception by God's enemy. We must seek restoration at once.

So then, how can we LIVE pleasing to God? I'm glad you asked.

Not only does the Apostle Paul explain how Paradise was lost, but he also sheds light on how we can regain it. **"For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive."** (1 Cor. 15:22) Paradise is not defined as a world that lacks problems, conflicts, sickness, sorrow, or even death. True Paradise is where the Lord Jesus is present, and all of God's children (reborn by His spirit) will live for all eternity. The Lord Jesus conquered death itself so that we may LIVE in Him. **"For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life."** (Rom. 5:10)

Becoming **ALIVE in CHRIST** occurs when one sinner comes to God, confessing their sins and submitting their lives under the Lordship of Christ. While acknowledging Jesus as Lord begins the regeneration process (John 1:12-13; Rom. 10:9-10), submission is where God's Spirit takes control, quickening our mortal bodies and leading us on the path of redemption (John 3:3; Rom. 8:11; James 4:8). **"Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice,"** (1 Sam. 15:22b).

The Lord Jesus told His disciples, **"If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it."** (Mat. 16:24-25) Taking up our cross is the act of dying to self completely.

Submitting to God cannot be done halfway. If someone does not fully submit, then it is not a submission at all. Much like the sport of wrestling, the match continues only until an opponent fully submits. We only fool ourselves if we think we can partially submit to God, believing that we gain His favor and blessing by attending church services without living by faith for the rest of our time on earth.

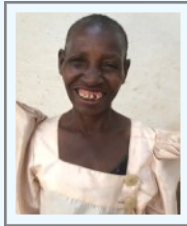
Full Submission:

"I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me." (Gal. 2:20)

The only way to Live pleasing to God is to be dead to self and Alive in Christ, fully submitted to God's will and following His lead. My prayer is that everyone reading this can identify as a Child of God, having experienced an internal change that affects our outward actions. Let us submit fully to the Lord Jesus and produce much fruit for the kingdom, drawing others to heaven with us.

Todd Childers, CEO

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*

MISSION ANNOUNCEMENTS

- UGANDA Mission Team is underway! Departing Feb. 2 and Returning Feb. 15th. Please pray for our 5 Medical/Vision Clinics, 2 Bible Conferences, 1 day ministering to Street Youth, 1/2 day blessing those in Jinja Hospital, 1 day loving on our widows community, and many opportunities to share God’s love.
- KENYA: The response to our planned for a Mission Trip June 6-18, 2024 has been less than the required number of travelers. We are extending the **deadline** for SIGN-UPS until **Feb. 23, 2024**. Cost is \$3,300 + Visa fee & any required immunizations. A minimum of 10 people are required for a team booking through our travel agency. This covers all accommodations, as well as medical supplies and food for the nationals. (See our Mission Trip webpage for details)

Join Us “On Mission”
- **UPCOMING MISSION TRIPS** -

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 our website or contact us direct at:
(540) 339-7890 or todd@missionlink.org
www.missionlink.org/mission-trips

HALLELUJAH CORNER

- ✓ Thanks to our donors, our entire Uganda Team’s trip costs have been covered!
- ✓ Funds provided for purchasing Medical supplies and drugs for treating the sick during our mission clinics.
- ✓ Praise the Lord for ALL who gave to help in our replacement vehicle cost. We are now in the shopping process, guided by the Holy Spirit.
- ✓ Our Goal for completing our Uganda Cook’s (Peace) House has been met.
- ✓ LET US PRAISE THE LORD TOGETHER FOR HE HAS DONE ALL OF THIS AND MORE!



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. Invite one of our Mission Link directors to come share with your church or group about missions in Africa.



BUDGET NEEDS AND CURRENT PROJECTS

UGANDA

MLI CHRISTIAN STUDY CENTERS: Our **#1 objective** is to make disciples that make disciples. Donations to MLI helps us to continue this work. Our goal is to have 3 school locations training new pastors/leaders in 2024 to help multiply the Kingdom of God.

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

MISSION TRIP FUND: As stated above, thanks to all who gave to help our current Uganda team to meet their trip costs. All donations to this Fund HELPS us to provide scholarships, reducing the financial burden for those who are willing to GO On Mission for the Lord. Mission Trips make an everlasting impact on those who GO in obedience.

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.” ❤️

GENERAL FUND APPRECIATES GIFTS of **ANY SIZE**, which helps us meet the many needs of ministry work in both Uganda and Kenya.

KENYA

SOUTHVILLE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL: This Primary school located in Eldoret has just over 100 children to educate with a biblical worldview. This school needs monthly support for teaching staff and to help with feeding 100+ children.

PASTOR ANTHONY HOME: Our desire is to raise \$12,000 to help build this man of God a home for his bride and children. This man of God pastors Calvary Community Church in Eldoret, while overseer of the Primary school above. This pastor lives in a metal structure, foregoing renovating his home to help the school and church instead. **Any amount** to this project will surely impact the kingdom of God in Kenya.

PASTOR EUTICAULS WAMBUA: Pastor Euticauls in Nairobi manages 3 Christian Schools, pastors Baptist Chapel church, and regularly feeds thousands of Kenyans suffering from the drought conditions in Southern Kenya. Consider helping this servant of God with the many areas of ministry.

