

1st Corinthians 12:26

If one part suffers we all suffer, if one part is honored we are all glad.

OPERATION ORANGE RIBBON



June 2021

NEWSLETTER

MAJOR ANNOUNCEMENT

We are exceedingly excited about this program. It is by far the largest program we have attempted, with the greatest potential.

We are starting a Christian youth program for ages 10 and up for primarily Muslim and indigenous religious backgrounds. We are planning for a minimum of 50 teenagers.

We have agreed to not disclose the location on social media but will share in person.

This project was proposed and planned by one of the missionaries we have been working with that has a lot of experience in this area. If we are successful, this program could be a model for other missionaries in Africa. The details of the program are listed below.

Financial responsibility: Operation Orange Ribbon

Organizational planning and facilities responsibility: Resident missionary (name withheld for security purposes)

Meet every Sunday (Sunday was chosen because it is a normal business day for Muslims)

Every first Sunday children and parents will come together for a family talk.

Parents will be involved once a month.

Children will be in groups approximately of 10 according to age and class with one missionary.

Hour 1. Dedicated to studying scripture using Wisdom Discover Studies.

Hour 2. School assignments and homework will be given at least an hour.

Hour 3 & 4 Development of talent. (Music, arts and crafts. drama, poem, public speaking, writing. Children will be grouped according to their interest and talent.

Hour 5. Review and recap.

There will be lots of one-on-one mentoring.

Every first Sunday, with parents involved, a full day talking of family issues and the Bible. This will be the foundation of the gathering. Also, the children can demonstrate what they have been practicing for three weeks.

A smaller pilot program has already been tested and has been exceedingly successful. With the assistance of OOR they will be able to enlarge the program.

We hope you are as excited as we are. I can only imagine the impact on these children, their families, and community. What a chance to spread the word to non-believers. So far, the Lord has blessed OOR's activities, and we pray that He will bless this project mightily. Please pray HARD for this project. It could have a tremendous impact.



**first meeting with
students and
facilitators**



talent





We need your help for this program. Please pray the success of this project. It has the potential to reach many teens, families and even communities. If you are led to help financially press the button below. It will take you to our web site and at the bottom of the page is a donate button. If you prefer mail Operation Orange Ribbon

16 Middlewick Ct.

Simpsonville, SC 29681

[Operation Orange Ribbon Web Site](#)

REFLECTIONS BY CATHRYN GRACE

Chathryn Grace is a long time supporter and partner of OOR as well as being an exceptional author.. From time to time she has put her thoughts on paper and shared them with us. Below is her latest contribution.

"Let the children come unto Me; and do not hinder them," Jesus said to his disciples. Mark 10:14

A couple of years ago I heard our founder, Jesse French, talked about a vision he had for helping persecuted children in Africa. He shared how children could be sponsored in Christian learning environments to make a difference – a lasting difference in their lives – by introducing them to Jesus as their Savior. This could be the influence their families need to turn from hopelessness to lives lived for God. My heart quickly embraced his vision.

Fast forward to 2021... Jesse shared a video he recently received from our missionary liaison from one of the girls, who has benefitted from this schooling in a Christian environment. She is a beautiful young girl with a lovely smile and speaks about her 'nuclear family of eight'. She has four brothers and one sister. She says 'thank you for supporting me'. She hopes that we will support others like her who need schooling.

Similarly, several young teens under the care of one of our missionary partners, are all willing to be mentored and coached'. They want people to walk life with them and not the program, writes our missionary contact..

In their words, "for all these years I have been made to believe that Islam is the only true religion. But for this week, I am convinced that Christians know whom they believe and they are very confident. I am confused". Another says "I am a new person. I left my place after fighting some boys in the community. I am going back to reconcile with them. I am changed". And still another, "I didn't know that the sin of Adam affected the whole humanity. I now understand that solution to fallen nature is Jesus".

As I pause and reflect upon the comments of these young teens, I continue to be grateful for the simplicity of the gospel message that so clearly communicates the love God has for each of us and how it can touch the hearts of young people who have the opportunity to hear the Word.

