

# CFH CHRONICLES

CHRIST FOR  
HUMANITY'S  
NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2013  
VOL. 21, NO. 5

"AND THIS GOSPEL OF THE  
KINGDOM WILL BE  
PREACHED IN THE WHOLE  
WORLD AS A TESTIMONY  
TO ALL NATIONS..."

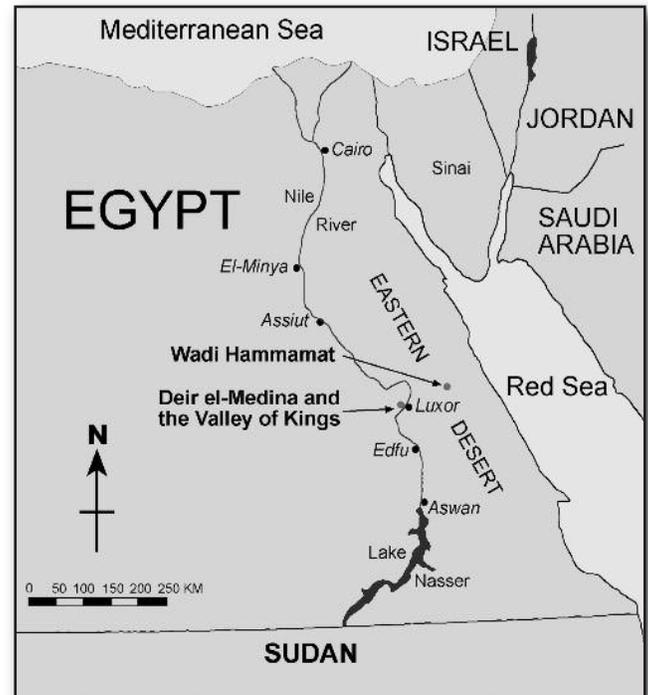
## CANDLES LIGHTING THE DARKNESS IN EGYPT

The political assent of the Muslim Brotherhood in Egypt after the Arab Spring in 2011-2012 has left the country in economic chaos. Today, the average Egyptian has difficulty finding basic food staples like milk, chicken or rice. Lines at the gas pump extend for miles. Tourism, once a source of international dollars, is non-existent. Anarchy is the rule, not the exception. The situation is so bad that moderate Muslims and Christians finally turned to the military to oust President Morsi's regime from power. Morsi is now under arrest, facing six charges of corruption, each of which carries the death penalty.

Muslim extremists have not been idle during the current uprising that curbed their power. The highest official within the Muslim Brotherhood announced on Egyptian television that the country's economy was flourishing until Christians began to pray (what an endorsement for the power of prayer). This statement sparked a firestorm of persecution against Christians across Egypt. As of Labor Day, 71 Christian churches were burned and looted. Rioters targeted Christian businesses with losses totaling millions of dollars. Sadly, more than 700 people lost their lives during riots, many of whom were Christians.

IMN missionary HK (name withheld for security reasons) recently spoke to CFH's 1st Steps class members about the situation in his home country. He provided fresh insight about the effect of persecution on the Church in Egypt.

Isaiah 55:8-9 clearly states: *"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the Lord.*



These words ring true concerning Christianity in Egypt today. From a human viewpoint, persecution should cause a falling away from the faith; however, the opposite is happening in Egypt. Many moderate Muslims, who once voiced proudly their adherence to Islam, are now more subdued when asked about their beliefs, and many Muslims are lending an ear to the message of Christ's love provided by the Church. A Christian website, devoted to helping Muslim-born Christians grow in their walk with Christ, reports serving more than two million new believers since the onset of the Arab Spring in Egypt – proof that Christianity in the Middle East is growing.

The reign of terror birthed another unexpected blessing in Egypt – the uniting of all Christian sects and denominations under

*Continued on page 2*

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CHRIST FOR HUMANITY, INC.  
(918) 836-2424  
FAX (918) 836-2610

# CANDLES LIGHTING THE DARKNESS IN EGYPT

(continued from page 1)

Christ's banner. Eastern Orthodox Catholics, Coptic Christians, and evangelical groups, once polarized by varying doctrinal difference, are unifying their efforts to bring the Gospel message of salvation through belief in Jesus Christ to non-Christians throughout the region. The Pope of the Greek Orthodox Church of Alexandria urged all Christians not to try to defend their church buildings at the risk of their lives, stating, "A building is not the Church. You are Christ's Church." HK, a prominent figure in Egypt's evangelical church movement, recently received an invitation to meet with the bishop of the Coptic Christian Church. The Coptic bishop is a powerful figure in Egypt. During their five hour meeting, the two men from differing doctrinal backgrounds agreed that the primary goal of the Church is to bring souls into the kingdom, and the bishop promised to help HK's future work in Egypt. Prior to the mounting pressure from Muslim extremists against the Christian community, this meeting would never have taken place.

