



# Looking Up...

The *MISSION TO CHILDREN*

*Reaching Out*

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

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“Yes, LORD walking in the way of Your laws, we wait for You; Your name and renown are the desire of our hearts.” (Isaiah 26:8)

## Christmas in October

When Christmas arrives in North America each year most of us honor the tradition of gift giving. But who among us really *needs* a gift? Not many! And yet, we make a list of all the items we *want*. This year you can not only honor a loved one, but also honor someone with a special need who may not receive anything at Christmas except your gift as an MTC donor.

If we asked children in third world countries (who probably could not *write* lists) what they wanted for Christmas they might say, “Water that doesn’t make us sick, bowls of rice, or safe places to spend the night.”

Would you like to give a Christmas gift this year to someone who truly has material needs? With this method you can designate your gift to any of the six areas we have listed on pages 3 and 4 in the newsletter, and you can also honor a special loved one through your donation.

Last year one of our supporters shared this method of gift giving with her family. Instead of spending money for “Uncle Joe’s gift” they designated the money to MTC “*in the name of Uncle Joe.*” If you so desire we will send you a card for your loved one telling them what you designated in their honor.

“But whoever is kind to the needy honors God.” (Proverbs 14:31)



## From My Heart

### Teamwork

Dr. John Garmo – President

One of my boyhood joys was playing team sports. I spent many South American afternoons on the softball field or the soccer field with friends. For the past 40 years I have enjoyed playing basketball, a very pleasant way to manage stress and nurture health. I come home from those games a tired but happy man.

Team sports are bites of real life. We need to understand our strengths and weaknesses as well as those of each teammate. We have to recognize our

**Without such a team,  
this ministry would  
only be a dream.**

options in as many game situations as possible. We have to know where our teammates are so that we can coordinate our offense or defense. We must constantly trust each other, and we must each prove ourselves to be consistently trustworthy. We respect and enjoy each other. We achieve the best results when we give ourselves wholeheartedly but focus on the team goals instead of on our individual prominence.

Undergirding these requirements for achievement is a foundation of interwoven character qualities such as integrity, humility, diligence, self-discipline, and conviction. Isn't this a lot like what we need with our colleagues at work and our families at home?

As interest continues to grow in MTC's international Character Solutions resources and training, I thank God for the team He brought together and to which He continues adding. What a group! In addition to our North American staff and board members are others who help "make it happen." Within each country we serve there are men and women who put their reputation behind our program to recommend it. They

use their expertise and contacts to make it a valuable experience for those who attend our seminars. Others volunteer to travel and join me as co-presenters of these timeless truths in diverse settings on various continents. Without such a team, this ministry would only be a dream.

The photograph shows some members of this team who came together recently for meetings. Two are from Bolivia, two are from South Africa, one leads an East Coast ministry, one leads a West Coast ministry, and one hails from the United Kingdom. All play significant roles within Character Solutions and most are Character Solutions seminar presenters. They represent decades of responsible and influential leadership in church ministry, parachurch ministry, politics, and law enforcement—one held a commanding post at Scotland Yard in London. While I admire the variety and depth represented in this motley crew, I cherish their unity. These guys genuinely respect and enjoy each other. I feel privileged to be among them.



*Character Solutions' team at Hume Lake*

Other men and women from India, Romania, Liberia, Lithuania, and the Middle East could not attend those meetings. But they are just as important to the outreach and effectiveness of this ministry.

I invite you to pray for this CSI leadership team. How? God provides specific prayer guidance in Ephesians 4: Conviction about the importance of living a life worthy of our calling, self-discipline and diligence in what we do, respectful humility in our relationships with each other and with those we serve, loving kindness as seen in our mutual patience and gentleness, and commitment to our continuing unity. Sounds like the makings of a good ball team!

# Christmas Gift List

## 1. Character Solutions India

A year ago we trained 1,250 pastors and ministry leaders in six major cities in India. Currently, CSI trains church and community leaders, educators, and parents to cultivate Biblical character qualities in those they influence. These ten qualities are essential to personal responsibility and interpersonal respect. Now over 14,155 trained pastors and leaders have pledged to cultivate Christlike character within their families, churches, and communities. Through CSI India, over 100,700 children have accepted Christ as their Lord and Savior!

