

Spring
2015

The Believer's Byline

A Publication of Thrive Christian Press

Missions
Monitor

And they're off!

By David Scott Fields II

Sheets for the King begin their epic journey to the mission field.

It's taken years of dedication, sacrifice, and no small amount of prayer, and now, finally, Jason and Sarah Sheets and their three children have made their epic move to Costa Rica for language school and then soon to Peru for fulltime service in Christian Missions. I have known the Sheets for just over 14 years, having met both of them at Western Baptist College (now Corban University). However, you only really need to know them for about five minutes before you will discover their hearts for Jesus Christ and for Christian Missions. In fact, very early in their relationship, Sarah informed Jason, "I'm going to be a missionary." To which he replied, "I'm good with that."

In 2012, that vision became a reality when the Sheets were accepted as missionary candidates with The Evangelical Alliance Mission (TEAM). Originally founded over 120 years ago, TEAM currently has over 550 missionary units on 5 continents, in over 35 countries. The Sheets will be serving in Arequipa, Peru, and in the nearby village of *Ciudad de Dios*, working specifically in the church planting process. When asked why they had chosen Peru, Sarah replied with a laugh, "Because TEAM needed us there!"

There was, of course, more to it than that. The Sheets have always had a heart for Latin American cultures; they have even served in a Latin American church in their home city of Salem, Oregon. It wasn't that much of a stretch to see themselves serving in an actual Latin American country, and so when God called them to Peru, they were faithful to that call.

Patience and faith were required in great measure over the next few years as the family worked to raise support and prepare for their ministry. Though the Sheets had originally planned to head directly to Peru from Oregon, a change in Visa regulations did not permit this. However, God was not about to leave these two faithful servants on the sidelines, and so the decision was made that the Sheets family would spend their first year of international ministry in San Jose, Costa Rica studying Spanish at *Instituto de Lengua Española*.

Now, at the time of this publication, the Sheets are more than three months into their studies. There is no doubt that acclimating to a new language and culture has been intense, but Jason and Sarah are both up to the challenge. As Sarah shared in a recent blog post, "...we had meetings with our professors to evaluate our mid-trimester progress. How in the world did time fly so quickly? With all the normal everyday happenings PLUS classes and afterschool activities time surely has gone quickly! People ask if we are absolutely LOVING everything about being here in Costa Rica and while we can mostly say yes, there are a



few things which we miss about Salem: mainly our family, friends, and church! The kids miss their school and friends there too! However, all in all, we are doing very well."

The Sheets children Nathan, Evelyn, and Andrew are also adapting to life in the field. Writes Sarah, "Andrew, our precious little man, is almost 15 months old. He LOVES going to class with Lizbet every morning while Jason and I attend classes. Andrew claps, walks, blows kisses, throws balls (and food), eats anything he gets his hands on and is pretty much always happy. Some fellow students don't believe us when we say he gets fussy occasionally!"

"Evelyn continues to be a bit timid around others but is beginning to open up to our neighbors. Just last night she actually spoke in Spanish to a neighbor lady when spoken to first. Evie is attempting to learn how to do cartwheels and, of course, enjoys swinging during recess and whenever we go to the park! She is an excellent student and enjoys learning to read, write, and speak in English AND in Spanish!"

"Nathan, as always, loves to spend every free moment playing and building with his Legos. It's hard to believe he will be 8 in just a little more than a month. He is beginning to use the Spanish that he's been learning mainly to get what he wants from people, but, hey, it's a start! Nathan is also beginning to grow in his soccer abilities, though when calling for a friend to pass him the ball, he still puts his hands up for the catch!"

I am personally very excited to see what Christ is going to do for His glory in the ministry of the Sheets family in the years to come. When they arrive in Arequipa, their work will include primarily outreach and church planting. As Jason explained, "El Camino (a TEAM church plant) has begun

ministry in the poor community of *Ciudad de Dios* - "City of God" - located just outside of the city. It is a spiritually dark and needy part of the Peruvian Andes, where tradition and mountain isolation have made evangelism a difficult and lengthy task. When first planted 13 years ago, El Camino laid out the goal of multiplying itself and planting a daughter church. Peruvian members of the church have been serving in *Ciudad de Dios* twice a month for the past few years. They are establishing relationships with the people, openly sharing the Gospel and studying Scripture, and teaching much needed job skills. They are laying the ground work for a church plant in a community that has no evangelical church. We get the privilege of assisting the El Camino church in doing this community development and church planting work."

As always the Sheets family remains in my prayers, and I will be following the progress of Christ's ministry through them closely. [I even get to visit them in the field next Thanksgiving!] The Sheets ask for your support in the following ways:

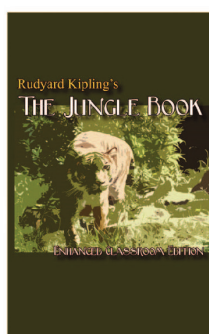
- **Pray:** Pray for us, our support team, our extended family, the work that God has called us to, the Peruvian people, and that Christ would be exalted and God would be glorified.
- **Talk:** Share our vision. Tell people about the church in Peru. Link to our website. Mention us on Facebook. Put us in contact with people who want to talk.
- **Give:** There are a variety of ways to give financially. Go to TEAM's website to learn more - www.team.org.



Support Jason and Sarah Sheets

 team

www.team.org
www.sheetsfortheKing.com

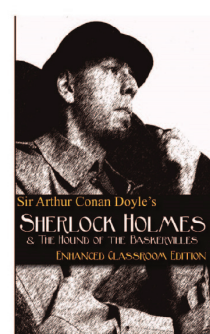


Rudyard Kipling's
The Jungle Book

Enhanced Classroom Edition

70% of the royalties of this title support Jason and Sarah Sheets in their ministry.

Visit www.thrivechristianpress.com to order.



Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's
The Hound of the Baskervilles

70% of the royalties of this title can support a ministry or missionary of your choice.

Visit www.thrivechristianpress.com for details and to order.



Touching hearts and minds.

By David Scott Fields II

New Educational Ministry Changes lives in the Philippines.

It was June 2010. I will never forget that summer. It was the summer where God put my faith to the extreme test as I ventured out of the country on my very first international mission trip. My destination was Nueva Santa Rosa, Guatemala where my team and I would be helping to build houses and working in local churches. I can scarcely recall a week in my life where I got to see God work so powerfully, though I am sure He has; I just remember this week very vividly.

A hurricane, an earthquake, a sink hole, and an erupting

volcano all occurred within days of our leaving on the trip, and for a while I considered withdrawing from the team altogether. However, Christ quickly reminded me of Hebrews 11:6, "But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a

God work in ways I had never dreamed possible.

I share this bit of background on my Guatemala trip not because I am going to write an article about Guatemala (though that would certainly be worthy), but because this trip was the start of another great friendship that would ultimately connect me

The first Saturday I met with the kids, I sensed immediately a beautiful thing. The first time they saw me, each child gently grabbed my hand and placed it on his/her forehead as a sign of respect. Then they said, "Jesus loves me!"

~ Gina Brown

rewarder of those who diligently seek Him." So setting apprehension aside, I boarded my plane for Central America, and spent the next 10 days seeing

with another ministry much further away than Guatemala. In June 2010, I met the young and extremely musically talented Ms. Hallie Brown. We soon began a fast friendship to the point I became her big *bermano* and she became my little *bermana*.

It didn't take long for me to become acquainted with her family, including her father Alan, mother Gina, and younger brother Levi. It also didn't take me long to learn that the entire Brown family has a deep connection to the Philippines. Gina was raised on the island of Cebu, one of the most developed provinces in the Philippines and home to Cebu City, the oldest city in the Philippines. Gina immigrated to the United States upon her marriage to Alan. However, as I have learned in living in various new places over the

years, home never really leaves your heart, and Gina has been blessed with the chance to visit her mother country several times over the years. Even so, during 2012, God had something far more than a visit in mind.

It can often be hard to imagine, but simple skills like knowing how to read and write are not always common place in developing nations. During 2012, Gina was touched by the earnest desire of many of the children in the Philippines to learn how to read, but she was concerned about the lack of resources to do so. So, beginning in February 2012 with six eager students in Isabel, Leyte, Philippines, the foundation for what would become Lantaw-Ugma Outreach was set.

The name literally means "Looking into a Bright Future" in Gina's native dialect. As she explained in a later newsletter, "LUO's desire is to continue to encourage the kids not to lose hope. We're helping them acquire education by supporting their school needs. Our prayer is that no matter what their economic situation and circumstance at home, these kids would be able to get an education." And, of course, the mission is also much deeper. As servants of Christ, the Browns hope to see each and every child who passes through LUO develop a personal relationship with their Savior.

It has now been over two years since Lantaw-Ugma officially started in January 2013. In that time, the program has grown to the ability to provide meals, school supplies, and tutorial assistance to nearly 60 children. In addition to basic educational skills, the children are taught God's Word through daily Bible lessons, songs, prayer, and games. As was shared on the LUO Facebook page, "We are convinced that at this formative time of their childhood years, the hope of Christ is their best tool for success in life!"

I couldn't agree more and I continually thank the Lord that He brought the Browns into my life. I know He will continue to do great things through them, and through this ministry. If you would like to support Lantaw-Ugma Outreach financially, please send your donation via check to:

Lantaw-Ugma Outreach
PO Box 110267
Anchorage, AK 99511

You may also donate online at <http://lantawugma.org/>. And as always, prayer support is also deeply appreciated.

A love that stretched across the world.

By David Scott Fields II

A young girl from Ukraine finds a new home with loving Alaskan parents.

“Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world” James 1:27 ESV.

Great verse, right? But how many believers actually live it out? More to the point, how many believers would be willing to go around the world to live it out? It is my great pleasure to share with you today the story of two such servants of Christ – Michael and Heaven Brock, and a little girl named Alina, who has changed their lives forever.

The Brocks adopted Alina from Ukraine in late 2014, but the seeds of this adoption were actually planted years before. As Heaven recalls, “...in high school, I did Russian Missions, [with Grace Christian School of Anchorage] and we went to the orphanages and worked with the kids there.” Not surprisingly, such an experience only deepened an already present desire to one day adopt. As Heaven and soon-to-be-husband Michael Brock were growing closer and moving toward marriage, Heaven made it clear adoption was something she wanted to pursue one day. Michael agreed this was a calling on his heart as well, and though it was unclear whether the biological kids or the adopted kids would come first, they were both open to Christ’s will.

Then the shocker came; as Heaven explained, “One day, Mike came to me after a really long night shift and said, ‘I really feel that God has placed on my heart to adopt from Ukraine.’” Naturally Heaven was stunned, but also excited, and the couple began exploring their options. One of the



“You’re never going to have the time, and you’re never going have the money, but if God is calling you to adopt, you need to do it.”

~ Heaven Brock

first things they learned was that Ukraine is a Non-Hague Convention country. In a nutshell, this means that an adoption agency is not required to process the adoption, vastly reducing the paperwork and overall costs of the process. Heaven took the initiative to find the needed social worker for their home study and a lawyer for the final adoption in Ukraine. God was definitely bringing the pieces together, but the ultimate and best piece would be the child herself. For that, the Brocks would be introduced to Alina.

