

NEPAL

Nepal is located in Asia, between India and China. It is a Himalayan country and a predominately Hindu society. The mountainous north of Nepal has eight of the world's ten tallest mountains, including the highest point on Earth, Mount Everest. Nepal is one of the poorest countries in the world, ranking 157th on the United Nation's Human Development Index. Civil strife wrecked the economy and Nepal is dependant on aid.

International Needs has been active in Nepal since 1974 with a focus on the wellbeing of women and children. **The Lydia Vocational Training Centre** has ministered to hundreds of women over the years. The Centre teaches literacy, sewing and knitting, the value of life through pro-life classes, domestic violence awareness, music and cooking classes, training for Sunday School teachers and many practical skills so that women can better provide for themselves and their families. They also learn preventative health care, first aid, how to improve sanitation in the home and how to provide nutritious meals for their children.

One of the most innovative elements of the Lydia Centre is that each graduate receives her own sewing machine and commits to sharing her knowledge and the love of Christ with at least five others, multiplying the impact of the Centre.

Our **Child Sponsorship Program** has cared for the needs of hundreds of vulnerable children and brought hope to many families living in desperate situations. Canadian families support many children in Nepal, giving them the opportunity to go to school, access clean water, healthcare, nutrition and the love of God; providing hope of better days ahead.

However, there are still many children who need your support.



A JOYOUS HOPE



Sangita lives in one of the most remote parts of Nepal, and travelled for three days by bus and on foot to get to Kathmandu. She came to the Lydia Vocational Centre, absolutely broken and with no money. In tears, she poured out her story to the kind workers at the Centre.

Married off at fifteen, Sangita soon discovered she was pregnant but miscarried during her seventh month. Her mother-in-law accused her of killing the baby and began to beat her and withhold food and care from her. Life very quickly became unbearable.

Sangita's 18 year old husband wanted to help her and brought her to the Lydia Vocational Centre.

According to her Hindu background, Sangita was from the lower untouchable caste, but she was kindly assured by the workers that in the Kingdom of God there is no caste. The staff quickly realized that Sangita was very bright and made arrangements to enroll her in the Centre's five month sewing program.

Since joining the program, there has been a tremendous change in Sangita's life. Every day she has a smile on her face and she sees everything as a blessing. She eats healthy food and is learning a trade that will help her to provide for herself. She is also learning about the love of God.

"I feel so fortunate to be at Lydia. I've learned so much more than how to sew and this will help me for the rest of my life. My future looks a lot brighter."



REFLECTIONS ON A MEDICAL MISSION

Ghana 2013... Imagine seeing 3500 children in less than 2 weeks, in 8 different villages while trying at the same time to make sense of the surrounding area's culture and history. A mission trip is many things; absorbing unfamiliar sights, sounds, smells, and dialects, embracing people's sorrows and joys, their stories of long ago and their current struggles.

Prayer, planning and much good will helped make this mission trip a success. The team was made up of 7 Canadians and many Ghanaian doctors and nurses. Together, we administered care to 3,500 students and staff.

After visiting the same villages for 10 years, we found that many of the students were healthy, requiring only deworming medicine, vitamins and a kind word.

Narius and Joseph, who recently graduated from Accra Medical School, were part of the team. They, along with 3 other medical students, had been supported by doctors in the Hanover, Ontario area. Through this the students were able to complete their studies. These young doctors now offer their expertise to under serviced areas in Ghana.

We experienced the excitement of finding the right pair of eyeglasses in a box of hundreds, and watched as students broke into beaming smiles as they looked at the board and read..."Lord... peace... desk...

school... love..." We were moved by the young teen who made her way to the clinic with a terrible wound on her foot, and the 2 year old with a broken arm that had not been set properly. There was much chuckling in the dispensary trying to figure out the language and attempting to find ways to entertain the people waiting to be seen.

A visit to Cape Coast and the Slave Castle left us all a bit shaken and deep in thought. Our last stop was at a fishing village. It had all the earmarks of an earthly paradise; aqua surf foaming onto a pristine beach, ancient palm trees arched by wind and weather, colourful fishing boats nestled in the shade.

After chatting with the villagers however, we soon realized that the idyllic view did not match their daily lives. This realization brought us back to our first visit in 2003, when we first encountered the injustice of poverty and the poverty of injustice. We were struck again by the wonderful, sensitive work International Needs Ghana has been involved in for many years, bringing young boys off fishing boats and into school.

There are many people to thank for the richness of our experience in Ghana but above all we want to thank God for His constant provision and His unfailing love for each one of us.

Neal and Aggie Stretch - Medical Facilitators



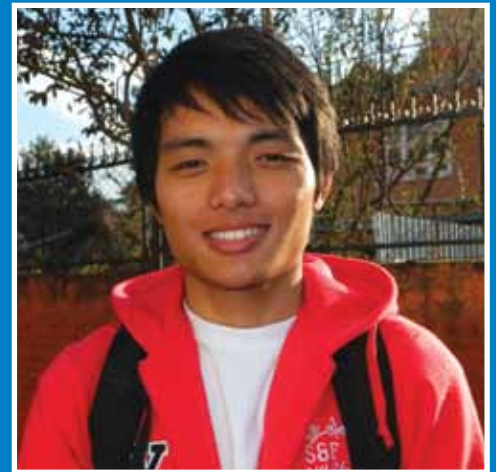
UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN ...

