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# Lifelines Outreach

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Mail Donations to 3225 Knobdale Road, Nashville TN 37214

Lifelines Outreach shares the Good News of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and by making disciples in the greater Nashville area. Mar. 2018

If the Great Commission is the first pillar of making a disciple, then 2 Timothy 2:2 is likely the second pillar.

*The things which you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, entrust these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also. 2 Tim. 2:2*

The making of a disciple or the personal attention from one maturing Christian to a younger believer in the faith is about spiritual parenting. The disciple maker intentionally and relationally investing in oneself and others. You train disciple to make disciples.

I mentioned Arthur in my last newsletter. I have continued to meet with him over the last month. He is making real progress. Arthur attended church for years, yet he knows so very little about Biblical doctrine. I find this out from many people who call themselves Christians that we encounter in our ministry. I also mentioned that he might begin to make a disciple of Mike. Mike has not followed through with what he said he would do. Jesus said, "Let your statement be, 'Yes, is yes' or 'No, be no.'" We must count the cost before we speak. Making disciples is sometimes like taking two steps forward and one step back. However, I am convinced that it is a mandate of the Gospel. It is such a joy to see people who really get it and are teaching other people what they have learned about following Jesus and fishing for men.

This past Friday, we had two people receive Jesus into their lives at our prayer stand ministry in Madison. One of the gentlemen was receptive to an in-home visit to his apartment. I hope to meet with him this week to teach him the assurance of salvation lesson. If you get a chance, pray for Leon that he follow up with his commitment to Christ. We give out a book by Nav Press called "*Lessons on Assurance. Five life-changing Bible studies and memory verses for new Christians.*" It is a great book because it is so simple. It is just scripture with just a few questions to answer about each verse.

A second prayer stand has been purchased, and it will begin being used this week. I hope to increase the number of stands as God gives the resources and people who are committed to using the stands each week in evangelism and discipleship. Over the weekend someone gave me half of the amount that I need for a new prayer stand. May God increase this ministry. I call it "Jug fishing evangelism." Google Jug fishing if you are in the dark!

I pray that God is using me in some small way to bring people to Christ and to make disciples that can make disciples. I made the commitment over 40 years ago to be and to do what God wanted from me. I do not consider that I have been perfect, but I know my heart has been right and I continue to follow that still small voice. I have not failed to be faithful. Fellowship with God through His Word is the best part of my day. It is the thing that really gives direction to my life. Our discipleship groups continue to thrive. I could not be any more pleased. It is a joy serving God each day and being His hands and feet. I know His Holy Spirit is directing my life. Can't wait for spring. It really helps in what I do. Thank you for praying and for financially supporting this ministry! Remember to pray and to read your Bible! -Richard Gay

## **A Word From David Platt On This Week's Headlines (President of the International Mission Board.)**

As I write these words, I'm sitting on a plane next to a self-proclaimed Unitarian Universalist Buddhist. Needless to say, it's been quite an interesting and ultimately heartbreaking conversation about the gospel. I've been reminded of an adversary who blinds minds in all kinds of ways, and I'm praying right now for people across our IMB family who are having similar conversations with people today all across the world. And that leads me to the words I want to share below. I am traveling back from spending time with state convention executives and state paper editors in the SBC, where we discussed all that has happened this last week in the IMB. I know that our IMB missionaries are communicating with churches, I know that pastors are communicating with their congregations, and I know that Southern Baptists everywhere are asking questions. So, I'd like to let you all know what I shared with these convention leaders. Here's the first part of my opening remarks.

### **The Headlines**

*Well, I don't know if you've heard, but these last couple of days have been pretty full at the IMB. Here are the high-level details I most want you to hear from these past couple of days. And I would ask you to please write them down to get them clear.*

*We held training for pastors of six new churches in an extremely remote, spiritually dark part of South Asia.*

*We gathered late at night to encourage eighty-five new believers in a part of the world where evangelism and baptism are illegal.*

*The story of the gospel spread through media in unprecedented ways, never before seen in the Middle East.*

*Six people came to Christ among an unreached people in Eastern Europe.*

*Personnel were working with a severely displaced group of Muslim refugees from Southeast Asia who are now hearing about real hope for the first time.*

*Pastors were trained to combat the prosperity gospel in a seminary in Sub-Saharan Africa.*

*Amid all the news that people want to talk about at the IMB right now, we are in danger of missing the most important headline: Disciples are being made, churches are multiplying, and pastors and missionaries are being trained all over the world in places and among people where the name of Christ has not been known. That's the big news in the IMB this week. And every week. And my prayer for the SBC and the IMB, now and in the days ahead, is that this is where we would keep our focus.*

*Yes, David Platt made an announcement this week about his role in the IMB, but the IMB is not David Platt. The IMB is a coalition of over forty-seven thousand churches working together to support thousands of anonymous missionaries whose names and the places where they work can't even be mentioned in public because many of them are spreading the gospel at great risk to their lives and their families.*

*They are the IMB, and they were working hard yesterday, they're working hard today, and they will be working hard tomorrow. People ask, "So how is this affecting the IMB?". And the answer is, "We're still doing what we've been doing for 173 years: evangelizing, discipling, planting and multiplying churches, and training leaders among unreached peoples and places for the glory of God."*

### **Family Working Together**

I thank God for each of you in this SBC family. Pastors who lead churches to join in God's mission. Individuals and families who give financially to support the work of missions. Churches and individuals who join in the work of the IMB through short-term trips to support the missionary task among the unreached. And all of the missionaries who have followed the call of Christ to move into new cultures around the globe—among those who need to hear the glorious news of Christ and his gospel.

I am praying right now for all of us and for the work you are doing today to make this mission around the world possible. This is what the SBC and the IMB are all about, and it will continue to be so. So please join me in prayer for those among us who are proclaiming the gospel to unreached people. And please be in continual prayer regarding your own role in getting the gospel to every nation for the glory of God. Let's make this the headline every week in the SBC.

For more information about these ministry opportunities please contact Richard Gay at 838-0367 or at [lifelinesoutreach@gmail.com](mailto:lifelinesoutreach@gmail.com) by email at [lifelinesoutreach@gmail.com](mailto:lifelinesoutreach@gmail.com)