



Harmony OUTREACH

www.HarmonyOutreach.org

BRINGING HOPE AND HELP TO CHINA, CAMBODIA, ETHIOPIA & VIETNAM



The Rest of the Story

by John Bentley

For those of you old enough to remember Paul Harvey's radio program, "The Rest of the Story" always had the same format. The first part would begin the story of a person's life, telling about some obstacle or hardship—followed by a commercial break—and then "the rest of the story" about what ended up happening in their lives.

In the same way we have recently told you about several vulnerable people facing serious problems that God had brought across our path at Harmony Outreach. In each case, we called on the Harmony team (i.e. all of you) to help them. With the beginning of the New Year, we think it is entirely appropriate to fill you in on "the rest of the story" about what has happened in their lives since our first call to action.

Khim

If there was ever an example of a person in the category of "the least and the last" it would be Khim—a dirt-poor Cambodian village girl who at 23 could neither read nor write, had a husband and four children, was homeless, and had a dead eye protruding out of its socket because of an untreated insect bite. With your help, we provided the surgery to remove her eye, relieving her of persistent pain, and replaced it with a new glass eye. This act of love resulted in her becoming a Christian, which in turn resulted in a village revival with dozens receiving Christ and being baptized. This is all great stuff, but the reality remained that this sweet young mom and

her family were still homeless. So... during our October missions-team trip to Cambodia we did an outreach to villagers in Battambang province where we showed The Jesus Film. Khim came to help, and after the movie, I called her to come and stand next to Linda-Mac and me. I opened my Bible and read the words from Isaiah 58 where God describes what He considers to be *true fasting*:

"Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen: to loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break every yoke? Is it not to share your food with the hungry and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter—when you see the naked, to clothe them, and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood?"

I then told Khim that we love her, Jesus loves her, and that—as followers of Jesus Christ, and in obedience to Isaiah 58—we were announcing that her days of wandering were OVER! Through the generous donations of a few of our supporters and Calvary Chapel Fayetteville, we raised the money to buy Khim and her family land for a home and a place to farm! Praise the Lord! *(Continued on page 2)*



Khim, before and after.



Khim's family now owns this land.

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Gianna

Late last year I spoke at a church in Pennsylvania, and Gianna's family drove all the way from Maryland to meet me and hear me share. This was about a month before Gianna (former Harmony orphan Lily) was scheduled for heart surgery. Meeting this family gave me the chance to get to know Gianna and learn what a beautiful, fun and spunky little girl she is. Well, "the rest of the story" with Gianna is that her heart problem was even worse than the doctors realized and she ended up requiring three back-to-back surgeries. We were a little nervous about whether her tiny body could endure all of this, but the end result is that she is now out of the hospital and her broken heart is healed! There is little doubt that Gianna's life would have been much shorter had this sweet family not adopted her and brought her to the US where she received top-notch surgery at Boston Children's Hospital. Praise the Lord!



Gianna during surgeries.



Gianna home and healthy!

Sokha

Sokha is a pillar of the Prey Preal church in Battambang, Cambodia—doing so much to help other Christians and spread the Good News to Buddhist villagers. And then one day she came home to discover that a fire had completely destroyed her home and all of their family's earthly possessions, leaving them homeless and destitute. Some Buddhist villagers said that it was because they were Christians that this calamity had struck them. But God's Word declares:

Because he loves me," says the LORD, "I will rescue him; I will protect him, for he acknowledges my name. He will call on me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble, I will deliver him and honor him. With long life I will satisfy him and show him my salvation. (Psalm 91:14-16)

"The rest of the story" with Sokha is that through

the generosity of our supporters, we raised enough money to rebuild her family a new and BETTER home and replace everything that was destroyed in the fire. Things that were old and used have been replaced by things that are brand new. This has been a testimony to so many of the Buddhist villagers who have never in their lives seen anything like this. Buddhist gods do not answer when you call on them. Neither do fellow Buddhists come to your aid in an act of love because they regard you

as family. What appeared to be a calamity has turned out to be a Romans 8:28 blessing for Sokha's family and resulted in God being glorified. Praise the Lord! 🌿



Sokha's New and Improved Home.



