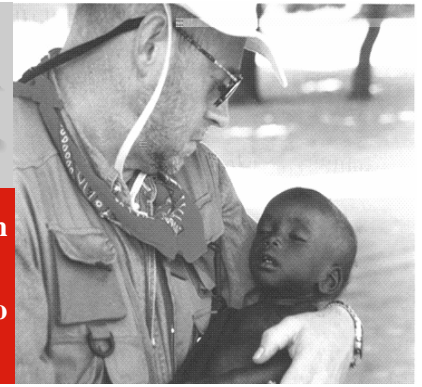


A Message from our Director



Our Vision: To see people become fully devoted followers of Christ through “Compassion Ministry”.

Our Mission: To help mobilize and assist the church in responding to the needs of victims of disasters and poverty.



God has clearly laid on my heart the mission of communicating His heart for the poor. I confess that judging the reasons people are poor has been a struggle for me in the past. It is tempting to accuse them of being poor because they are lazy, irresponsible, dishonest, and a host of other reasons. In

some cases, it is true. But none of these reasons are sufficient for failing to help them. The reason is because God is in them begging us to come to him. In this photo we see children who are hungry. It is easy to feed them without judgment. It is easy to see God in their faces. Francis of Assisi, a 10th century saint called the poor “**sacramental**”. What he meant by that is that the eternal Christ somehow infuses the poor so that as when we meet them face to face, we are meeting not only the poor but encountering something of the presence of Christ. The poor remain what they are but Christ flows through them to those who have eyes to see and ears to hear. Mother Teresa said every time she looked into the eyes of a poor man dying of AIDS, she had the eerie awareness that Jesus was staring back at her. Instead of pity we can have a reverence with the poor. We can even ask if we are worthy of the privilege of helping a sacred people. Matt: 25:40 has new meaning for me. Mark 14:7 makes sense now. **They are for us.**



A note from Ben

“Road of Endurance”

After two months in Sydney, Australia, I experienced a life-change when God sewed in my heart the willingness to go anywhere in the world to help those that are in need. I didn’t know exactly what that meant at the time, but now the picture is a bit clearer. In October of last year, a door opened for me to work as Project Coordinator for World Compassion Network. Since that time, I have been truly blessed serving the Lord in this organization. Sharing the same heart for the poor, Joe and Lynn Wilkey have taught me a lot about compassion ministry, sharing many of their experiences.

During our Family 2 Family assessment in January, I rode in the back seat of a small extended-cab pickup truck with my knees pressed against my chest. Traveling that way for miles on an inclined, bumpy and muddy road, I thought to myself “when is this going to be over?” When we finally approached our destination, my attitude changed completely. Seeing the children and adults in the village filled my heart with love and mercy. I realized what it was all about. For me it was a lesson of having an **enduring spirit**. Jesus went on a long and often painful journey to redeem me and the rest of the world for a prize greater than anything ever imaginable.....eternal love. Hebrews 12:2