According to Jesse, there are opportunities to reach many more young people like the young lady mentioned above, through the new youth program. I am excited to hear more information as it becomes available.

In my opinion, it looks like our support and prayers make a difference. We most likely will not meet these young people here on earth but we will meet one day in the Master's Home prepared for all those who embrace Christ. Thanks, Jesse, for your encouragement to keep us praying and giving.

Cathryn Grace

The picture below is the young girl mentioned above by Cathryn Grace. The video is 2 minutes long. I wish I could post it but I can't for security reason. I could show it to you personally if you would like but we must control what goes on the internet. She is thanking OOR for helping her and praying that we could help other like her. If you saw the video you would want to give her a big huge.



BAPTIST DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE PERSECUTED CHURCH

June 6th designated "Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church" by South Carolina Baptist Convention.

We were honored be able to have a table display at all three services of Simpsonville First Baptist Church. Exc. Pastor Brian Owens announced our presence and the purpose, from the pulpit at each service. Thanks Brian!

In May we sent emails to 195 Baptist Churches asking them to pray for the persecuted church on the designated Sunday.



We will be highlighting one country each issue from the list of 50 worst countries for Christians of designated by OpenDoorsUSA. This month we have chosen Mexico. Written and research by Gerry Barlik VP Admin

Shocking Facts: Before January 2021 the country of Mexico was not ranked in the top 50 countries of high persecutions of Christians. Today they rank as #37!!

Currently in Mexico thirteen Christians are killed every day because they have chosen to follow Jesus as their Savior. That's 400 Christians per month!

We tend to think that the persecution of Christians or the Christian church only takes place in far away lands like the Middle East or Africa. In reality, it's next door to us in Mexico. The population of Mexico is around 133,870,000 of which it is estimated that 128,000,000 are of Christian beliefs.

In Mexico, the rise of criminal activity is spurred on by cartels in the use and sale of drugs. Christians are targeted because their beliefs are against corruption and the use of any drugs. Criminal gangs often attack Christian leaders for opposing their lifestyle of crime. These gangs will often go into villages and destroy them if the people don't co-operate. They kidnap young girls and sell them into prostitution to those willing to pay the price.

Please pray for those brothers and sisters across our border who are suffering for their belief in Christ. It's chilling to think that this same type of persecution could soon be on our doorstep here in America.

Facts referenced: internet site Open Door USA

SUMMER CAMP



Thanks to your support we were able to sponsor 10 children to the 5-day camp in Mombasa, Kenya as well as partially finance cost of operations. Three were teens we sponsor in school.

Some donations came in too late to apply to the camp, so we designated those funds to the youth program we just announced.

The camp was for 50 teens, supported by 20 facilitators, mostly missionaries and 5 support staff.

The background of the teens was, Christians, Muslim, and Rastafarians. The Focus was on loving God, loving themselves and loving others. The camp had a vision that was; **Catch the vision of loving God, maintaining it and pass it on to others.**

Even the hardest core Muslims testified about how the camp change their thoughts about Jesus. (See the article by Cathryn Grace for the actual quotes)

The camp was a great success. Thank you for being a partner.

As I was writing an article about one of the young women we have been helping over the past ten months I was going to tell you about her progress and how much it has meant to help someone begin a journey into a new life to help the people in her village and hopefully one day to embrace her Savior.

Instead, I am very saddened to tell all of you as our valued supporters, that unfortunately we received word that she is no longer interested in what our missionaries had to offer. She prefers to return to her former lifestyle.

Needless to say, it is difficult to write this but in the interest of complete transparency, I feel it is only right to tell you. We are not naive enough to not know we will sometimes fail. This young lady passed on the opportunity to be lifted out of poverty and to have a lasting relationship with our Savior.

Missionaries frequently meet people who, despite all the good things that are offered to them, decide to turn away.

People turned away from Jesus, the Apostle Paul and others who tried to offer a better way of life....