

EXTENDING THE KINGDOM OF GOD...ONE PERSON AT A TIME.

# ONE-TO-ONE<sup>®</sup>

Autumn 2005

## Here Comes the Harvest

The Ongoing  
Response to  
Natural Disasters

## The Serious Business of Values and Influence

A Marketplace  
Exchange Interview

## Meeting Hope With Help In Africa

One Doctor's  
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# Faith that Works



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### Reader Feedback

**Dear Bro. Charles:** I want to thank you for seeking God and for sharing what God is saying to you. Your letters have been a blessing and an inspiration to me. I pray that God will continue to use you in a mighty way for the building up of the Body of Christ. I am praying for you and for Carolyn.

—Brenda H., Mobile, AL

**Dear CSM:** The “Living In the Unimaginable” (D112P) CD series was very strengthening and helpful. Thank you. I am praying for Charles’ wife, Carolyn, that her health will be restored.

—G.S.J., Scarborough, Ontario, Canada

**Dear CSM:** Thanks so much for your messages. They are so appreciated and shared!

—Helen B., Appleton, WI

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# Here Comes The Harvest

## Our Ongoing Response to Natural Disasters

By Stephen Simpson



**Hurricane Katrina Evacuees at the New Orleans Superdome In New Orleans, LA**

THE GULF COAST IS MY HOME. ITS sparkling briny seas and brackish bayous and crystal streams mingle and flow through my veins; my skin is freckled with its sunshine; my ears echo with the laughter and songs and, lately, the cries of its people. So much of our family history is here...and now a new mission beckons to us.

As the winds and waves of Hurricane Katrina were dying down here in the Mobile Bay region, our thoughts and prayers turned towards our coastal neighbors a few miles to the west in Mississippi and Louisiana.

The day after the storm, even as waters receded along the shattered Alabama and Mississippi coasts, two key levees protecting the low-lying city of New Orleans broke, precipitating an unprecedented flood disaster for "The Big Easy." In the ensuing days, a tremendous wave of human suffering poured across and then out of the city, as evacuees fled across the United States like ever-widening ripples in a pond.

Hard on the heels of Katrina came the harsh Hurricane Rita, which ripped into Louisiana and Texas.

As we prayed and worked to alleviate the suffering and to bring emergency supplies to affected areas, the Lord spoke this word to me: "Here comes the harvest." I was reminded of this powerful passage from Matthew chapter 9:

***"Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people. But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd. Then He said to His disciples, 'The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out***

***laborers into His harvest'" (Matthew 9:35-38).***

Even as some American citizens were paralyzed with fear or indecision, many Christians heard the call of the Holy Spirit and moved by the compassion of Christ to minister to those who were "weary and scattered." The outreach effort will be ongoing for months, if not years, to come.

I appreciated the report of one Mississippi pastor, Horace Vinson, who was receiving and distributing aid, even as his own building was damaged. Watching Christians from other areas unloading donated supplies at his facility, he said, "I am really seeing the Church be the Church." Government and social officials acknowledged that even as other agencies failed in their early response to the storm, it was the followers of Jesus Christ who leapt into action, stood in the gap, gave generously of their time, money, and energy, opened their homes and hearts, and

poured out their love, making a vital difference in untold numbers of lives.

It is for times such as these that we have been born. Let us pray to the Lord of the harvest, that He would continue to anoint and send laborers into His harvest field. This is not the time to sit on the sideline and point fingers. I believe that out of great tragedy and sorrow, we will see thousands of precious hearts and lives saved by the power and love of Jesus Christ.

CSM has already distributed tens of thousands of dollars to affected churches along the Gulf Coast, as well as helping to network resources with needs. Please continue to stand with us. We not only ask for donations for hurricane relief, but we need special offerings for CSM's ongoing work in ministry and publishing. We have taken a significant hit in our regular income, and we cannot continue in our mission without fresh funds (see [www.csmpublishing.org](http://www.csmpublishing.org) for more details or send gifts to P.O. Box 850067, Mobile, AL 36685.)

