



# Liberty World Missions Newsletter

(Incorporating Africa Business Community)



## UPDATE—REPORT

### Children's Feeding Program

Soon after arriving in Cebu we attended the *Children's Feeding Program* that is run by Rolly and Nimfa Vasey and their church. Each week over 200 children from this shanty town in Lapu-Lapu come along to participate in a children's program and to receive a healthy meal. There is no doubt that the whole community is being impacted by the work of "Reaching People Christian Community Church". This is the only church in the area and it is doing so much to help these extremely needy people.



Each week kids from the community join in songs, listen to stories, have fun and receive lunch.

We are so happy that *Liberty World Missions* is able support this ministry that is helping to demonstrate God's love to the community in so many ways. This includes the provision of a bore and water pump that provides fresh water for everyone; the construction of weather-proof roads; healing for the sick and pastoral care to all the families who desire it.

### Cebu Counselling Skills Seminar

We are so happy that we travelled to the Philippines once again to hold seminars in Cebu. We could not have imagined that the "Counselling Skills and Ministry Seminar" would be so well received by the delegates who attended.



Delegates at our three-day seminar

### ACMI Leaders' Seminar

After the Counselling and Ministry Seminar we held a seminar for pastors and Christian leaders that drew delegates from a broad range of denominations and churches.

During these times we like to share some wisdom from our experience of 35 years as pastors and leaders. Dianne shared about depression in ministers and how to avoid this significant challenge to all those who have responsibility for helping other people. I shared about the importance of fathers in both the family and the church.

**WEBSTE LINK:** [www.libertyworldmissions.org.au](http://www.libertyworldmissions.org.au)

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## Giving that Makes a Lasting Difference

By Dianne Kerridge

**No Excuses** — There is a story in the Bible about the almost unbearable suffering of the people of Samaria. There was famine; food prices soared astronomically and even cannibalism took place (2 Kings 6:24–31). A woman called out to the king of Israel to help her. Listen to his pathetic excuse, *'If the Lord does not help you, where can I get help for you?'* (v.27). We can all be guilty of having this reaction to the plight of the desperate and dying of our world. But the fact that those needs are overwhelming and seemingly impossible to meet should never be an excuse for human inaction.

### Good News

God works through all types of people.

When we see needs, we have an opportunity to be God's hands responding to those needs. This is what Elisha did when He prophesied, 'Listen to God's word! The famine's over. This time tomorrow food will be plentiful' (2 Kings 7:1, MSG). God then used four men with leprosy, who had previously been ostracised from their community, to discover where this plentiful supply of food was. But as they ate and drank they said to each other, 'We're not doing right. This is a day of good news and *we are keeping it to ourselves*' (v.9). They hurried to share that good news and as a result food prices dropped overnight, just as Elijah had prophesied.



**Richard Dube showing ABC Director, Mike Hosking, the vegetables growing at the Insiza Orphan's Farm. The crops and animal produce from this farm provides for many poor people as well as the orphans.**

**The world produces enough food for everyone**, yet one in eight people on this planet are living with the pain of hunger. If we simply feed ourselves *'we are not doing right'* (v.9). We might not be able to bring an end to extreme poverty in our world, but **all of us can do something** that will make an enormous difference to the lives of individual families living in extreme poverty and who experience the sickness, disease, death, crime and hopelessness that accompanies it.

The saying, *'Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day, teach a man to fish and you feed him for a lifetime'*, is indeed true. I heard someone say that Africa used to be known as the dark continent, but in recent times it has become more like the *black hole*. The giving of *money alone* has always seemed to be like giving into a black hole. As soon as it was given, more and more was needed but nothing ever seemed to change. **Micro-enterprise is changing all that.** For the first time there is **hope that we really can make a lasting difference with our giving** - a change that can effectively make a family self-sufficient, providing food on the table every day, and enabling the children to have an education.

In Australia, most families don't have a lot left over after they've paid the mortgage, paid the bills, and covered the children's education, but even then we are all still considered to be in the top 5% of the wealthiest people in the world. Just \$500, or \$10 a week for a year, enables a family in Africa to start a small business. Nearly every Australian family can afford that. **Relatively speaking we live in a land of plenty.** We are blessed. Imagine being able to say to a family that is struggling to survive, *'Listen, this time next year food will be plentiful'*. Now that would be genuine good news because it would effectively change their entire world.

We invite you to be involved in bringing good news to those who need it most.



Photos

*Thank you!*

We want to thank those of you who have supported *Liberty World Missions* and *ABC*. As a result of your support we are able to continue to give and go to those who are in need and to continue with the projects we have in Africa and Asia.

Our next trip will be to Myanmar in April 2016. This should be especially interesting seeing that Aung San Suu Kyi has won the recent election. The church has been under quite a lot of persecution up until now. Hopefully this change of leadership will have a positive impact and allow for a greater freedom for the Christian church. In the past our visits have been to help and to encourage the leaders of the churches, who often are tired and discouraged.



God bless you,

***Richard and Dianne***



Discussion groups and workshops are an important part of our approach to teaching.



Di and Richard with Seminar Coordinators Rolly and Nimfa Vasey

**SUPPORT for MINISTRY**

Support for the ministry will help us to give and to go where the needs are the greatest.

No funds are used for LWM salaries and every effort is made to keep administrative costs to a minimum.

We realize that people's circumstances change, as do their priorities. Please never feel obligated to give to *Liberty World Missions*.

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