HOT OFF THE PRESS! Christianity is on fire in Vietnam. Join us for an adventurous outreach to Hanoi, working with the underground church, May 4-15.

Adoptions Adoptions!

by Linda Huckaba

We are thrilled that six more Harmony House orphans have been adopted! Reporting about our children finding their *Forever Families* never gets old.

Christy

On November 10, 2014, Christy was adopted by a family in Georgia. Coming to us at about 6 months, she left as a bright and happy 2-1/2 year old. Her family reports she is settling in well and is tackling the English language with gusto!

Ivy

Little Ivy was a real short-termer for us, having been with Harmony House only 4 months. She was adopted on December 8, 2014, and is now at home in Washington State.

Kelli

Sweet baby Kelli was also with us a short time. A family in Langfang, China, the city where Harmony House is located, fell in love with her and adopted her on December 22, 2014.

Matthew

Handsome little Matthew came to us in January of 2014 and was adopted in January, 2015. We provided surgery for his club feet and cared for him, but he is finding out that does not compare to being part of a loving family with two sisters. Matthew is now called Owen and is at home in Tennessee.

Sharon

Amazingly, Sharon is the second child this year—but only the third ever—to be adopted from Harmony House by a family in China. She is now at home in Anhui Province. Sharon was with us only 9 months and was adopted December 22, 2014.

Tina

Little Tina has spent most of her short life at Harmony House, coming to us in May, 2013, when she was just 2 months old. We nursed her through pneumonia and later provided CLP surgeries for her. Adopted January 19, 2015, she is now called Alexis and lives with her *Forever Family* in Florida. 🇺🇸





segue²reason

by John Bentley

Picture the scene: You are sitting on your porch, sipping your favorite beverage and pondering the great mysteries of life. In that moment, you ask yourself, "Hmm, I wonder who John Bentley's Canadian BFF is?" If this describes you, then you are in luck because I am about to reveal this long hidden mystery!

Mark Leeming is one of the coolest blokes in Belleville (outside Toronto). I first got to know Mark when his family adopted little Anna (former Harmony House orphan Wanda) from us and then later invited me to come to Canada to share at their church. About the same age, both evangelical Christians and both having adopted from China—we quickly hit it off. One of the things that I most enjoy about hanging with Mark is that he is a deep thinker and is the founder and host of an online apologetics program called Segue2Reason.

Segue2Reason was birthed out of Mark's own faith struggles—having grown up in a Christian home, attended Bible college, served as a missionary with YWAM—all sounds great, right? Wrong. Despite all of this, Mark lost his faith and was an atheist for a season of his adult life. Mark's experiences as a missionary—witnessing first-hand the existence of suffering and evil in the world—caused him to question where God was in all of it. The tough questions that led to a crisis in Mark's faith later resulted in a renewal and strengthening of his faith as he sought out and found the answers to the "big questions."

Well, the stark reality of our changing world is that many post-modern young people are unlikely to go to church or tune their radios to Focus on the Family. The place they go to exchange ideas, formulate their worldview, and tap into the global pop culture is the internet and YouTube. Like Paul reasoning with Greek philosophers at the Areopagus (Acts 17), Mark wanted to meet people where they are. Segue2Reason is a humorous and irreverent place where the post-modern generation, skeptics, atheists, and yes, even Christians, can go to find answers to the big questions. Google or YouTube "Segue2Reason" and click on the red  button at the bottom. Subscribing will automatically notify you of new videos/topics which are produced each month. Let your kids watch it, direct your non-saved friends there, and go there yourself to take an unflinching look at some of the hard questions we are often asked as Christians. I'll see you there! 



Mark & John discussing deep things—like which restaurant in Belleville serves the best poutine.

Back Page Blessings!



Ministry Partners, your responses to our Christmas Newsletter needs list were amazing! Our only remaining

need is \$3,500 to purchase a vehicle for Harmony Cambodia. Can you help us reach our goal?

Honor & Memorial Gifts

Honor Gifts

Paula & Sven Raymond by Wayne Gibson

Rae Davies by Fritz & Helen Lin

Memorial Gifts

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by Juliana Olmstead

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