Please keep us in your prayers and in your giving during these days. God spared our facilities and He has given us a job to do. By His grace, we will be faithful to carry it out and see His Resurrection life poured out along the Coast and among the nations. <sup>121</sup>



**Grant Simpson, an Elder at Covenant Church of Mobile and other volunteers load vital supplies to deliver to Hurricane victims in Mississippi and Louisiana.**

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# *Faith that Works*

BY CHARLES SIMPSON





What we believe will determine how we act at this critical moment in history. By Charles Simpson

SEVERAL YEARS AGO, I SHARED A CONFERENCE speaking platform with a Roman Catholic Cardinal. I remember a striking comment that he made: “The question is not faith or works, but a faith that works.” In the wake of hurricanes, fires, wars, and other trials, this issue is all the more relevant today.

The apostle Paul tells us what faith is; James tells us what faith does. Faith and works are not two separate issues; if they were, both would be invalid. Real faith is a faith that works. Paul and James would agree.

In Ephesians chapter 2, Paul makes it clear that while we are saved by grace, we are saved to do good works (see verses 4-10). Grace is a divine substance given to us; we are to share it with others.

#### JESUS WORKED

The God of grace also works. He worked in creation, He worked through His people, and He worked through our Lord. There are many, many references to the work of Christ (see John 5:16-23). Jesus forgave, healed, delivered, fed thousands, and sometimes He labored all night (see Mark 1:29-39).

Jesus also said that those who believed in Him would do the works that He did and even greater works (see John 14:12). He also said that we, His followers, are the light of the world; as people behold our good works, they glorify the Father in heaven (see Matthew 5:16).

My friend Jim Newsom has observed that “light is seen and not heard.” It is not that the world hears us and glorifies the Father, but that they see our works. The implication is that our works are done in and before the world, and that is the key to evangelism.

#### THE POWER OF WORKS

General William Booth saw the poor of London and began to help them through what is now the Salvation Army. The credibility of their message was established by what they did. Even the secular society has embraced the Salvation Army

with much respect; during the Hurricane Katrina relief effort, they have been extremely active and effective here along the Gulf Coast.

David Wilkinson saw the gang problem in New York City and began to fast and pray; then he set out to reach them. His book *The Cross and the Switchblade* tells the amazing story about his step of faith and the wonderful results. Many thousands of people were affected.

Hebrews chapter 11 describes the acts of faith that subdued kingdoms. History is constructed on the actions of those whose faith moved them beyond talk to walk.

#### JAMES

The book of James is written to the “twelve tribes which are scattered abroad.” These are Jewish Christians who had been dispersed by persecution (see Acts 8:1). James is giving instruction as to how they should live their lives in an often hostile world. He is describing how “light” operates in darkness.

Jesus had prayed that His disciples would be sent into the world (see John 17:19). It took persecution and martyrdom to accomplish this. James himself was martyred not long after writing his book. The “scattering” sent believers out into the world where their character and actions were seen. In spite of the horrible persecution, they were effective and multitudes came to Christ. Their *confessions* of faith resulted in *acts* of faith.



## James gives us many ways that FAITH WORKS:

- In trials
- In prayer
- In wealth or poverty
- In temptation
- In obedience
- In caring for others
- In impartiality
- In mercy
- In risk-taking
- In obtaining wisdom
- In avoiding unnecessary conflict
- In submitting to God
- In facing the future
- In waiting for Christ's return
- In healing the sick

In other words, faith is active in all of life. It brings victory wherever it is applied. One of his most telling comments is that faith unapplied is deception (see James 1:22).

### THE CHALLENGE

Perhaps our greatest challenge is to move the Church from talk to walk. For many “believers” the Church is merely an audience gathered to be entertained. Too often the experience of worship fails to produce acts of worship. The repetition of an orthodox liturgy leaves the congregants in

a hypnotic state. The deception is that some believe that confession is enough. But neither the Bible nor history validate that claim.

How can we change this mindset? This is the challenge. We are being reminded that the Holy Spirit empowers us to act. The purpose of the Holy Spirit is to conform us to both the character and works of Christ. Romans 8:28 tells us that “all things work together for good to those who love God and are called according to His purpose.”

Noah was called according to God’s purpose and he built an ark; Abraham likewise set out on a journey; Moses led Israel to Canaan; David killed a giant and extended the kingdom; Jesus was called to the Cross for our sins; and the apostles went out to deliver the Gospel. And on and on we could we could go, speaking of those whose faith moved them to action. Their actions made our lives and freedoms possible.

The answer to the question, “How we can change this mindset?” can only be found in the Word of God, which will not return void (see Isaiah 55:11). The Word is active and activating. God’s Word reminds us of those who heard, believed, and obeyed.

