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Like many children, I did not enjoy having to meet a group of people that I did not know. Now, meeting believers on the other side of the world is one of the best parts of taking medical teams. We may have never met before but find a bond in the Body of Christ while getting to know one another and ministering together. Earlier this summer we were able to take a team for the first time to **Zambia**. We served on several levels: helping the local church with evangelism and meeting the healthcare needs of the local community.

Just four of us from the USA ministered with about twenty Zambians, bringing medicine and the Gospel to 474 people. During the week, we saw 39 professions of faith. The church people would gather the main complaints from the patients, writing them down for the other doctor and me to understand the basic problems. Then, after assuring them they would be seeing the doctor, they would ask the patients a spiritual question. For those who were willing to talk about spiritual things, they would go on and present the Gospel.

As doctors, we treat the patients and pray for them before sending them

on to the pharmacy. Also, one of the last things we do is ask them a spiritual question. My favorite is “Why did Jesus come?” Many in Zambia gave a very good answer, that He came to pay the penalty for our sin, and that we need ask His forgiveness and receive Him for eternal salvation. Others did not know exactly why He came and were willing to talk about it.

The first patient that I witnessed to was a woman I will call “Margaret.” After I had explained her diagnosis and the medicines that we were going to give her, I said, “Before you take this paper to our pharmacy, may I ask you a question?” She nodded yes and I asked her about Jesus. She began to cry. Her story was that while talking to the church lady before she came to me, she had come under conviction. Now, while talking to me, she was ready to repent, ask forgiveness, and ask to receive Jesus. In our clinics around the world, we see many come to Christ. But I have never had anyone burst into tears when I asked them “Why did Jesus come?”

Many of you knew that we were planning on taking a team to **Uganda**. The many wonderful brothers and sisters there were “gearing up” to receive our team and to minister with us. On each of our previous two team trips we had see over 70 and then over 100 professions of faith. We had the prospect of reaching out to even more needy areas, needy for both the gospel and medical care. We had to cancel.

Between our Zambia trip and the proposed Uganda trip, Covid finally hit Africa and many countries closed their doors (including Zambia after we left). Although the infection and death rates do not seem to be as severe as some countries on other continents, their feeble healthcare systems were quickly overrun. Our trip to **India** also had to be cancelled due to the horrific surge of Covid cases in that country.

Though we had not yet purchased our tickets to Uganda, we had purchased the medicines for our clinics. I felt sorry on many levels, including the fact that some of the medicines would be out of date before they could be taken overseas and used. Then I received a phone call from some colleagues who were going to **Liberia**. They said, “We have a large empty suitcase and the Christian Clinic there is begging for medicine. Can you help?” The medicines I had were exactly the ones that the Liberian clinic needed. We boxed and shipped them to our colleagues the same day. They filled their

suitcase and carried the medicines on to the clinic. What a blessing to see God's working in this timely manner.

It appears to me that Covid is going to interrupt some of our international travels for many months to come. Our medical teams do focus on countries with fragile to poor healthcare systems. And those countries frequently respond to the pandemic by closing their borders. So, in October Sandy and I are going to survey in Puerto Rico which is always open to Americans. Moreover, the healthcare structure there is very stretched, and the island has been hammered by storms in recent years. The Lord has opened up some wonderful contacts at both the government level and the local church level. We have scheduled our island survey for the last 10 days of October.

We are trusting God that next year will be more open. Already my colleagues and I have plans for Liberia, Moldova, Zambia, Uganda, Jamaica, Paraguay and (hopefully) Puerto Rico. We pray that door will open and STAY open.

Currently, I am working on publishing a book called *Feet and Toes: On a Path That Pleases God*. As I have ministered with brothers and sisters in hundreds of churches on five continents, I have found confusion about some basic issues causing problems among many believers and their churches. Christian liberty and legalism often bump heads. Questions arise on how do we act toward those in ungodly circumstances and from whom exactly must we separate. What does real Christian growth and service look like? In many countries these questions are answered from a purely cultural viewpoint and not scripture. Having ministered in about 25 different cultures, I felt a simple tying together of scriptural principles that can be understood cross-culturally was needed. The book is about 150 pages long, with only 50 pages being what I have written and 100 pages of printed out scripture references. By my next letter I hope to have more information.

Thank you so much for your prayers and your support through the years. May God keep each of you in strength, peace, wisdom, joy, and blessing in Christ.

Your medical missionaries to the world,
Jack and Sandy Sorg