Healing and wholeness

IN ONE SOUTHEAST Asian village, health teachers held regular meetings to teach the villagers about physical health. As a result of those meetings, several villagers believed in Jesus, and a church was formed.

One of the villagers took the health teacher to meet Mr. C, a sick man who lived in a neighboring village. Mr. C was malnourished and had swelling over his entire body. Workers helped him get to a Christian clinic that was four hours away. There he received medicines and quickly improved. He heard about Jesus and began to believe. He invited the worker to come to his village to teach health lessons and the Bible.

One year later, Mr. C is well. He and his wife and some neighbors have believed and have been baptized. A new church meets in his home and the health teaching also continues. Mr. C is eager to learn more and travel to other villages to tell about Jesus.

These health teaching groups have opened doors for the gospel in many villages. When teachers are able to share about Jesus, people gain physical and spiritual health, which brings healing and wholeness.
“And proclaim as you go, saying, ‘The kingdom of heaven is at hand.’ Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, cast out demons” (Matthew 10:7-8a, ESV).

1 **NORTHERN AFRICAN AND MIDDLE EASTERN PEOPLES.** Pray for a new health project among refugees, asking that doors will open to a secure place so that workers can share the gospel freely. Pray that the gospel will go out broadly with power resulting in transformed hearts and disciples.

2 **SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN PEOPLES.** A nurse writes that in her country the physical health problems are so great that mental illness is untouched. Pray for wisdom in caring for those with mental illness, and ask God to open hearts to hear and respond to His love and mercy.

3 **CENTRAL ASIAN PEOPLES.** Pray for a believing nurse who serves in a local hospital investing in nurses, doctors and staff. Pray for her as she visits and prays with patients in the name of Jesus. Pray for spiritual and physical miracles.

4 **AMERICAN PEOPLES.** Pray for workers in a remote place in South America as they use medicine to gain access to villages and homes. Pray that they will use medical and nursing volunteers most strategically to minister to people’s physical, emotional and spiritual needs.

5 **SOUTHEAST ASIAN PEOPLES.** Pray for the translation of materials for Sanctity of Life booklets, Choosing Life, and post-abortion counseling materials, which will be combined with a gospel presentation. Pray for open doors to meet needs in urban red-light areas, schools, hospitals and other venues. Pray that these believers will stay strong in the faith and trust that God is stronger than any spirit that tries to attack them.

6 **EAST ASIAN PEOPLES.** Pray for workers, volunteers and local house churches as they partner together to conduct regular medical clinics in factories where many desire to believe. Pray as the gospel is shared during these times and pray for follow-up efforts.

7 **SOUTH ASIAN PEOPLES.** Months after the earthquake in Nepal, people continue to struggle with emotional and psycho-social responses to the disaster. Pray for workers and volunteers as they present coping mechanisms in affected villages.

8 **NORTHERN AFRICAN AND MIDDLE EASTERN PEOPLES.** Pray for a medical clinic serving patients six days per week. Workers are sharing the story of Jesus and some have believed. Pray for all of the workers, including several new medical personnel.

9 **SOUTH ASIAN PEOPLES.** Many patients have gone to other doctors before they come to the Christian hospital. They are often defeated, out of money and in need of truth about their illness. Pray that the staff will be the hands and feet of Jesus showing compassion.

10 **EAST ASIAN PEOPLES.** Hope Medical Clinic serves not only Chinese patients but also many internationals from other parts of Asia. Pray that many will be drawn to Him as the staff reflect Christ to each patient. Pray for Mr. A, a Nepalese believer, who works with Nepalese patients who come to the clinic.

11 **SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN PEOPLES.** Pray for the Kiogoma Baptist Hospital in Tanzania where thousands are treated every year. Pray for the chaplain, the missionary doctor and local believers as they show the love of Christ through compassionate care and gospel proclamation.

12 **CENTRAL ASIAN PEOPLES.** Pray for healthcare workers to have grace and energy to serve faithfully each day despite the threats and dangers in their country. Pray for their protection, and ask that many will come to faith in Jesus.

13 **NORTHERN AFRICAN AND MIDDLE EASTERN PEOPLES.** Pray for a mobile clinic health project that is teaching healthcare, home-to-home health lessons and spiritual outreach in rural villages in the Horn of Africa. Pray for development of a model home in each village to apply the health lessons and to become a multiplying house group.

14 **SOUTH ASIAN PEOPLES.** Pray for Bangalore Baptist Hospital in India that treats more than 250,000 patients per year. Pray for the follow up of hundreds of seekers and new believers resulting from the spiritual ministry of the hospital. Pray for chaplains and Christian staff who daily witness to patients and families.

15 **SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN PEOPLES.** Pray for the Nalerigu Baptist Medical Centre in Ghana that provides healthcare for a large remote area of the country. Pray for more doctors — missionary and national — to come and work where there is much physical and spiritual need.

16 **AMERICAN PEOPLES.** Pray for an unreached people group in Central America accessed for the first time this year by a missionary nurse.
and a volunteer medical team. Pray that lives will be transformed physically and spiritually in this people group’s villages.

