



# Looking Up...

The **MISSION TO CHILDREN**

## Reaching Out

[www.MissionToChildren.org](http://www.MissionToChildren.org)

October 2008



**"The LORD your God is with you, He is mighty to save. He will take great delight in you, He will quiet you with His love, He will rejoice over you with singing." (Zephaniah 3:17)**

## The Gospel Beyond Our Borders

Imagine a dirty, unkempt child coming up to you and asking for a piece of bread or a cup of water. Would you refuse? Jesus said that if we give a cup of water to the "least of these" in His name He considers it as giving that cup of water to Him (Matthew 25:40).

Here in North America we have our share of undernourished, hungry children and that number is probably growing. But in many underprivileged countries hundreds of thousands of children go to bed hungry every night and no one notices or cares. In third world countries the need is so great that many hungry children have lost all hope of getting help.

Twice a year Mission To Children takes the challenge of feeding as many hungry children as possible worldwide—depending entirely on funds that are donated for our Global Christmas and Resurrection dinner outreaches. Some of our MTC family can contribute a lot and others can only give a "mite" because of their financial situation. However, all of us can pray that God's hand of blessing will be on these outreaches and that many will come to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. We count on your prayers!

Will you consider sharing a nutritious meal and a presentation of the Gospel by participating in the MTC Global Christmas Dinners? To allow our international partners time to adequately prepare, MTC must receive your gifts no later than November 15. We invite your heartfelt prayers and gifts so that these outreaches will bring joyous praise to God.



*Giving a cup of water ...and more*

## Timothy and the Ripple Effect

Dr. John Garmo – President

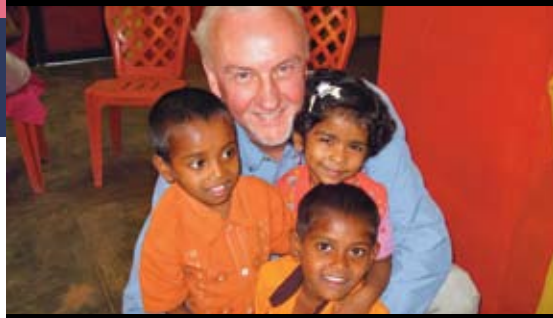
This is the model for MTC's three-year "More Than a Million" ministry endeavor in India. In September we trained approximately 1,250 Indian leaders, most of them pastors, to teach our Character Solutions International methods and materials. That was an early ripple effect. These "master trainers" will train an average of 20 more trainers apiece to use CSI methods and materials, for a total of 20,000 faithful men and women who will be able to teach others also. The ripple effect will continue as this group of about 21,250 trainers teaches an estimated average of 45-50 youth and adults apiece, for a total of *more than a million* who are added to "India's Timothys."

But can these ripples of more than a million people make a difference in a country with more than a billion people? I cannot predict exactly how these Timothys—and the children they influence—will make a difference, but this I know well: *Christlikeness always makes a difference. And to this we are called.* We expect that these Timothys will intervene in the lives of hundreds of thousands of children—perhaps another million.

Can you imagine the joy we will have when we all get to heaven and finally have the time and opportunity to meet some of these children whose lives were transformed by your and my heart-filled support and prayers during this three-year journey? The joy of that worship will make our journey worth it.



The Ripple Effect



One of the slides we use in our international PowerPoint training for church leaders, teachers, and parents is entitled "The Ripple Effect." It features the photograph you see on this page: A pool of quiet blue water has just been transformed into a series of dynamic and growing concentric circles that move outward from the entry point of a solid object dropped into the pool.

Our purpose in this slide is to show adults who care for children that they have a significant influence on those kids. Whether positive or negative, that impact is a natural result of their frequent contact with children who constantly watch and often imitate their attitudes and behaviors. The ripples continue outward as influential adults affect children, children affect families, and families affect neighborhoods.

## Christlikeness always makes a difference. And to this we are called.

Jesus Christ intervened in human life to profoundly transform our present and future. In His honor, our ultimate objective is to train and encourage influential adults to be men and women of Christlike character who intervene in the lives of needy children. Their position gives them the privilege—and responsibility—of creating a long-term and transforming ripple effect of Christlikeness: Children who as adults will walk in a manner worthy of their calling (Ephesians 4:1-3). Our prayers and intervention endeavors focus on stimulating those dynamic and growing ripples of Christlikeness.

