



LEGACY INSTITUTE

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Written from Singapore

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Dear Friends and Fellow-workers,

What a whirlwind trip! Gloria and I were in southern India; then Sri Lanka; then back to India and now we are in Singapore. We just arrived early this morning after flying on the “red-eye” flight from Madras. Tomorrow we will be meeting on the Sabbath with the church members here. Jeff Caudle, an elder in UCG serving in New Zealand, his wife Lisa and 2 daughters are also in town. It will be good to get together with Jeff and Lisa and talk about the Work in Asia. Both Jeff and Lisa are “old Asia hands” with years of experience serving in Asia. Jeff Caudle served on Ambassador Foundation projects in Thailand for over 7 years; first teaching English to refugees from Laos, and then later working in the palace as part of Queen Sirikit’s personal staff. Jeff’s wife Lisa was one of the pioneer Ambassador College student teachers at Waterfield Institute in Sri Lanka, another Ambassador Foundation project. After graduation, she married Jeff and continued to serve God’s Work in Thailand. Jeff Caudle speaks fluent Thai and has a very good understanding of how things work in the Asian context. When it comes to Asia, we both “*speak the same language,*” one might say. I am excited to discuss with him recent progress with Legacy Institute projects in South and Southeast Asia.

Sri Lanka

Gloria and I visited Sri Lanka March 29-31. Things have changed quite a bit with the recent shift in government. The new Prime Minister, with the help of Norway, has signed a cease-fire with the LTTE (Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam), a revolutionary terrorist group seeking to establish a separate nation in northern Sri Lanka. Until this recent cease-fire, Sri Lanka was, for many years, caught up in a terribly destructive internal conflict with terrorist suicide bombers blowing up Sri Lankan civilians and politicians and atrocities carried out by both sides. Now, many are hopeful this ceasefire will provide a way for peace to finally come to their country.

This was an important fact-finding trip. A year ago I visited Sri Lanka for the first time in many years. At that time there were a number of COG families not attending weekly Sabbath or going to the Feasts. So we considered holding a Legacy Institute sponsored Feast of Tabernacles site this year for these scattered brothers and sisters in Sri Lanka. But after visiting and discussing this with several families, it is clear that this is not the best way that we can help the people there. Almost all the scattered families holding onto observance of the Sabbath and Holy Days

have now started fellowshiping with either the LCG or PCG. Each of these organizations already provides a means to participate in the Feast of Tabernacles and it is clear that a Legacy sponsored site is not needed in Sri Lanka. Legacy Institute seeks to help those lost sheep and scattered brethren who are not *already* being served by others. We will, of course, still periodically visit and encourage the brethren in Sri Lanka, but ***have no plans now at this time to sponsor a Feast site there.***

However, plans are going forward for Legacy Institute sponsored Feast of Tabernacles sites in both northern **Thailand** and southern **India**. If any of you are interested in attending either or even both of these sites, please let us know by post or email and we will send you further information.

Coimbatore, India

After returning to Madras, Gloria and I accompanied Michael Hubert by train to Mettupalayam, a town situated near the major southern city of Coimbatore. Wesley Lucas, a young member who assists Mr. Hubert in Church activities, met us at the train station. For two days, we traveled up into the nearby mountains to visit several new families interested in learning about God's Truth. Most of these come from a Christian background. But a few grew up as Hindus. What is VERY apparent is that, regardless of their religious background, the Holy Spirit is actively at work changing their hearts and minds. Two years ago, most of these people had never been exposed to the Truth of God before. Now they *were gathering on one of God's Holy Days* to learn about His plan of salvation for all mankind.

We observed the Last Day of Unleavened Bread in Mettupalayam with 12 people attending. What a miracle! Out of seemingly nowhere, God is raising up a people called by his name in this mountainous region of southern India. I encouraged Michael Hubert and Wesley Lucas to continue holding bible studies in the homes of these people and we must all pray God continue to pour out His Spirit on this fertile ground.

On one day we had the unusual occasion to observe a fire-walking ceremony at a Hindu temple. We were traveling by taxi on a crowded street when we suddenly came upon a large group of people milling around a Hindu shrine dedicated to a local goddess. Michael Hubert told the driver to stop and we all jumped out to observe this annual event. What we saw was incredible. Drums were beating, loud speakers were blaring, long lines of people waiting in anticipation to walk barefoot on hot coals! I had seen this on TV but had never actually viewed it in person. Men, women and children were chanting and working themselves into an almost hypnotic state before launching themselves across the 20 foot-long pit of red-hot coals. And more and more people were arriving to join them! This is how they worship their goddess. It is all they know.

India can be a sad place. It is a land filled with ignorance, poverty and hopelessness for millions of people. Within a little over a decade, it will become the most populous country on earth, surpassing even China. India needs the True Gospel message of the soon coming Kingdom of God that will break this evil cycle of ignorance, poverty and hopelessness. They need this message of Hope. And they need it now. Time is short and the fields are ripe. With your prayers and support, we will do all we can to enable men like Michael Hubert and Wesley Lucas accomplish this sacred task we ALL have been given to do.