Preaching psychology and “smooth sayings” will not awaken the sleepers (see Isaiah 30:10). It will only deepen their slumber. We live in times of peril. My observation is that with all of the action of terrorists and secularists, western Christians still have not awakened. My experience in Europe and North America is that most believers are still inclined toward pulpits that comfort us in our lethargy. The pulpit must become a sharp stick, even if the recipients kick us in return (see Ezekiel 3:18; 33:8).

### THE VISION

A friend once told me of a vision that he had: An officer was addressing his troops. “Men, we face a great battle today. We have a tough, well-trained enemy and some of you will die. But the cause is great and you see before you the best trained army in the world. You also have the very best equipment in the world. Now, it is time to fight; God bless you.”

As the officer concluded, the men smiled and congratulated their officer on a great speech. They begin pulling off their uniforms and putting on civilian clothes. “Glad you could be with us today,” the officer said as the troops began leaving. Does this scene sound familiar?

Our Captain requires more than our attendance and appreciation. He requires action on a personal level. The war is real and the stakes are high.

### RUNNING THE SAME PLAY

I grew up in a small Southern community where football was the favored sport. We had a very respected coach and we won championships. The coach taught us many offensive plays and we practiced them over and over every day.

The games were played on Friday nights and the stands were full of



cheering fans. Often we would run a play that failed to advance the ball. When that occurred, we would run a different play and keep trying until we found plays that worked.

The Church has not learned that lesson. We continue to run the same play with the same results. It is time to allow the Holy Spirit to call some new plays that will advance the Kingdom cause. And by the way, this is no game.

## REVIVALS

History has recorded some great revivals, such as the "Great Awakenings," the Welch Revival, and the New Hebrides Revival. These revivals have been launching forces for renewal. The Charismatic revival served as motivation for many believers to move into ministry. We should continue to pray for further revival.

Because revivals have produced manifestations of the Holy Spirit, many believers find themselves looking for the next place where

is burned over," he said.

"What do you mean?" I asked. I saw no burned houses. But he continued, "Years ago there was a revival here, but it continued until the people were emotionally burned out. Now you cannot motivate these people. They only remember the past."

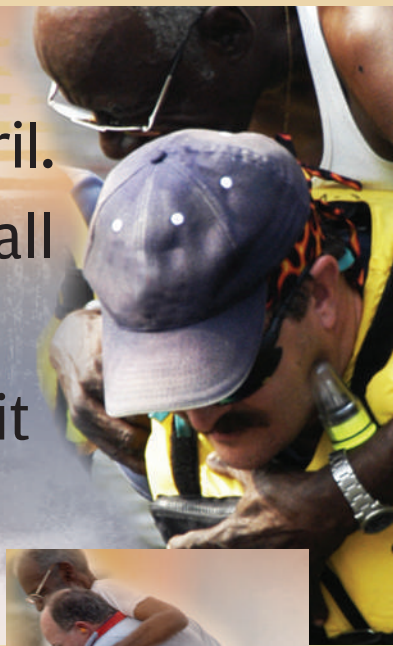
I have thought a lot about that and realized that there are a lot of places and people like that. More revivals may not be our answer. More obedience is.

I once lead a strategic meeting of leaders and we all agreed on a plan of action. As we closed, one man asked, "Could we pray that we will all do what we have agreed on?" I thought about this request. "No," I responded, "it is time to do it, not pray about it. God has spoken to us and that is His part; now obeying is our part." And it still is. **121**

We live in times of peril.  
But faith is active in all  
of life. It brings  
victory wherever it  
applied.

new manifestations of the Holy Spirit are occurring. When they occur, these people begin "flocking to the shrine." Such an attitude produces fads that are short-lived. I have witnessed my share of this.

When I was a boy, I was traveling through a certain town with my father when he said, "Do you see this town?" Of course I did. "It



**Charles Simpson** is Editor-In-Chief of One-to-One® Magazine. He ministers extensively throughout the United States and among the nations.

