



Whirlwind Missions

Outreach Update

December 2006

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Hello, my friends!

CHRISTMAS! What a season! When I say the word, "Christmas!" what comes into your mind? Baby Jesus? Gifts? Shopping? One of the dangers of living in a materialistic culture is we become too focused on THINGS.

I am amazed by how much I am attached to stuff. One of our ministry's supporters gave me a car. I've driven real clunkers over the years, but this one was great!. I had real fear parking that new Chrysler at the missions where I work. I knew how crazy those kids were and how they regularly messed up cars. I just didn't want anything to hurt my new ride.

And yet, as I look at the other cars in my garage, I used to feel the same way about THEM! How our affections can fade over the years for things that we once considered SO important

Things don't matter: PEOPLE matter!

It's not the stuff you give people that they remember, it's the time they spent with YOU that they remember. The most important thing you can give your children is time. When our volunteers invest their time in the community, families change!

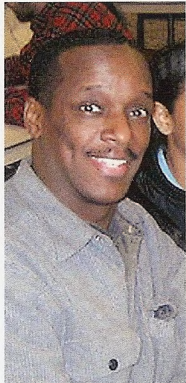
Whirlwind Missions is people! Our whole ministry is based upon supporting the best people. I was asked to give input on Apartment Ministry by a Doctoral student at Southwestern. He asked me, "What is the MOST important thing in reaching people for Christ in your ministry?" After much reflection I answered, "We must engage the church."

We need boots on the ground. Studying the problem doesn't fix it. Doing something about it fixes it! I believe our team is only as good as the people on it. And our partners are awesome! At Whirlwind Missions we believe that investing in people when they're just starting out in ministry is critical. I mentor eight people, which translates to eight more Tims. I hope that's a good thing!

The key to this equation is scale. We must find more and better ways of engaging Christians in our communities. Help us mobilize the church! Please make a special gift to Whirlwind Missions this Christmas. We appreciate your generosity SO much! Our team makes the difference in so many people's lives and YOU are part of that team! I give thanks for YOU!!

Please support our ministry!

Make checks to the **North American Mission Board** designated to **Tim A. Cummins #5993**





Merry Christmas from the Cummins Family!!





Youth Outreach United

1735 Pitty Pat Court, Lilburn, GA 30047
404-358-6766



What a great time at the mission this month! Since we've been working at Spring Chase for about 3 months our attendance has grown to around 36 kids with still more coming in as the news spreads. Our attendance means two things. The parents are accepting what we're doing and want their children to be involved and the children who keep coming are definitely improving.

A mother and her young son were trying to enter the mission. You need a code to release the doors. The mother didn't know the code but she kept telling the boy, "You must get in! You must get in! You are going to find a way!" The mother was so driven to get her son help that she made him crawl through the window! Once they came we started to help the child. Simple things such as which word has an I vowel sound. Poor Mohammed! He couldn't stay focused and didn't know what he was talking about. He would keep getting out of his chair and running to the toys. After about six times of his constant maneuvering I wanted to give up. No one else can help him. His mother can't understand the material. She offered little words of encouragement to him. I stayed there with him, prayed for patience and continued. I knew if I stayed with him long enough he could grasp the first grade concepts. Now after about three weeks of "training" he is able to write his letters and understand directions. This is an amazing feeling when you have finally taught a child to help himself.

Children aren't the only people I try to help. Just today two mothers got in a fist fight. One was trying to defend what we were doing at the mission and the other disagree strongly! I tried to keep all my kids inside away from the violence but Levar (a 5th grader) who was already outside tried to break them up and got bit on his hand! It all escalated until one of the women was hit in the nose and then the police were called. Spring Chase is usually very peaceful but this experience shows how much tension still surrounds the mission. Please pray that the parents of this community see the good in what we're doing and continue to support us.

This Saturday we will be throwing a Holiday party for all the kids! We'll be having face painting, pumpkin games and tons of candy! Please pray that the children will bring their friends and we will be able to interact with more of the community and eventually bring them to Jesus!

With love,

Ashley



Please support our ministry in the International Village! Make checks to Youth Outreach United, PO Box 2561, Suwanee, GA 30024 Acct. #6137. THANKS!