



## Partner Newsletter

July/August 2019



### FROM THE HEART

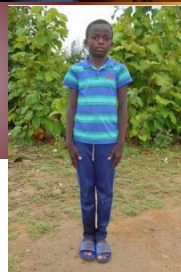
There are seasons to life, and in the life of a ministry, there are invariably changes in personnel along the way. We recently said good-bye to Matt and Angela Brooks after 2 years of faithful service, as they moved into their next ministry assignment.

After searching for a replacement, we have welcomed Derrick Newman, his wife Kelly, and their beautiful children to the ministry. Soon after they joined us, we took a weekend retreat to spend time getting to know each other, to practice our music, and to spend time hearing from God. There are 5 members of the ministry's Board of Directors and each presented to the group from the Word of God. It was an amazing time for all of us.

When it was my turn to speak I talked about faith and the need to keep our faith turned on. In Matthew 14:22-33 we're told of the story of Peter walking on the water. He had no trouble walking on the water until he took his eyes off of Jesus and noticed that the sea was rough. He became afraid, turned his faith off, and immediately began to sink. You see faith and fear cannot exist in the same space. Fear is the opposite of faith. So, as soon as he became afraid, he turned off his faith. Hebrews 11:6 says that without faith it's impossible to please God. It would be just as accurate to say that with fear it's impossible to please God or that with doubt it's impossible to please God. Is your faith on? You can't please God without it. Keep your faith on and strong, regardless of what you see. You'll see God do great things. - Walt

### MOVED WITH COMPASSION

This young man is Ange and he just turned 12. Ange lives in Burkina Faso in Africa.



About 900 people live in Ange's community and the typical home where he lives is made of mud or adobe walls and a tin roof. The average wage is about \$20/ month and most adults there are unemployed. If they do find work its normally as a day laborer. Their diet is mostly maize, beans, fish, bread and beef.

At the development center Ange is taught the Bible, given medical attention and life skills training.

If you would like to help change the world one child at a time through Compassion International check out our website for more info. We are making a difference, one child at a time. Won't you join us?

### CALL & RESPONSE

Recently, we ministered in a wonderful church where the grace of God was immediately evident. Before the concert, a lady approached one of our members. She wanted to apologize for her attire. Though it was very conservative and certainly not inappropriate by any means, she was embarrassed because she couldn't cover up some tattoos. She wanted to apologize because it was an identification of a past life. Our response to her was simple: In our life story, we all have chapters we don't read out loud. She felt, immediately, free of judgment and welcome in our presence. God sets us free, and it is immediate and complete. But the voices of our past can, sometimes be deafening. Speak life! Then choose to believe His life in you is bigger than your past!

(cont'd)

### ON THE ROAD WITH TAQ

September 1st @ 8:30am - Faith Christian Outreach Church, Mt. Pleasant, IA

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September 7th @ 7:00pm - Greater is He Sing @ One Life Church, Springfield, MO

September 8th @ 11:00am - Union Grove "Caudle" Freewill Baptist Church, Norwood, MO

September 13th @ 6:45pm - Conway Community Days, Conway, MO

September 14th @ 7:00pm - Maple Ridge Bible Church, Boscobel, WI

September 15th @ 10:45am - Maple Ridge Bible Church, Boscobel, WI

October 5th @ 6:00pm - Carterville Fire Dept., Carterville, MO

October 19th @ 6:00pm - Gladden Baptist Church, Salem, MO

October 26th @ 6:00pm - Mt. Zion Christian Church, Hannibal, MO

## THE WORD IN SONG

"Love bleeds mercy; Love bleeds grace, washing every sin away, cleansing every stain we think cannot be erased. Love bleeds mercy; Love bleeds grace."