Back in Madras

The day before leaving Madras for Singapore, Michael took us to visit several more families of people interested in learning more about the Truth of God's Word. These families live in one of the poorest sections of town and are starting to attend "house church" meetings. They were very excited that we would want to visit them in their homes. The people of south India are very hospitable and give you the very best they can. One lady we visited wanted to honor us by serving coffee. Since she had only very little of such an *expensive* item as coffee, she mixed what little she had together with tepid local water and served it to the four of us (Gloria, Michael, Wesley and myself.) It was little more than colored water *but it was the very best she could give.*

Once again we find that often, the people who have the least are the ones who give the most. It reminds me of the lesson of the widow's mite. The widow honored God by giving Him all she had. This was an act of worship to God. Jesus pointed out that, by comparison, she had given FAR MORE than all the rich, even though the amount of her offering was much smaller. This is an important lesson to us that God looks on the heart of the person - not on the outward appearance, position in society, standing in the church, nor *the size* of any particular offering made to Him. It all has to do with the heart. As we left this lady's humble home, we realized that God was again reminding us about an important principle concerning His Character and how He judges the hearts of men.

There are many thousands, like her out there who are starved for the TRUTH. What was important to her was that Gloria and I had come thousands of miles all the way from America to visit her humble home in Madras and bring her the Truth of the Bible. Because she was very grateful, she gave us the best she had.

God is far more concerned about the SPIRITUAL than He is the PHYSICAL. The Truth of God we have been given (and sometimes take for granted) is being accepted by the *physically* destitute of the world in far off places in Asia, Africa and South America. These poor people have very little and sometimes experience physical hunger. But they are even hungrier for the *True Bread of Life from God!* What will happen if God chooses to call many, many thousands of these people into His church? Those of us who enjoy such abundance of physical blessings *must be prepared* to do what it will take to help feed them the True Spiritual Food that will sustain them to eternal life.

India Youth Camp and Self-Help Sewing Project

One of the projects we discussed with Michael Hubert is a summer youth camp for southern India. This camp will be for young people interested in the Church. The camp will last for one week and consist of Bible classes, sports activities and some vocational training. Michael wants to push ahead with this as soon as possible, and has asked Legacy Institute to sponsor this program.

Legacy Institute also donated funds for another project. A pedal sewing machine, thread and cloth will be purchased for a project started by Michael and his wife to teach a group of poor women, including several women who attend Sabbath services, how to sew and tailor clothing.

Once they learn this skill, they can earn a small income. Part of this income will be set aside to purchase another sewing machine for the next woman; then again a percentage saved for the next, and so on. In this way, the project will be self-perpetuating and the women can help each other become self-sufficient.

Programs such as a youth camp and this small sewing project will provide hope and encouragement for people who have experienced little else in their lives but poverty and lack of opportunity.

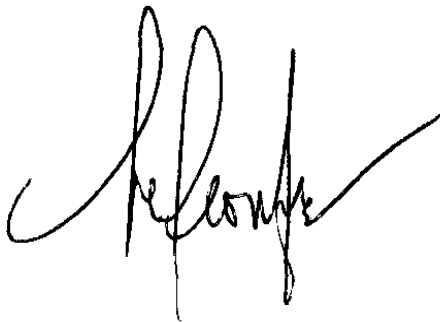
Thank You

I wish I could thank every one of you in a personal letter for all the incredible support you give for what God is accomplishing through Legacy Institute. The outpouring of support and encouragement has been overwhelming. While I would certainly like to write all of you a personal thank you note, it would take a lot of time I just can't afford. With all the things that are going on in South and SE Asia, Gloria and I are just plain swamped! I am sure all of you will understand that we *GREATLY APPRECIATE your help and we DO wish to ACKNOWLEDGE your kindness and generosity.*

Please continue to pray for God to lead us to do His Will every step of the way. It is your heartfelt and fervent prayers that make all the difference.

With deepest appreciation to all of you,

Until next time,
In service to Our Lord,



Leon Sexton

WHAT IS LEGACY INSTITUTE?

LEGACY INSTITUTE is a private, non-profit, charitable foundation and is not affiliated with any human church organization. Legacy Institute seeks to serve and help mankind in the spirit and example of our Lord Jesus Christ. His instructions were to freely give. This means without discrimination and without prejudice. Your donations to Legacy Institute are tax deductible in the USA.

P.S. I have an urgent prayer request. My niece Shannon Showers is 14 years old. She has been diagnosed with endometriosis and is in pain every day. She has missed weeks of school and cannot participate in all the activities of a normal teenager. Please pray that God will intervene and help Shannon. Her mother is my younger sister Anita, Treasurer of Legacy Institute, who takes care of the mailings and donation receipting. The constant stress of her daughter's illness is now also affecting Anita's ability to carry out her responsibilities for Legacy. We need God's intervention. Thank you all for your prayers.