Heaven and Mike had a few basic details they preferred in a child – especially that they were looking for a

girl, but they were open to God’s will. Surprisingly, they were told by their facilitator in Ukraine that there was a child ready and waiting for them. However, upon arriving in Ukraine, the Brocks were met with a tough question, “We found you a little girl. However, she’s deaf. Are you okay with that?” Heaven and Mike didn’t even hesitate – they were more than okay with that. In fact, on the nearly 5,000 mile journey from Alaska, they had ironically been discussing that very possibility, and both had come to the conclusion that they were more than willing to adopt such a child, even before they knew Alina’s situation.

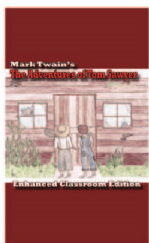
With seven-year-old Alina home in Alaska now, she and the Brocks are experiencing a tremendous learning curve as all three work to learn sign language and grow together as a family. As Heaven related with a laugh, “The laundry has doubled, and the electric and heating bills have skyrocketed, but the real challenge is learning sign, learning a new child, and learning to grow together as a family of three.”

Naturally the question had to be asked, “How have you seen Christ’s faithfulness through the entire process?” One of the things the Brocks had actually worried about was being torn between multiple children, so they prayed that God would show them the specific

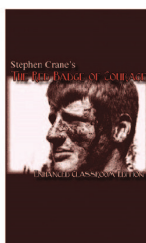
child they were to adopt; and they were shown only Alina! Additionally, locking down a court date proved problematic, resulting in a 9 week stay in Ukraine, compounded by a cantankerous judge known for rejecting adoptions simply because she was having a bad day. However, that very judge approved their adoption and approved it quickly! And miracle of miracles, God kept the very hyper Alina calm and sleeping for 13 hours of the 17 hour train ride back to Kyiv.

I concluded by asking, “For anyone considering adoption, what advice would you give them?” Heaven’s advice was simple, “Just do it!” God provided in every way for the Brocks, from amazing donors to court details to the right child – even the simple luxury of a working toilet on the train was something Heaven and Mike were praising Him for. Ultimately, the point is, Christ is faithful, so have faith and watch Him do amazing things.

As Heaven’s former teacher, I couldn’t be more proud of the Brock family, and I can’t wait to see where God will take them over the next few years. They truly are examples of Christ’s boundless love, and I know Alina will have an amazing life with them. May they all be richly blessed!



Mark Twain's **The Adventures of Tom Sawyer**
70% of the royalties of this title support the missions programs of Grace Christian School in Anchorage, Alaska.
Visit www.thrivechristianpress.com to order.



Stephen Crane's **The Red Badge of Courage**
70% of the royalties of this title support the missions programs of Grace Christian School in Anchorage, Alaska.
Visit www.thrivechristianpress.com to order.

Winkler Art
PHOTOGRAPHY & DESIGN

MATERNITY // NEWBORN // CHILDREN // FAMILY

HEAVEN BROCK
(907) 947-1731
TWINKLEARTAX@GMAIL.COM
[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/TWINKLEARTAX](https://www.facebook.com/twinklearartax)



Capturing the soul of a new culture.

By David Scott Fields II

Alaskan couple takes love of teaching and photography to Cambodia to serve Christ.

They say a picture is worth a thousand words. If that is true, then Kirsten Belloni has millions of words to her credit. As a teacher and professional photographer, Mrs. Belloni has captured countless breathtaking images over the years. As a yearbook teacher at Grace Christian School for a decade, it was my privilege to publish her photos year after year as she captured the memories of our outgoing seniors with the skills of a master. However, during the 2013-2014 school year, God had a much different plan for the Belloni family that would give Kirsten an entirely new realm of memories to capture. That realm in one word was: Cambodia.

Grace Christian School now conducts an annual mission trip to Cambodia each summer, and Kirsten remembers the seeds of her own participation being planted when Grace's former superintendent, Nate Davis, shared his own experience in Cambodia with his faculty. A call was sent out for possible participants in a school trip the next summer, and Kirsten gave a tentative *yes*. The next Christmas, as Kirsten related with a laugh, "Mr. Davis asked, 'So are you still interested in going?' and I said, 'Yeah, yeah, we're still interested,' and he said, 'Great! You're going!'" Ultimately, it felt

like Cambodia chose them and not the other way around.

The first trip lasted for two weeks, and then the next year for their second go around, Kirsten and her husband Mike received a challenge from long time missionary to Cambodia, Mark Bouman. He said simply, "You know, you could do more here." So answering that challenge, the Bellonis decided to stay an additional two weeks after the school team left to do some professional development with the Cambodian teachers. Kirsten recalls, "I remember standing at the airport watching the team leave and thinking, 'I don't want to stay here by myself!'" Staying behind in an unfamiliar culture for any length of time would have been daunting for anyone, but the Lord wasn't done stretching the Bellonis yet.

The wedding plans of the Bellonis' son Wayland and soon to be daughter-in-law Brandi, prevented them from returning for the regular school trip the following summer, so they decided to plan their own two week trip. However, soon that trip stretched to a few more weeks – the summer – and finally the conclusion came, "Why don't we just stay for the whole year!" This decision came with some sacrifices; their house had to be sold, along with many possessions. They also conducted a support letter writing campaign. It wasn't hard to begin to see Christ's faithfulness as everything came together, and as Kirsten explained, perhaps the biggest blessing came in

seeing her husband's heart grow toward Cambodia. Though Mike had always

considered Alaska to be his mission field, God opened his heart to the people of Cambodia. That, in and of itself, was a tremendous affirmation that they were standing solidly in His will.

After a summer in the American South with friends, Mr. and Mrs. Belloni finally made it to Cambodia in October 2013. They would be working with two specific organizations – *Asian Hope* and the local Assembly of God Church in Phnom Penh, the Cambodian capital. Both organizations have school projects, and the Assembly of God has an orphanage. The Bellonis spent the majority of their time traveling and serving with these various projects. While in the capital, they worked primarily with the Logos School, and most of their work focused on professional development – especially biblical integration, an essential component in any Christian school.

