

Story Time!

A couple of minutes into the call, I was wondering if perhaps we might be talking to this missionary couple for the last time.

We had talked before and were very enthusiastic about working with them. They've been faithfully sharing Jesus' love with a segment of society the world had rejected. They were giving of themselves sacrificially – offering hope through the Good News of Christ. They were making disciples and raising up leaders from amongst those who were considered “disqualified.”

They told us stories that shocked us and broke our hearts; stories that would have had very, very sad endings if Jesus had not intervened through this couple and their work. We were thrilled that we might get to help them tell their story.

But something was wrong.

It wasn't what they said but how they said it. It was their body language and the lack of the bright anticipation we had seen in their faces before. So I asked, “Is everything ok? You seem tired.”

They *were* tired. They were in the midst of dealing with relationship problems amongst people in the church. Someone was sliding back into old ways. They also had a huge outreach event that required much work and the details were piling up. But all those circumstances just “come with the job.” The *real* weariness came from a sense of abandonment.

A church that had been supporting them \$1000/month had just informed them that they were going to be using that money elsewhere.

Now, in addition to all the stresses of full-time ministry, they had to figure out what to do about this significant loss of funding . . . this loss of *partnership*.

Not that uncommon.

Unfortunately, missionaries are susceptible to this kind of thing. Sometimes churches and individuals have good, reasonable, even godly reasons for making changes in their support of a missionary.

But in other cases, missionaries lose their support over the years by virtue of the very nature of their work. They are far away – out of sight and out of mind. Sometimes, in the busyness of their mission, they don't do a good job of communicating with their partners back home. Those partners lose interest, thinking that nothing is going on and that their stewardship dollars would be better used elsewhere.

We know missionaries – like the couple with whom we were talking – whose work is making a huge difference in the lives of many. If only people “back home” could **hear** their heart, **see** what they do, meet the people and **listen to their testimonies** of new-found life and hope in Christ... Wow!

That is why we do what we do. That is why we plan to make a film for this couple. We believe that if more people really “connected” with their story, they would have no problem finding partners who will pray and support them financially. **Producing their film will help make it possible for them to keep doing their important work!**

Our partners make this possible. Your prayers and gifts to CIM make it possible for us to advance the work of many worthy missionaries all over the world. Those who experience Jesus through them thank you. The missionaries thank you. *We* thank you!



Upcoming Projects

Costa Rica (Feb. 2015)

Josiah and Cynthia work with the Ditsei tribe in the mountains. It is a challenging eight hour hike through the jungle to get to these widely scattered people.

Not Named (Mar. 2015)

Because of the sensitive nature of this location, we cannot print it's name. Our film will document an initiative to provide support for the young pastors in a challenging field that is 90% Muslim and almost 10% Hindu.

Mexico (Apr. 2015)

The Godwins in Baja California have an outreach to people who have been deported – many of whom grew up in the States. They show them that Jesus still has blessing and a purpose for them – even in what feels to them like a foreign land!

How To Partner with CIM

For information on how to make tax-deductible gifts, go to:

creativeimpactministries.org

Click on the “JOIN US!” tab.

Or just click [HERE](#).