These are the lyrics from the chorus of our new song, "Love Bleeds Mercy." Notice the word "Love" is capitalized. Love is the name of a person! God is Love. (1 John 4:8)

The song also calls Jesus, "'Forgiveness,' with arms wide open." Think about it. The manifestation of Love is Forgiveness! To forgive is to cancel a debt- it is a business term. The cost of sin, established in the Old Testament, was death. The sacrifice of animals pushed the penalty back, one year at a time. But when Jesus came as the "Lamb of God," He sacrificed Himself, once and for all time, to satisfy the payment for our sin!

Getting bogged down in trying to live in victory does not come from God's perspective- He doesn't forget His promise. As far as He is concerned, we are righteous already! Jesus became sin so we could become righteous! The problem we encounter is because satan tries to remind us of our past. If we listen to him, we'll end up just as bound as before. The second verse of our song says:

"Maybe you've spent nights broken and lonely, haunted by ghosts of your past mistakes. Maybe you've been bound deep in the darkness, feeling defeated by demons you faced."

If we begin to confess satan's message of defeat and our unworthiness, instead of rehearsing God's work - His love and forgiveness, that nothing can steal, we live like we have no value. We only "think" our sin is a stain that cannot be erased. Let nothing exalt itself against the knowledge of God! If He has loosed you from a life of bondage, He has also brought you into His freedom! Fill your mouth with laughter and your tongue with joyful shouting! (Psalm 126:1-2)

It confuses the enemy when we don't react like he's telling us we should. He says, "You can't pray for anything, remember what you did?" You say, "It's under the blood! Ha, ha, ha, ha, ha!" He says, "You can't get anything from God. You don't do enough." You say, "My salvation is not by works, but by Grace. Ha, ha, ha, ha, ha!" He says, "You're getting what you deserve, you failure." You say, "It's not about me. God never fails and I stand in Him. I resist you, satan, and you must flee, in the name of Jesus! Ha, ha, ha, ha, ha!"

Love is ALL ABOUT mercy and grace. Celebrate and rejoice!

## CALL & RESPONSE, Continued

Another time, shortly after Derrick joined us, his daughter, Madi, was in service, sitting in the lap of Regina, Walter's wife. As the concert came to a close, and we sang "He loves me. My Jesus loves me," Regina began to sing in Madi's ear, "He loves Madi. He loves Madi. Jesus loves Madi..." She turned to look her in the face and said, "Sing it again." In the next service, when we got to the closing, Madi came to Regina and asked her to "sing that Madi song again."

It's important to realize as we go from place to place, that not everyone who is a child of God is a child or yet has the innocence of childhood. He wants us to approach Him as a child, but that requires forgetting what was behind, in our past. Though the signs of a life without Christ may be evident here and there, God looks on the heart, and He makes us free, indeed- as free as a child!

Never forget as you go to the grocery store, on the job, etc.- anywhere you go while just living life- you're going to encounter signs of lives without Christ. Never assume! We speak life, and those who need life will hear and respond. Those who already know Jesus as Savior, will appreciate our life-words as affirmation that their past is forgotten. Let us be an ambassador of Love, that sings, "He loves you. . . Jesus loves you!"

## PARTNERING IN PRAYER & PRAISE

The book of Philippians is a partner letter, much like the one you're reading. Paul commends them for having "shared" and "sent aid" to him. Then he says that "MY God shall supply all YOUR needs..." (vs. 19) How God blesses us through your giving is also how He meets your needs. It's a partnership! God accredits your giving to the ministry to your account and enables us to reach the world with the gospel in song. It provides mutual prayer cover (and other benefits)- ask us about partnership!

*Thank you for partnering with The Ascension Quartet. The seed you have sown brings forth a harvest all over the Midwest. You share in the rewards and anointing of this ministry! Not a partner? Sign up at <http://www.theascensionqt.com/partners.html>*

## CONTACT

If you'd like to book The Ascension Quartet for your church or upcoming event contact us at [walter@walterhayes.com](mailto:walter@walterhayes.com) or call Walter @ 417-649-6776  
Visit [www.theascensionqt.com](http://www.theascensionqt.com) for more information.