Now, you simply cannot call something a Belloni experience if there is not a camera involved somewhere, so I had to ask, "How did you come to know and appreciate the Cambodian culture through the lens of your camera?" One of the key things that God knows about Kirsten is how much

her camera helps her open up to people. As she explained, "I tend to be shy toward people...but when I have a camera in my hand, and I want a picture of something, I'm much more forward." The Bellonis began simply by taking pictures of the people in their neighborhood, and then God gave them the idea to print the pictures and take them back to the people they had photographed. The message was clear – "I saw you. I noticed you. I care about you. I think you're valuable and beautiful." This turned into the perfect opportunity to build relationships and to share the love of Christ.

Christ is so amazingly faithful, but naturally the Bellonis encountered challenges along the way. As Kirsten recalled, possibly the greatest challenge was not being able to immediately have whatever they wanted or needed. The American mindset of *if I don't have it, I'll run to the store and get it*, simply didn't translate into Cambodian life. No mail, limited grocery options, and other Third World limitations took some definite getting used to. And, of course, of equal difficulty was being on the literal other side of the world from family. Kirsten lost her mother unexpectedly shortly before they returned to the States, and that combined with the prolonged separation from other family made for some very tough times while in the field.

Even so, the best and greatest family anyone could ask for, Christ, was right by their sides the entire time, and the Bellonis had the chance to see him glorified in amazing ways! Many of the relationships they formed seemed predestined by Christ – including one with Ryan, a music teacher, with a direct connection to Nate Davis back in Alaska. It was also encouraging to see the Cambodians' hearts for teaching, and how much they wanted to do it for Him. It is the Bellonis' hope that Christ will continue to be glorified in the relationships they formed while in Cambodia and continue to develop even now with the help of technology.

My final question for the Bellonis was, "What advice would you give to someone considering service in the foreign mission field?" Kirsten, of course, said, "Just do it." But then her daughter, Heaven, broke in with perhaps the most profound advice I have ever heard, "People say they don't have time or can't afford it, but you can't put a price on eternal life! Even if one person finds the Lord, that's worth every penny you spend." Who could possibly argue with that?



belloni photography
kirsten belloni
phone: 256.679.9626
email: belloniphotography@gmail.com

website:
www.belloniphotography.com
Senior | Family | Child Portraiture

Victory every day!

2015 Looks to be a great year of ministry for Justin and Lynsey Hostetter of Victory Bible Camp.

Some friendships come and go from our lives, while others last for a lifetime - no matter how much time and space lies between you. Justin and Lynsey Hostetter are two such friends and profound servants of Christ. Together with their three children – Evangeline, Norah, and Grady – they serve at Victory Bible Camp about 45 miles north of Palmer, Alaska. One of the common misconceptions about a camping ministry is that all the work happens during the summer camping season. That couldn't be further from the truth, and for the maiden edition of the *Missions Monitor*, Lynsey Hostetter shared her winter blog post to bring us up to speed with what Christ is doing in their lives and their ministry at Victory:

~

Welcome to 2015! We passed the winter solstice and the shortest day of the year. We still don't have direct sunlight shining into our house yet, but the days are growing slightly longer, and we look forward to the return of the sun over Teepee Ridge within the next few weeks.

It's been a very snow-less winter for the rest of the state of Alaska, but we've maintained at least a dusting here at Victory. Right now we have a solid foot which is meager by normal comparisons, but for this winter it's a lot! Winters around here get very long, especially at this time of year, and I really struggle with missing the light. Fortunately, there are still beautiful skies to see even if



It's my desire to serve the Lamb each day, every year, for the rest of my life.
~Justin Hostetter

the sun is absent. [Most notably on nights when the *Aurora Borealis* light up the sky with heavenly fire].

For Christmas, Justin's parents came up from Minnesota and his cousin Megan stuck around on break from her internship here. We had a fun Christmas enjoying family!

We are all eating gluten free now out of necessity, and we are taking Norah [the Hostetter's second daughter] through some different elimination diets to try and help her eczema. It made the holiday cooking different because I had to rethink a lot of things. But we still managed sugar cookies!

Grady [the Hostetter's son] says 20+ words now and seems to add new ones every day. He is his sisters' most treasured possession and also their worst enemy! He keeps us all on our toes!

We are preparing for it to get crazy as soon as spring rolls around and Justin begins his job of promoting summer camps within lots of local churches, and also interviewing prospective summer staff. There is still a constant flow of guest groups through camp, and we pray we can be good witnesses to everyone we come in contact with!

Here are some ways you can pray:

~ Please pray that God will work in the hearts of all who come this summer to work here. We don't know yet who God intends to send us, but He does!

~ There are several new families coming on to permanent staff, and we had to say goodbye to a few longtime staff families who heeded God's call elsewhere. Changes are good and important, but sometimes it's hard to go with the flow! Pray for an easy

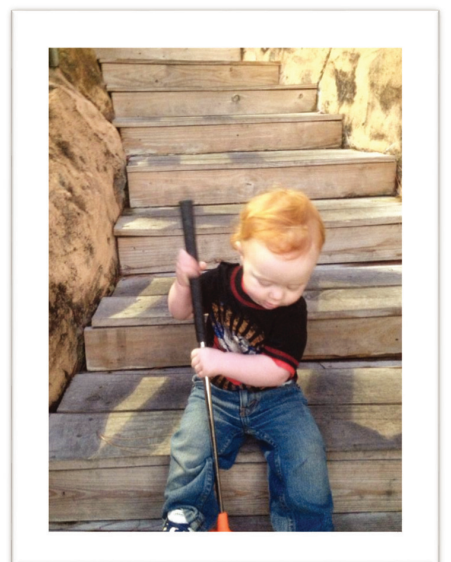
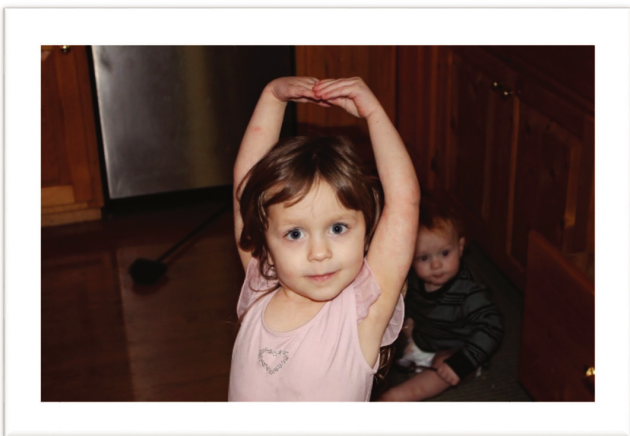
settling in for new permanent staff and for travel mercies for those relocating.