Christians living in Muslim countries face persecution on a daily basis. Believers born into the faith are subject to discrimination in every area of society – schooling, employment, housing, and healthcare, to name a few. Muslims who convert from Islam have the added sorrow of being ostracized by family and friends. Some new believers suffer death at the hands of loved ones. There are few nominal Christians in Muslim countries, for what sane person

would subject himself to torture, imprisonment and death without being totally devoted to the faith. Believers in Egypt embrace the Lord Jesus with their eyes wide open, fully understanding His remarks found in **John 15:19-21:**

*"If you were of the world, the world loves its own. Yet, because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore, the world hates you . . . If they persecuted Me they will persecute you . . . for they do not know the One who sent Me."* The recent additional pressure from the Muslim Brotherhood only strengthens the resolve of believers to stand firm.

In August a Coptic church in Luxor was attacked by an angry mob. Nineteen church leaders were dragged into the town square, bound, doused with gasoline and set afire. HK personally visited the families of the martyred men to provide encouragement and support. In one house he spoke with a sixth grade girl who had lost her father. He asked, "Do you miss your Dad?" The girl replied that she really did. Then she told HK something truly remarkable.

"When my father was killed, I was very confused and frightened. Then my mother clearly explained to me what my father believed and why a mob killed him. Now I am so proud that God allowed my father to be a candle for Christ, a light in the darkness of Egypt!"

Christ for Humanity continues to support iMN's work among Christians by helping fund the Home Church Seminar and the Genesis Food Bank.

## Christ's Candle

I hear my name on Jesus' lips  
As I approach God's throne;  
My Master rises from His seat –  
His glory round me shown.

He offered me a raiment white  
And with it peace and rest;  
I knelt before the alter where  
His blood affirmed my test.

You suffered dearly for My Name;  
Your life you freely gave –  
A candle in a darkened world,  
Your light now some may save.

I am the Way, the Truth, the Life,  
And none but Me will do;  
I am the Light that saves men's souls;  
My light has shown through you.

Eternity you'll spend with Me  
To rule and reign on high;  
Your sacrifice on My behalf  
God's grace will glorify.

Tina Rollins

*" . . . we are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not despairing; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed . . . For momentary, light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison . . . "* II Corinthians 4:8-9 & 4:17)

# THE IMPACT OF CFH'S ADOPT-A-FACILITY PROGRAM

Christ for Humanity's purpose is to help the Church "get out of the pew and go to the poor." One program the ministry developed for just this purpose is called Adopt-a-Facility. CFH facilitates a partnership between an approved church and one of Tulsa Housing Authority's low-income projects. Church members provide a monthly worship service at their assigned facility, with CFH supplying food boxes for residents in need.

Recently, CFH staff members had the opportunity to interview some Tulsa Housing Authority residents concerning the impact of CFH's Adopt-a-Facility program. Below are remarks from Taylor Shepherd, who lived for a number of years at Inhofe Plaza - CFH's first program facility. Her story exemplifies how the love and support from the Body of Christ can change hopeless lives.

## *What difference did CFH's Adopt-a-Facility program make in your life?*

"I had come to a point in my life where I had given up, not on God, but on Christians. I had determined to never step foot in a church again. In 2000, Christ for Humanity introduced Christ Presbyterian Church to Inhofe Plaza along with its Adopt-a-Facility program. Beginning with the monthly service and food box distribution, CPC also began a Sunday evening Bible study in the community room at Inhofe Plaza. I had no interest in attending, but a friend in the building persistently pestered me to come and see. She swore this group was different, saying they truly taught the Word of God. I agreed to come with her one time. I went and never stopped. I met people who not only taught God's truth but also did their best to walk out the beliefs they professed. They were open to questions and showed us Scriptural answers. After several months attending the Bible study, I asked if they would pick me up for Sunday morning services at their church. I had more rides than I needed. I began attending every Sunday for both Sunday school and worship. Seven months later, I became a member. Before Christ for Humanity sent members of Christ Presbyterian Church into Inhofe Plaza, I was alone in the world. I had no family, and I had no church body to walk beside me and help me grow in the Word of God. Now, I may have no biological family, but I have the love and fellowship of a good church. I receive sound teaching and discipleship in God's Word. I teach Sunday school for adult women and serve on the Women in Ministry Board, coordinating the Compassionate Care Ministry. I am also a newly published author, as I share the ways God has comforted me through the many painful trials of my life and led me to His truth and salvation. I know all of these things would not be happening if Christ for Humanity's Adopt-a-Facility program had not come to Inhofe. I thank God for the church CFH brought into my life and for the opportunities to not just receive from them but to serve others with the same love, grace, and comfort of God I have received."