CSI provides tools for evangelism, promotes discipleship training, and strengthens the witness of believers in a country that is less than 2% evangelical Christian.

Who are the beneficiaries of this training? Children of all ages, the master trainers who teach the material, entire leper communities, Barefoot Pastors and thousands of church attendees, hospital staff, students at Christian and non-Christian schools, firemen, prostitutes rescued from the streets, and many others—only eternity will tell.

## 2. Where Most Needed

If you are ever wondering about where to designate your gift to MTC—don't. In other words, you don't need to designate. When you give an *undesignated gift* or donate to *Where Most Needed* we can allocate that to the area of greatest need worldwide.

In the past these funds provided for a variety of vital needs including: Children's Bibles in China and Iran, Christmas and Easter dinners, a day-care center in southern India that reaches out to non-Christian families, water tanks and repairs for Children's Homes in India and Romania, emergency funds to Kenyan crippled children, CSI training, etc.



MTC donations to *Where Most Needed* (or *undesignated*) provide clean water for thirsty children

## 3. Global Christmas Dinner Outreach

Food for the body and food for the soul are what our Christmas dinner outreaches accomplish. They satisfy short-term hunger and deep spiritual need but also infuse lasting hope into disheartened children. At-risk youth need our Lord, and as we satisfy their physical hunger and thirst we also extend the invitation to hear about the God Who loves them. Each Christmas literally thousands of children respond to the Gospel through MTC outreaches.



Your gift, coupled with prayer, will point recipients to the greatest gift ever given—Jesus

## 4. Ministry to Leper Communities

Will you be one of the MTC families who reaches out with God's love to Indian leper victims? Your gift to them may not result in the healing of their limbs. But your demonstration of God's love may bring healing to their souls as they hear about the Great Physician who died to give them spiritual life now and perfect bodies in heaven someday.

Through your generous donations during the past year MTC provided 480 Bundles of Love to Indian leprosy victims, and funds to build about 10 houses in the leper community.

If you care enough to share God's resources your gift will go toward items from this list where the need is greatest: Bundles of Love (c. \$30) such as a Bible portion, a blanket, medical supplies, clothing, and food or meals; special footwear (c. \$15). Your gift may also go toward building a small house (c. \$3,500).

(Continued on page 4)

## Christmas Gift List

(Continued from page 3)

### 5. Children's Bibles for China

Although the underground church movement in China continues to spread, it still faces various levels of persecution. During the past year your gifts have supported the evangelistic efforts and discipleship of Chinese brothers and sisters in Christ by providing over 1,400 Children's Bibles for families throughout China. A Children's Bible not only reaches China's youth with the Gospel of Jesus Christ, but is also typically read by the entire family. For an estimated \$5 per Bible, a Chinese family can know the Light of the World through the light of His Word.

### 6. Food for Haitian Children

With 80% of its population living below the poverty line, Haiti is the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere. Although primary education is free, less than 65% of school-aged children are actually enrolled because so many households suffer from chronic food shortage. Even if children are able to attend, their performance often suffers due to hunger fatigue.

MTC supports a local Feeding Program in Haiti which allows children to receive a nourishing lunch at school consisting of rice, beans, and sauce. For some kids, it is the only meal they will receive that day. Extra donations of food, such as soup mix, are given to the children to take home to their families. Would you consider donating to a Haitian school child this Christmas? Meals at these Christian schools will improve their spiritual, physical and educational well-being.



*Your gift may improve her spiritual, physical and educational well-being*

### Excitement from India

- One of the largest seminaries in South Asia now uses CSI training as part of their curriculum. After graduation students will impart CSI training all over India and in other countries.
- Many nursing colleges in India are conducting CSI training.
- Both Christian and non-Christian schools are using CSI curriculum to teach values.
- CSI curriculum is now printed and distributed in 12 Indian languages.

### Prayer Alert for Malawian Camp

Through your generous financial gifts, God has provided the funds to send 1,000 children for the two-day Malawian Children's Camp this month! Please continue to pray for the protection and salvation of all who attend the camp.

### USA: Combined Federal Campaign #11922

Tell your friends who are U. S. Federal civilian, postal, and military employees they can give to Mission to Children this fall through the CFC. Please use MTC's code #11922 when selecting a charity. MTC can be found in the Alpha Index or under Christian Service Charities. Thank you for your support.

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