~ Pray for Norah. Her eczema, which she has battled since she was a baby, has gotten exponentially worse in the last month or two.

~ Pray for our continued process in raising support to reach our monthly goal of \$3,800 to help provide for all the needs of a family in ministry.

~

My prayers are certainly with the Hostetters and the entire Victory family, and I know with Christ 2015 will be an incredible year at Victory Bible Camp.



I would like to invest in the ministry of: **Justin and Lynsey Hostetter**

- I will invest in prayer. Please send regular prayer information.
- I will invest the enclosed gift of \$ _____
- I will invest monthly gifts of \$ _____

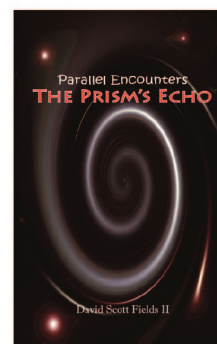
Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone # _____ Email _____

Gifts are tax-deductible. Make checks payable to Victory Ministries with the missionary's name on a separate piece of paper.

- Please check this box if you **DO NOT** want to be on the Victory Ministry mailing list. Thank you.



**64741 S Victory Rd
Sutton, AK 99674
Ph: (907) 745-4203
Fax: (907) 745-4206
ElaineA@vbc.alaska.org**

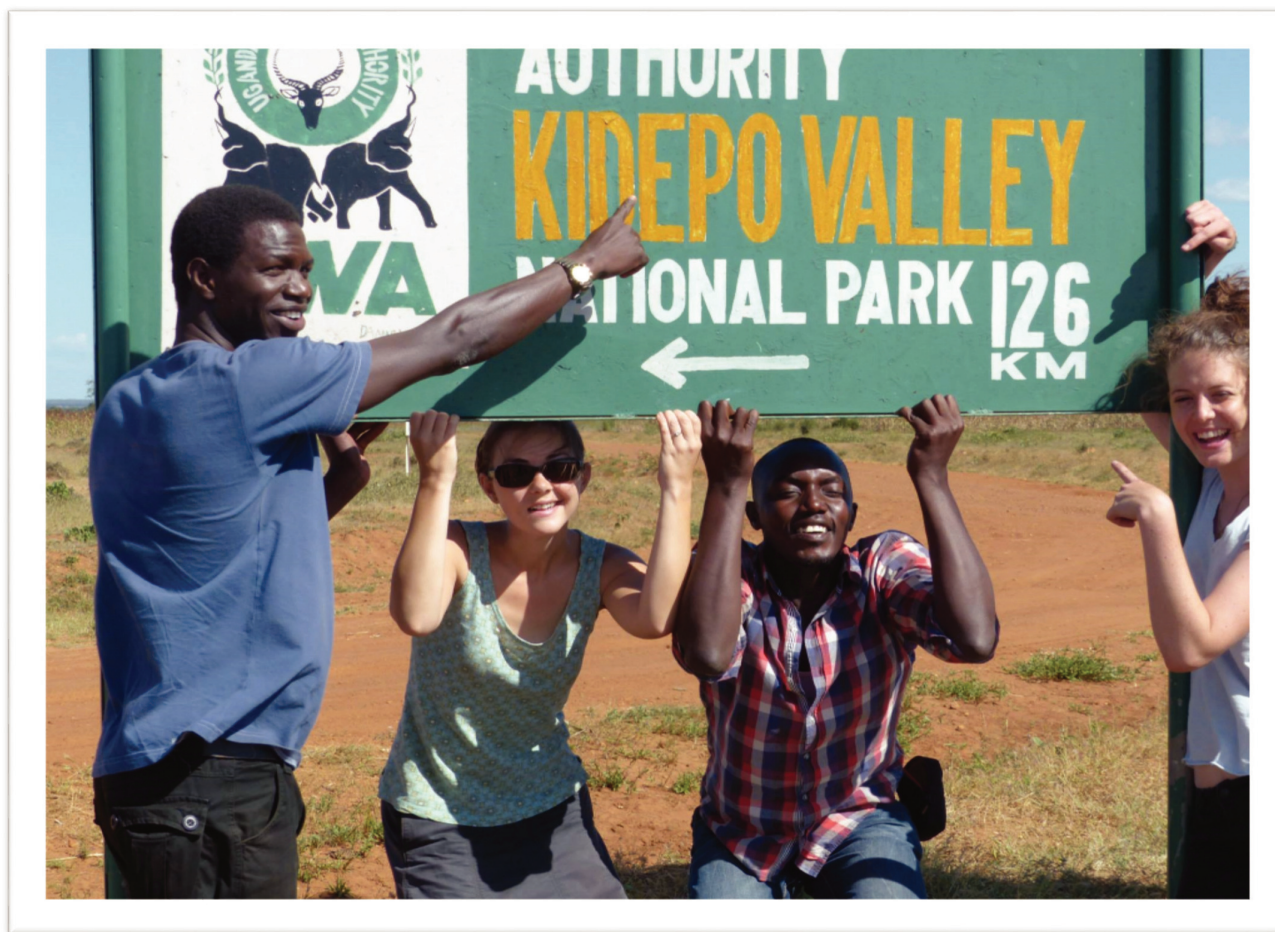


David Scott Fields II's
**Parallel Encounters:
The Prism's Echo**

History rewritten? Nazi Germany ruling the world? The fate of humanity rests on the answers to these questions.