Perry Graf, a longtime supporter of Bethany Children's Village in Bangladesh, had the joy of meeting his sponsored child this past February and spending some time with him. The experience was an amazing one that Perry will not soon forget. "The children at Bethany Children's Village were so excited to have visitors! It was a joy to see them. Vanthar, my sponsored child, is shy and quiet and has a lovely smile. He likes to play the drums. It's wonderful to see the excellent care he is receiving at Bethany Children's Village and that in a Muslim country he is hearing the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. The children's village has changed quite a bit in the last 4 years and I saw a lot of improvements.

While we were there, we attended a dedication service for their new kitchen, dining hall, pond embankment and a new well. On our last day at the school, as we were leaving Vanthar's tailoring class, someone suggested that it would be a good idea if a student made me a shirt. I asked if Vanthar could make it and he came over with a big grin on his face and took my measurements. It was an amazing way to end our time together."

Bethany Children's Village is devoted to bringing physical, emotional and spiritual health to the "forgotten children of Bangladesh". Special emphasis is placed on street children, orphans and abandoned children. There are currently 100 boys living at Bethany Children's Village.

A HEART OF COMPASSION



Samuel lives with his grandfather in Jorpati, a very large village in the Kathmandu District, in central Nepal. His grandfather served in the British Army and is paralyzed. As a pensioner, he receives a small amount of money to pay household bills.

Samuel goes to college and has to work part-time as a teacher to pay for his books and tuition. His travels back and forth to college and work, take up a good part of his day and use most of his small income.

When Samuel gets home around six o'clock, he cooks supper and takes care of his grandfather before heading back to school or work. Samuel's kindness to his grandfather was not overlooked and the Lord stirred the hearts of two Canadians who heard of his situation, and decided to help. With their financial support, Samuel no longer has to work and is able to attend college full-time and concentrate on his studies. His joy and appreciation are truly heartfelt. A special thanks to our kind donors who put their compassion into action and helped change a young man's life.

DEDICATION AT BETHANY CHILDREN'S VILLAGE

Because of his long-term involvement and support of Bethany Children's Village, Perry Graf was kept busy on his last visit to Bangladesh as he dedicated several of their recently finished projects; the new kitchen and dining hall, the pond embankment and the new well and pump which delivers fresh clean water.

Perry's home church, Community Fellowship Baptist Church in Bancroft, Ontario, has been a faithful supporter of International Need's work in Bangladesh, and sponsors many children there.

A big thank you to all who have contributed to these projects. You have made a huge difference in the quality of life experienced by 100 boys living at Bethany Children's Village!





SPREADING THE GOSPEL IN NEPAL

Help spread the wonderful news of our risen Saviour in Nepal.

Dhimant, a well known Nepali, was approached by an International Needs' community worker with the message of the Gospel. His first reaction was not good, "I'm alright, I've made a name for myself and I'm wealthy. I'm ok where I am". The truth was that Dhimant was a drunkard, selfish and a cheater. Jas, our community worker said, "You may be ok, but if you believe in Christ, you will be excellent!"

After a long pause Dhimant replied that he would think about it. A week later, Dhimant invited Jas into his home and said that he realized he was not the person he should be. He wanted to accept Christ as his Saviour and did so that very day. Within a month, many noticed the changes in Dhimant. He is now respectful of others, very keen to attend church and is a blessing in his community.

Meet Nepal's Missionaries

Nepal, a predominantly Hindu society, became a Republic in May 2008 after being a monarchy for most of its history.

This was an answer to the prayers of many Nepali Christians and paved the way for new freedoms and opportunities to share the Gospel in Nepal.

International Needs currently has thirty community workers who look after the welfare and Christian nurture of sponsored children, and share the Gospel of Jesus Christ throughout the country.

"Nepal is open to the Gospel yet many have not even heard about Jesus. People are receptive and our community workers make the most of every opportunity by proclaiming the life-giving message of Jesus Christ continually in word and in action. They work with local leaders, organize seminars and outreaches, show the Jesus film, plant churches and are involved in the general welfare of the community."

Dilliram, Community Development Coordinator, Nepal

To support a community worker for \$120 per month, please contact our office at info@internationalneeds.ca or 905.637.9411

COMING UP

UPCOMING 2014 DISCOVERY TOURS:

- October 1-9** · 40th Anniversary Tour of Seven Churches of Revelation, Turkey
- November** · Medical Team · Zambia

For more information contact info@internationalneeds.ca

PRAYER CORNER

ITEMS FOR PRAYER

"Prayer does not fit us for greater work; prayer is the greater work." Oswald Chambers

Please pray for Nepal. According to our partners, Nepal is open to the Gospel but millions have never heard of Jesus. Pray for the graduates of the Lydia Vocational Training Centre that the Lord will help them spread the message of Jesus when they return to their villages.

ITEMS FOR PRAISE

"Great is His faithfulness; His mercies begin afresh each morning". Lamentations 3:23

Praise God for His faithfulness to the children of Bethany Children's Village. Praise Him for their new kitchen, dining hall, and pond embankment. The new well and pump are delivering fresh clean water to thirsty children. Praise the Lord!