17 SOUTH ASIAN PEOPLES. Pearls of Great Price is a program for women that sends the gospel on the wings of breast cancer information. Pray for women’s groups as they are taught self-examination and facts about cancer and at the same time are given hope for eternity.

18 CENTRAL ASIAN PEOPLES. A doctor in Central Asia asks for prayer that God will call doctors and nurses to come and serve in his country. Pray also for medical volunteers to be used to heal many and show God’s love and grace.

19 NORTHERN AFRICAN AND MIDDLE EASTERN PEOPLES. Pray for openness for healthcare workers as they work with Yemenis in a time of great need. Pray also for opportunities to work alongside national or near-culture healthcare workers to meet the physical and spiritual needs of Yemenis.

20 SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN PEOPLES. Beginning this year, two doctors are engaging the remote region of Eastern Congo for Christ. Suffering there due to war is immense. Pray for the doctors and their Tanzanian partners. Pray that many Congolese will believe.

21 SOUTH ASIAN PEOPLES. Pray for workers and national believers who teach women’s health and hygiene in homes. Pray that these women’s groups will evolve into Bible studies that result in new believers and house churches.

22 SOUTH ASIAN PEOPLES. The palliative care project at Bangalore Baptist Hospital in India is made up of three teams that visit in the homes of people dying of cancer and other illnesses to pray and share the gospel with them. Pray for these teams to be protected from evil and from compassion fatigue.

23 SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN PEOPLES. Pray for two orphan centers and a “mobile moms” program that visits homes in villages of Lesotho. Workers are finding many children who are HIV positive and starting them on treatments. Pray for the workers and national partners, and ask God to draw these orphans to a saving faith.

24 SOUTHEAST ASIAN PEOPLES. Pray for house churches that have a vision to reach other villages despite limited time and resources. Pray for workers who partner with them through medical clinics, health education and Bible training.

25 EAST ASIAN PEOPLES. Pray for national trainers who are working throughout East Asia to raise up community healthcare workers. Pray that these trainers will have vibrant spiritual lives, healthy relationships and far-reaching ministries as they travel to mobilize and equip others.

26 SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN PEOPLES. Drug addicts who come to the Kisima Rehabilitation Center in Kenya receive Bible study, counseling and vocational training. Pray that they will be freed from addiction. Pray for transformed lives that will impact their communities.

27 SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN PEOPLES. Lift up for the three young Zimbabwean doctors at the Sanyati Baptist Hospital in Zimbabwe. Ask God to provide a Christian nursing matron and Christian administrator to join the staff. Pray for missionary doctors to be called to work in the hospital.

28 SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN PEOPLES. Pray for a healthcare worker as she builds relationships with the medical community in her city in Malawi. Pray as she trains midwives to help babies breathe after delivery. Pray for open hearts as the gospel is shared with midwives and mothers.

29 EAST ASIAN PEOPLES. Pray for workers and national believers who are investing in marriages, families and youth through counseling and teaching. Pray that God will transform the society of East Asia through the spiritual lives of believers and churches.

30 SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN PEOPLES. Pray for workers using health strategies to reach the peoples living on the islands of Lake Victoria in Tanzania. They deliver hospice buckets to terminally ill HIV patients and their families. Pray that the people will find hope and eternal life in Jesus.

31 SOUTH ASIAN PEOPLES. Pray for women’s groups being trained in Sanctity of Life in one South Asian country. As they learn about fetal development, they learn also about their Creator. Pray that these women will desire to know and follow Him.
Don’t miss out!
The book, Preach and Heal, calls us to make disciples by preaching the Gospel while simultaneously demonstrating God’s love. Preach and Heal is available in hard copy from imbresources.org or as an e-book for Amazon Kindles.

Author: Charles Fielding, M.D., Publisher: International Mission Board, SBC ISBN: 978-0-9767645-6-4

Truckers meet Jesus

The truck drivers in West Africa represent many of the unreached people groups in those countries. While on the road, they have no money or access to healthcare and suffer from many chronic illnesses and injuries.

As a part of an ongoing ministry to truckers in five countries, IMB missionary nurses partnered with volunteer teams and local churches to conduct clinics in seven locations at truck stops. More than 800 patients were treated, including some local villagers. The truckers heard Bible stories, and if they were able to retell a story, they received an SD card with more stories. All were given a phone number to call if they wanted to know more. When they call, someone prays with them.

Showing the love of God through basic medical care and interest in the drivers as individuals has opened countless doors and many relationships. The stories of Jesus are now traveling the roads of West Africa.

Seeds of Truth

In a rural area in northern Africa, a distraught father was trying to find help for his little girl. She had a grain of wheat stuck deeply in her ear.

The father was unable to find a public clinic that had the proper equipment and could not wait months for an appointment at the private clinic. So he drove two hours to take the child to the foreign doctor.

When the doctor was able to quickly remove the grain of wheat from the little girl’s ear, the father was elated and invited the doctor and her family to his home. On the day of the visit, the doctor’s husband sat with the men of the family and shared Jesus. While the ladies were cooking, the doctor shared with them.

The seed that was stuck in the ear of this child led to seeds of Truth being planted deeply in the lives of this family. They saw the love of Christ demonstrated and heard the good news. Pray that these seeds and the many sown in this area will bear fruit.

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