Visit www.thrivechristianpress.com for details and to order.

The Believer's Byline - Spring 2015



Bringing Hope in the *Village of Redemption*.

By David Scott Fields II

Rachel Dunaway continues to impact hearts for Christ in Uganda.

"God, please don't send me to Africa...I don't think I have what it takes!" This line comes straight from a colorful puppetry sketch I remember performing as a puppeteer at Calvary Baptist Church in Prineville, Oregon back in the 90s. The sketch is meant to be the comical story of a reluctant missionary pleading with God not to send him to the wilds of Africa where he is certain doom awaits him. It might seem easy to laugh at something as silly as that, but I think every Christian can identify with the fear that God is going to send us to some far flung land to serve Him. The bold few who will take Him up on the challenge are rare, especially when it comes to Africa, but I happen to know one of them: Ms. Rachel Dunaway.

I have known Rachel since I was very young. We both grew up in Prineville, Oregon, and her father, Joel Dunaway, has been the longtime senior pastor of my home church of Calvary Baptist. It was very easy to see Rachel's heart for Christ as we were growing up, and

so I was not surprised to hear she had chosen a career that would take her to the mission field in Africa.

Specifically, Rachel is serving in Lira, Uganda at *Calo Me Lare*, a ministry within Project Hope Worldwide. The ministry of *Calo Me Lare*, according to the PHW website is to "...care for and provide hope for orphans in Lira who have been most impacted by the AIDS epidemic and 23 years of war with the rebel forces of Northern Uganda. Our goal is to provide a nurturing home, a quality education, sufficient medical care, an effective character based mentoring program and an ongoing community that will empower them to establish themselves in a career and serve as leaders in their communities and country."

Rachel serves as a Child Development Specialist and Child Correspondence Coordinator. As she describes it, her job is to "...make sure each child feels safe, valued, and loved." Part of this includes helping children deal with their past abuses and traumas, and helping to maintain communication between children and their sponsors. As anyone might imagine, this would be a very difficult job with both cultural and language

barriers standing in the way, so Rachel decided to start things slowly by building one relationship at a time. This soon grew into group work, and in time Rachel's dedication and love were well known to the orphans of *Calo Me Lare*.

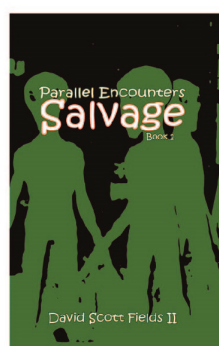
The format of *Calo Me Lare* is a unique one. The *village* is comprised of two circles of eight homes each. Each home consists of a house mother who is a widow from the community and up to eight children. Each child attends school and receives training in money management, agriculture, positive character development, and vocational training. Those showing ability are also provided the opportunity to attend a university and ultimately enter a career field of their own choosing. Significant effort is also made to help children maintain contact with their home tribes and cultures so that one day they can return and make a positive impact.

Having been deeply impacted by government corruption and extremist groups like *The Lord's Resistance Army* [a big reason why many of the children at *Calo Me Lare* are orphans in the first place], opportunities for success in Uganda

can be very rare. And finding Christ-like love from strangers can seem an impossibility. Yet, faithful servants of Christ like Rachel are shining His light and love most profoundly amongst these children and changing their lives forever.

Now, a few years into her ministry at *Calo Me Lare*, Rachel continues to serve with diligence, and she has had the opportunity to see both the program and the children grow. As she says, "I feel very valued and loved here." She has even been unofficially adopted into a local family, and she strives every day to learn the language and the culture of the people of Uganda better. I can't wait to see what God will continue to do through the ministries of Project Hope Worldwide. It is sure to be amazing, but as with every ministry, outside help is needed. The greatest need is for child sponsors. Sponsorships start at around \$38 dollars a month and help provide much needed resources for children in desperate situations. Rachel and other missionaries serving with Project Hope Worldwide and *Calo Me Lare* also need prayer and financial support so that they can continue to pour out Christ's love. You can visit www.projecthopeworldwide.org to learn more.

The word *proud* does not begin to describe how I feel about Rachel and others like her who are so willing to go to the farthest reaches of the earth for Christ. You see, their prayer was the exact opposite of our petrified puppet back at Calvary Baptist - "Lord, please send me to Africa. I know *You* have what it takes!" He does indeed, and I know He will stand alongside Rachel and her fellow missionaries every step of the way.



David Scott Fields II's
**Parallel Encounters:
Salvage**

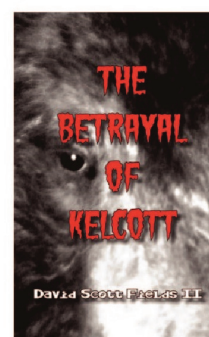
Aliens and the Nazis!
There has never been a
more deadly combination.

Visit www.thrivechristianpress.com
for details and to order.

Support Rachel Dunaway



www.projecthopeworldwide.org
<http://tinyletter.com/rachelinuganda>



David Scott Fields II's
The Betrayal of Kelcott

Lies. Murder.
Betrayal. FAITH!
All will collide in
this epic novella.

Visit www.thrivechristianpress.com
for details and to order.

