IJN News
October 2012

"A man" was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho and he fell among robbers. They stripped him, beat him, and went away leaving him half dead. By chance, a priest was going down on that road and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. Likewise, a Levite also passed by on the other side when he came to the place and saw him, but a Samaritan who was on a journey came upon him. When he saw him, he felt compassion and came to him. (Lk 10:30-33)

It is easy in these tough economic times to worry mostly about ourselves and not to have "the time" or "the resources" to worry about others. Yet, Jesus teaches us to have a compassionate heart toward others regardless of our practical circumstances. He does not want us to be self-centered. We need to guard our hearts and minds against this, especially in harder times that tend to push us towards self absorption. The attitude of our heart is to be one of compassion whether we are a priest, Levite, Samaritan, construction worker, doctor, lawyer, or anything else...anytime, anywhere.

What is the attitude of your heart? Is it focused on yourself or is it focused on others? Who did Jesus live for, Himself or others?

In Jesus' Name Medical Ministry reached out to 74 more people these past 2 months as we held free clinics at Sierra Community Church in South Lake Tahoe and at High Sierra Fellowship Church in Minden, Nevada. Yes, there was "a man" lying by the roadway! His name was:

A.A.-He had skin cancer on his lower lip and needs surgery.

B.B.-She needs shoulder surgery and teared up and started to cry as we told her that we would do her surgery for free on Jesus' behalf and that we will help her apply for hospital charity care coverage to help with her hospital operating room services.

C.C.-She was a child and needed a physical exam by our pediatrician.

D.D.-He had ear pain and back pain.

Many others were seen. Some were brothers and sisters in Christ who needed to avoid the high cost of their insurance deductibles and the astronomical cost of American medical care. Others did not have any medical insurance at all. All needed help. All needed the compassion and the attitude-of-the-heart of Jesus Christ. Today, Pastor Rich Lammay told me that two new families had started coming to High Sierra Fellowship because of last weekend's IJN clinic!

Our next clinic will be at Walker Baptist Church in Walker, California and that will be the first clinic where we will also be offering free dental care as well!! Dr. Lee Anne Stigers, DDS and Dr. Paul Genasci, DDS recently approached IJN, desiring to help us provide free dental care. We are very excited about this! We are planning to install a hydraulic dental chair (or two) in the motor coach and equip the kitchen area with suction and other instrumentation as needed. If anyone knows of any dental equipment that could be donated to IJN, please let us know. The motor coach itself underwent a complete facelift during the past few months and we now have a new roof, new ceiling, new interior walls, new flooring...off we go!

All of us together represent the hands and feet of Christ reaching out into our world. Hopefully, patients can see Jesus' heart in us as well. Thank you to all our medical staff and volunteers who took time that they did not have and "came to that man" (went out of their way), "bandaged up his wounds" (changed dressings and gave shots), "poured oil and wine on them" (prescribed medication), and "took care of him" (did physical exams, took x-rays, and prayed for him).

Medical Team

Loren Simpson M.D. (Family Practice)
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Joanne Araki, FNP (Family Practice)
Clinton Purvance, M.D. (Emergency Medicine)
Daniel Norman, M.D. (Internal Medicine)
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Barbara Graham, P.T. (Physical Therapy)
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Administrative Team

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In Christ,

Scott W. Southard, M.D.