The Apostle Paul saw his protégé Timothy as a man of Christlike character who could continue the ripple effect Paul began in Ephesus. He dropped Timothy into that pool of Ephesian life and commissioned him to make more ripples: *"...Be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also"* (2 Timothy 2:1-2).

## Center for At-Risk Children

Every day over 100 children learn about God's love while their parents work in the rice fields near Rajahmundry, India. These little ones are taught their school lessons by loving Christian teachers. They spend time singing, playing, and eating. MTC supports this worthwhile ministry for at-risk children monthly. Many of the children who attend are from non-Christian homes and this is a wonderful opportunity for them to hear firsthand about Jesus. If you choose to participate in the lives of these precious little ones please mark the line that says "Center for At-Risk Children" on the enclosure.



*India: Reaching the next generation for Christ*

## USA: Combined Federal Campaign #11922

The Combined Federal Campaign invites U. S. Federal civilian, postal, and military workers to give to Mission To Children from September 1 - December 15, 2008. Please use Mission To Children's code #11922 when selecting a charity. MTC can be found in the Alpha Index or under Christian Service Charities. It takes months for us to receive the names of donors, so please be patient while waiting for our response. Read last year's results at <http://www.missiontochildren.org/htmlCFC/ThankYouCFC.htm>.



*Hungry street children await a nutritious MTC meal*

## Continued Prayer for China

During the August Olympics the eyes of the world were on China. We saw the beautiful faces of an industrious culture. Our prayer prior to and during the Olympics was that athletes and visitors to Beijing would provide a witness for the Chinese people. We can pray now for the seeds planted.

China still holds prisoners who are followers of Jesus. Let's pray for these men and women of faith that they will stand firm for Christ, that they will have wisdom to answer questions from their interrogators with love and forgiveness, and that someone will provide for and protect their families.

"Remember those in prison as if you were their fellow prisoners, and those who are mistreated as if you yourselves were suffering" (Hebrews 13:3)

## Gifts for Sponsored Children

We thank those of you who sponsor MTC children through either individual sponsorship or group support of a children's home. With your prayers, gifts, and words you can bless children of the world with salvation, hope, and physical assistance. Children love receiving personal notes or postcards from you up to three times a year.

However, sending a gift is strictly optional. If you choose to send a gift it must be limited in size and dollar amount. We will only forward small, flat items that fit into a 5" x 7" envelope. A monetary gift should be no larger than \$25 USD. Any amount over \$25 will be used as a group gift for the home since many in children's homes do not receive any gifts. Bulky, heavy, or expensive gifts will not be forwarded due to the possibility of duty being charged to the recipient. Instead, they will be donated to a local charity.

## Have You Tried Knocking?

By Janice Garmo

“Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened” (Matthew 7:7).

My mother suffered from a heart condition. Many nights she woke up with her heart pounding, fearing she might not see the light of day. God’s Word ministered to her during one of those episodes and we discovered the following journal notes after her home going.

Matthew 7:7 came to my mind, “Ask, and it shall be given to you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.” I had always wondered why knocking was necessary, as asking should be enough. But there I was having fears in the middle of the night because of the strong poundings of my heart, feeling as a little child again, standing at the great gates of heaven—knocking, hoping I could be able to present my requests to God. I could have been dreaming, but it seemed so real that I think the Holy Spirit was just teaching me a truth.

I was overwhelmed with the thought of Christ, God’s Son, my Savior, Advocate, Mediator opening that massive door and leading me to the Father’s throne. And the Father saying to me, “My child, I’ve told you to come boldly to my throne—you have the same access my Son has when you come in His name.”

Whatever your request may be . . . have you tried knocking?

***“For we do not have a High Priest Who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need” (Hebrews 4:15-16).***

## MTC Changes Lives In:

- Bolivia • China • Colombia • Costa Rica
- Cuba • El Salvador
- Haiti • India • Iraq • Israel • Jordan
- Kenya • Liberia
- Lithuania • Malawi • Philippines
- Romania • South Africa
- Sri Lanka • Uganda • United States
- Zimbabwe



“I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers [sisters] of mine, you did for me” (Matthew 25:40).

Canada  
The Mission To Children  
PO Box 51143  
RPO Beddington  
Calgary AB T3K 3V9

USA  
Mission To Children  
PO Box 2217  
Escondido, CA  
92033-2217

Toll-free: (877) 766-2400

[www.MissionToChildren.org](http://www.MissionToChildren.org)



Membership in ECFA means:

- A clear and strong commitment to evangelical Christianity
- Belief in full disclosure
- The highest standards of financial integrity
- Adherence to strict standards