Sorrow's Death Sentence

By David Scott Fields II

There is no getting around the fact that this is a life of sorrow. We lose people we care about all the time and face all sorts of unimaginable pain. It often seems impossible to understand why God would allow us to go through such things. I have no answer to that question – having faced sorrow and loss of my own with no reason offered from God. Even so, God has given us all a promise. Revelation 21:4 states, “*And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.*” A passage in the Old Testament, Isaiah 65:17 also says, “*For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth; And the former shall not be remembered or come to mind.*”

This world of sorrow will be gone forever! We will not even be able to remember it, and wiping away those last painful tears with His own gentle and nail scarred hands will be our intimate Savior.

Death – Not so Permanent After All

By David Scott Fields II

Death has little competition in being the most difficult thing we all deal with, both the loss of others and the prospect of our own deaths. However, for the believer death is a temporary thing. Paul wrote in 1 Timothy 4:13-14, “*But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus.*”

He also said in 2 Corinthians 5:9, “*We are confident, yes, well pleased rather to be absent from the body and to be present with the Lord.*”

Our loved ones who have died trusting in Christ for the forgiveness of their sins are safe with Him at this very moment. AND WE WILL SEE THEM AGAIN!

Bible Characters Word Search

G U L B Y T V B F R E W M X O E R L H E
 G A E D J I T M I W P X G J D R F A X S
 A C B Y A Y U I D C C P X U Y I I Z H T
 W J A R D O G C C M S B J R S M W N V H
 Z T B K I Q L H W J U E A M E R D H L E
 L K B Y M E P A U L O M M R T A D O K R
 Y S U X R S L E G I V S E A H H H J G S
 W K R A M C T L E G R J H H J A A V M M
 O C E D A S W S T E V E N U F B I E A P
 Q D Z A I J Z R N I A H C P A G D Z A R
 G P S C O V A N D Z K A T Y W P A R I Z
 O I A S M B A H C O N E R U Y N B A N X
 R I I A R O X D I A W Q I O R M O K B P
 N A K A M T L P H I L E M O N Y B A S Y
 H L H I S U Q R L N A S H M O S E S H E
 A A N I K U Z E X D L B Q T G K L A I H
 M I R E P U P T A D A M E N T T A H E T
 M H B E Y G U E K N J L P L E A C N S M
 C H P E S O J P L Q R Y K A C V M G A M
 U Z O A F W N N O M O L O S J I E E Z E

Find the following 40 Bible characters in the puzzle above.

AARON, ABEL, ABRAHAM, ADAM, CAIN, CALEB, CHRIST
 DAVID, ENOCH, ESTHER, EVE, EZRA, GABRIEL, GOD
 ISAAC, JAMES, JEREMIAH, JOHN, JOSEPH, JOSHUA,
 JOSIAH, JUDE, LUKE, MARK, MARY, MATTHEW,
 MICHAEL, MOSES, NAOMI, NOAH, OBADIAH, PAUL,
 PETER, PHILEMON, RAHAB, RUTH, SETH, SOLOMON,
 STEVEN, ZERUBBABEL

ARE YOU A GOOD PERSON?

MEET MR. NICE GUY. IF GOOD PEOPLE GO TO HEAVEN, HE WILL BE FIRST IN LINE.

WELL...I TRY TO DO WHAT'S RIGHT.

HAVE YOU KEPT THE TEN COMMANDMENTS?

PRETTY MUCH.

ONLY A CORRUPT JUDGE WOULD DO THAT. A GOOD JUDGE WOULD SAY...

JUSTICE DEMANDS THAT YOU PAY FOR YOUR CRIMES.

GOD IS A HOLY, RIGHTEOUS JUDGE. HE HATES SIN! JESUS WARNED THAT GOD, IN HIS WRATH, WILL CAST ALL WHO SIN AGAINST HIM INTO ETERNAL FIRE "WHERE THERE WILL BE WEEPING AND GNASING OF TEETH". (MATTHEW 13:42)

...THEN HE ROSE FROM THE GRAVE – DEFEATING DEATH!

GOD LOVES YOU SO MUCH, HE SENT HIS SON JESUS TO SUFFER AND DIE FOR YOUR SINS...

YOU CAN'T EARN ETERNAL LIFE. IT IS GOD'S GIFT TO ALL WHO HUMBLE THEMSELVES AND COME TO JESUS. "TURN TO GOD IN REPENTANCE AND HAVE FAITH IN THE LORD JESUS" (ACTS 20:21). HE WILL FORGIVE YOUR SINS AND GIVE YOU A NEW HEART! "IF ANYONE IS IN CHRIST, HE IS A NEW CREATION!" (2 CORINTHIANS 5:17)

THEN READ THE BIBLE AND OBEY IT. FIND A GOOD CHURCH TO HELP YOU GROW. AND TELL OTHERS THE GOOD NEWS!

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT www.livingwaters.com AND CLICK ON "Save Yourself Some Pain".

YOU'LL HAVE TO ANSWER FOR EVERY SIN ON JUDGMENT DAY, WHEN "EACH OF US WILL GIVE AN ACCOUNT OF HIMSELF TO GOD." (ROMANS 14:12).

BUT WON'T GOD JUST FORGIVE ME?

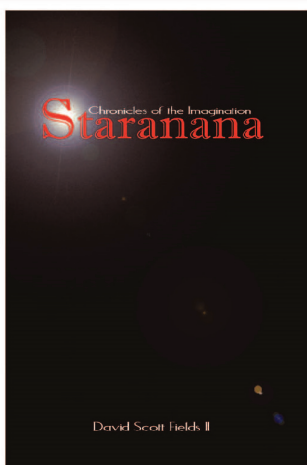
I KNOW I KEEP BREAKING THE LAW, BUT CAN'T YOU JUST LET IT SLIDE?

TRY THAT IN COURT...

THEN HOW CAN ANYONE GET TO HEAVEN?

GULP!

THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY... IF A SINLESS PERSON OFFERED TO TAKE YOUR PUNISHMENT, THEN JUSTICE WOULD BE SERVED AND YOU COULD GO FREE!