## *What difference did CFH's Adopt-a-Facility program make in the life at your facility?*

"At Inhofe Plaza, people are being fed not just physical food but sound Biblical teaching from the Word of God. Church members are familiar faces, welcomed even by residents who have yet to come for fellowship in the Word. Many needs are being met - from help getting hearing aids to rides for appointments. The death of a resident in the middle of the night brought a church elder to offer prayer and support and help in arranging and performing memorial services for friends at Inhofe left behind.

Kindness and mercy are given, and friendships are built that open hardened hearts to the Gospel of Christ. I've seen at least two instances where residents who became gravely ill and moved to hospitals and nursing facilities were regularly visited by CPC members involved in ministry at Inhofe. The faithful fellowship from these men and women led both men to receive Christ as their Savior before they died. It doesn't get any more vital than that - seeking and saving the lost and feeding Christ's sheep with both physical food and the teaching of Scripture."



*Taylor Shepherd*

# FROM THE CFH MAIL BAG

August 5, 2013



Christ for Humanity:

On behalf of the people of Moore whose lives were affected by the May 20, 2013 tornado, and with gratitude to God for your generosity, I am writing to say “Thank You!” for your expression of support. Almost all of the relief gifts we received have already been dispersed personally to families in need or shared with other churches close “on the ground” to families in need. Your gift of \$10,000 was directly and completely applied to offer immediate assistance to people recovering from loss. We could not have done it without the help of generous partners like you.

In behalf of our own church family, I thank you for routing your gift through a local church. While we appreciate all relief efforts and agencies, the church is free to share the life-changing message of Jesus Christ with those in distress and to ascribe glory to God in sharing His compassion and love. I believe He is pleased and honored with such efforts and gifts . . .

May the Lord continue to bless you in your endeavors and reward you in His own special way for your generosity with our community. Please remember us in your thoughts and prayers, as the actual rebuilding will take many more months of time.

“This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of God’s people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God. Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, men will praise God for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else.” II Corinthians 9:12-13

Kevin Clarkson, Senior Pastor  
First Baptist Church, Moore, OK

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*[To date this year, CFH has provided three 40-foot containers of medical supplies to Samaritan’s Purse, Franklin Graham’s World Medical Mission, to be used by Christian doctors across the globe. Having been involved in international shipping for nearly 20 years, CFH staff members understand the difficulty in getting humanitarian aid into a foreign country. We are so grateful to be partnering with Samaritan’s Purse, which is capable of handling the paperwork necessary for providing aid to Christian hospitals in Third World countries. Below is a letter CFH’s Director of Ministry Relations received, detailing where some of CFH’s supplies are to be used for God’s glory and asking for prayer that the customs’ issues will be quickly resolved.]*

June 27, 2013

Dear Camille:

On behalf of Franklin Graham, our sincere thanks for your donation to World Medical Mission, which will end up in one of the mission hospitals that we are supporting around the world.

This month, we have five containers packed with medical equipment and supplies to go to Honduras, Papua New Guinea, Kenya, Egypt and The Democratic Republic of Congo. Each of these five containers has different requirements regarding importation of such supplies. At times, it can take months before all the documentation is in hand. Pray for those in these countries as they deal with their respective governments and departments to obtain exemptions from paying duties on the containers. Often the delay is because the hospital staff will not pay bribes to officials to obtain the necessary documents.

Pray that soon these five containers will be on the seas and that once they reach their final destination, everything will be of great help and use in that hospital. Because of your generosity, we will be able to help the next 32 hospitals that are on our list for medical containers.