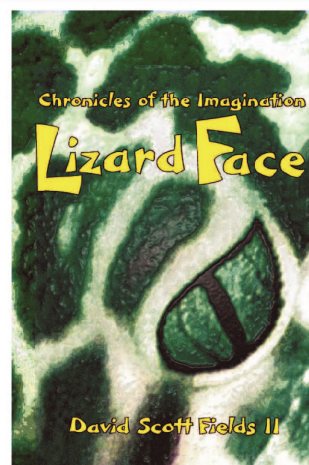


Chronicles of the Imagination - Book 1

Staranana

After enduring centuries under a vicious tyrant, the people of the icy planet Staranana must decide whether to abandon their faith or continue to trust in the promises of God. The results of that decision will spark an adventure beyond the imagination!

Visit www.thrivechristianpress.com for details and to order.



Chronicles of the Imagination - Book 2

Lizard Face

A time of peace has dawned, but on the eve of the first Christmas on Staranana, an ancient enemy returns. Faith, friendship, and family will all be tested; and a single wrong decision could very well spell the doom of Staranana!

Visit www.thrivechristianpress.com for details and to order.

The Believer's Byline - Spring 2015



Thrive on a mission!

Men and women like Nate Saint, Jim Elliot, Cameron Townsend, Corrie ten Boom, Lottie Moon and so many others have passed into virtual legend for their dedicated service to Jesus Christ, but they are hardly a dying breed. Today, countless men and women and even children around the world have answered God's call to the Christian mission field – often sacrificing the comfort and convenience of home to help build the everlasting Kingdom of Jesus Christ. Some have even given their lives in the fulfillment of this *Great Commission*.

Here at *Thrive Christian Press*, we're on a mission of our own – a mission for missionaries. We believe that the stories of what Christ is doing through their lives need to be told, and so we intend to do exactly that for as long as our doors remain open. This will be the first edition of *The Missions Monitor*, with a second available in the Fall of 2015, and we hope to steadily grow from there. Our goal is to not only encourage missionaries, but to also honor Christ for all He has done for us. In order to do that, we could use your help in three specific ways.

First, share your stories. As you might have learned from this issue, sometimes you have to go to the mission field, but other times it comes to you. Either way, we want to hear the stories of the work Christ has called you to do, whether that be abroad or right in your own neighborhood.

Remember Jesus said, "... whoever gives one of these little ones only a cup of cold water in the name of a disciple, assuredly, I say to you, he shall by no means lose his reward" (Matthew 10:42 – NKJV). No story is too small for Christ, and we want to hear them. Visit www.thrivechristianpress.com for more details on how to share your story.

The second way you can support this effort is financially. *Thrive Christian Press* is a family-owned and operated business with an avid heart for missions. Our first line of business has been book publishing, and we currently have paperback, Nook, and Kindle versions of over a dozen different titles. Up to 70% of the royalties of our titles can be donated to Christian missions upon request, so buying our books is a great way to support us and a missionary of your choice.

Additionally, beginning with our Fall 2015 issue, we will be selling advertising space in our paper. Business card size ads will run \$100, and after expenses 50% of our profits will be donated to the missionaries written about in the corresponding issue.

Finally, please pray for the missionaries in your life on a regular basis. Their work is not easy, and in this life they are certain to have very little reward. I know they covet your prayers and support.

For more information on how to support this ministry, visit www.thrivechristianpress.com.



Thrive Christian Press is eager to see the Gospel of Jesus Christ spread throughout the world. If you would like 70% of the royalties from your most recent purchase donated to a Christian missionary or ministry of your choice, please complete the form below and mail to:

Missionary Donation Request
Thrive Christian Press
 1120 Huffman Rd. Ste. 24-447
 Anchorage, AK 99515

Missionary Name _____

Christian Ministry _____

Ministry Address _____

Ministry Website _____

Can we donate via this site? Yes No

Ministry Email _____

Your Email (Optional) _____

Title Purchased _____

Format	Kindle	Nook	Paperback
Retailer	Amazon.com	CreateSpace.com	Barnesandnoble.com

Please include a copy of your receipt.

**All donations are subject to verification of the Christian ministry in question and purchase. Not all Thrive Christian Press titles qualify. Please visit www.thrivechristianpress.com for a complete list of qualifying titles and corresponding donations. Donations will be made in electronic form on ministry websites. Payment will be made within 60 days of request.*

Remove this form and mail to the address above.

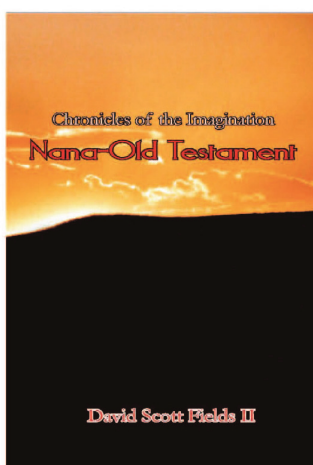


Rene Lawrence
 Hair Stylist and Color
 Specialist

427A North Main Street
 Prineville, Oregon 97754

541-233-9632

Everything can change in the blink of an eye.



Chronicles of the Imagination - Book 3 **Nana-Old Testament**

An unlikely accident finds the Staranians stranded in Earth's biblical past, and if they are to find their way home, they'll have to enlist the help of some of the greatest characters from throughout the *Old Testament*. The epic Christian-fantasy saga continues in an adventure sure to excite your heart and challenge your faith.

Visit www.thrivechristianpress.com for details and to order.



Chronicles of the Imagination - Book 4 **Nana-New Testament**

Having been trapped in the biblical past for months, hope is fading from the hearts of the Staranians. If they are to make it home they must now seek out the source of hope Himself, but this adventure won't end until blood has been shed and faith has been satisfied.

Visit www.thrivechristianpress.com for details and to order.