God bless,

Edward Morrow  
Director, World Medical Mission

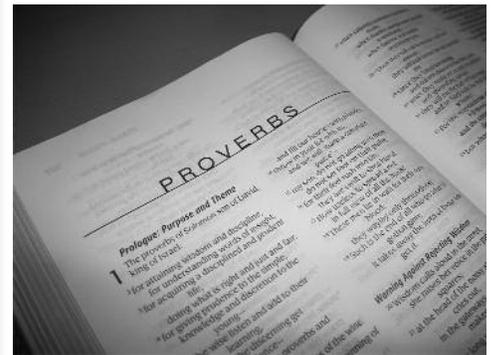
# WHY PARENTS CAN HAVE GOALS FOR THEMSELVES BUT ONLY DESIRES FOR THEIR CHILDREN

*From a Sermon by the late Adrian Rogers*

## A Letter from a Parent to His Child

I gave you life, but I cannot live it for you.  
I can teach you things, but I cannot make you learn.  
I can give you directions, but I cannot be there to lead you.  
I can allow you freedom, but I cannot account for it.  
I can take you to church, but I cannot make you believe.  
I can teach you right from wrong, but I cannot decide for you.  
I can buy you beautiful clothes, but I cannot make you beautiful inside.  
I can offer you advice, but I cannot accept it for you.  
I can give you love, but I cannot force it upon you.  
I can teach you to share, but I cannot make you unselfish.  
I can teach you respect, but I cannot force you to show honor.  
I can advise you about your friends, but I cannot choose them for you.  
I can advise you about sex, but I cannot keep you pure.  
I can tell you the facts of life, but I cannot build your reputation.  
I can tell you about beverage alcohol, but I cannot say "No" for you.  
I can warn you about drugs, but I cannot prevent you from using them.  
I can tell you about lofty goals, but I cannot achieve them for you.  
I can teach you about kindness, but I cannot force you to be gracious.  
I can warn you about sin, but I cannot make you moral.  
I can love you as a child, but I cannot place you in God's family.  
I can pray for you, but I cannot make you walk with God.  
I can tell you about Jesus, but I cannot make Jesus your Lord.  
I can tell you how to live, but I cannot give you Eternal Life.

***All of the above are your choice!***



## Proverbs and Parenting

Parents have the responsibility to teach their children Biblical wisdom, giving them the tools to live godly lives. Imparting God's truth provides a clear path for children to follow if they choose to do so.

## 10 Life Lessons to Teach Your Children from Proverbs:

1. To have a healthy fear of God (Proverbs 1:7; 9:10; 10:27; 14:26-27; 15:16; 16:6; 19:23)
2. To guard their minds (Proverbs 4:23; 23:7)
3. To obey you (Proverbs 1:8; 4:1-4; 6:20-23; 30:17)
4. To carefully select their companions (Proverbs 1:11-18; 2:10-15; 13:20)
5. To control sinful desires (Proverbs 2:16-19; 5:3-5; 6:23-33; 7:6-27)
6. To enjoy sexual fidelity (Proverbs 5:15-20)
7. To watch their words (Proverbs 4:24; 10:11, 19-21, 32; 12:18, 22; 15:1-2; 16:23; 20:15)
8. To pursue their work (Proverbs 6:6-11; 10:4-5; 22:29)
9. To manage their money (Proverbs 3:9-10; 11:24-26; 19:17; 22:9)
10. To love their neighbor (Proverbs 3:27-29; 25:21-22)

## ON THE LIGHT SIDE

# WHEN GOD INTERVENES

God is faithful. He kept His word when He told Abraham and Sarah that from their child all the nations of the earth would be blessed. However, God's timing is not always our timing. Abraham and Sarah are a case in point. God intervened in the patriarch's life when both he and Sarah were well past child bearing ages to prove that He is truly in control of every situation. Below are some humorous remarks from Christian author Fredrick Buechner concerning God's intervention in Abraham and Sarah's lives when He provided the promised son in their "old age."

*Take this child, born in the geriatric ward for which Medicare picked up the tab - this child named Isaac which means laughter. Abraham and Sarah laughed at first because they didn't believe. They laughed at the sheer possibility of it. Then they laughed because they were told they would have a son when they had reached an age when they didn't dare buy green bananas. And after the son was born, they laughed because they did believe. They laughed because when Sarah went to Wal-Mart, she was the only shopper to buy Pampers and Depends. And they laughed because both parents and baby had to eat the same strained vegetables because nobody in the family had a single tooth.*



***"For the Word of the Lord is right and true; He is faithful in all He does."*** Psalm 33:4

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6314 EAST 13TH STREET  
TULSA, OKLAHOMA 74112  
(918) 836-2424 • FAX (918) 836-2610  
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