# Charles Simpson

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Chaplain Phil Maust  
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## January 2006

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#### NOVEMBER 16-20 • BOGOTA, COLUMBIA

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# The Serious Business of Values and Influence

Jonathan Simpson interviews business owner Ferrill Gibbs

WHEN FERRILL GIBBS WAS 10 YEARS OLD, HIS DAD GAVE HIM HIS FIRST set of boxing gloves for Christmas. “My first match was with my sister and I was lucky to get a draw. I’m not sure why getting hit was fun, but I loved the sport of boxing and was, eventually, actually pretty good at it. Some of my favorite fighters were Rocky Marciano, Gene Fulmer and Carmen Basilio. I made sure that I tuned in on Wednesday and Friday nights to see fights mostly sponsored by Gillette or Pabst Blue Ribbon. I admired those men because I knew to some degree the satisfaction derived from overcoming fear and fatigue while taking punishment.”

His greatest lifetime challenge, however, was not in a ring. In May 1996, he was operated on for colon cancer. His treatment following the operation consisted of 48 weekly chemotherapy treatments coupled with experimental and other drugs. Ferrill notes, “Nine years plus, I’m still here and cancer free. I wish to publicly thank God for my health and all our friends who prayed with me. God has blessed me far above what I really deserve.”

Ferrill and his wife, Linnie, have been associated with Covenant Church of Mobile and its people for more than 35 years. Presently, he and his son, Ferrill, Jr., and son-in-law, Dennis Braswell, own and operate Southern Oil, a five store chain selling gasoline, general convenience items, and deli foods. He is a seasoned businessman who has demonstrated an



understanding of marketing principles and the knowledge required to make them work.

“Today”, says Ferrill, “you must choose, what group you want to identify with. Now more than ever, there is a great opportunity for Christians to make a cultural difference.” Ferrill himself is an “influencer” who believes that being a positive influence should be an objective for Christians—as they go about their work. Affirming this, with an eye on the emerging generation, he believes in fostering

opportunities for those willing to work. Their training, he says, is now a Church-wide challenge, especially in cases where good parenting is not evident.

What follows (on page 12) is a brief interview with this insightful and successful entrepreneur....









**Ferrill Gibbs**

**121: As your business has grown and added stores, you've undoubtedly faced times of taking business risks. Under what conditions do you take risks and how has it worked out for you?**

**FG:** Obviously, the products we sell are in high demand and we have ample competition. One slight miscalculation in terms of type of location can have a significant bearing on anticipated volume. Some risk is involved in practically every site selection but we try to eliminate it completely by research. Some of our study includes geographical location, traffic count, population density, existing competition, and finished cost of development. If the numbers are favorable when compared to existing units, we proceed. Faith, however, is still required because you never really know until the doors are open, whether or not you made the right call. We have been right on all of our existing locations, but earlier in my career I learned a valuable lesson. I learned the value of wise council and "two heads are better than one".



**121: Do you believe there should be a difference in how Christians measure business success compared to a non-believer?**

**FG:** Profit is the most common measure of success in any business. The difference could be the way people operate their business and whether or not it accomplishes their objectives. In our business, profit is very important, but our methods must be fair and honest in dealing with customers, employees, suppliers, and taxing authorities. We feel that playing by the rules is God's way. We negotiate hard but we can not misrepresent for gain. We also work hard to develop positive relationships with people who work with us. I must admit that most of the practical things I've learned about the business came from our employees. People can truly be an asset. Organizations that surround themselves with smart, honest, dependable, and loyal employees are destined for good things. We believe we are successful when we create a climate of mutual respect and open dialogue.



**121: You have expressed a concern for the emerging generation and the bombardments they face by society. How can this be addressed?**

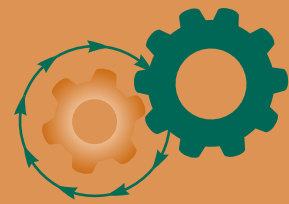
**FG:** I think most parents and grandparents love children and grandchildren as I do and want the world they live in to be a place of peace and opportunity. I think most of us, however, are beginning to realize that our world is changing daily. Truth is altered by political correctness and “good ‘ole common sense” has taken a back seat to foolish political thought. Christian values seem to be changing daily. Perhaps our traditional methods of teaching our children should be reviewed in order to counter the constant pressure to conform to a society that is moving in the wrong direction. One example that is creative and direct is currently underway in our local church. Some ladies meet weekly with young girls and young women addressing real life issues and challenges they face. I’m told that they answer the hard questions about dating and other issues as well. My hat is off to teachers who answer the hard questions and sometimes can resort to “I don’t know.” Teachers who accept this type of challenge can expose “cool” as uncool. They can make youngsters understand that all that glitters is not gold. When some of our best and brightest are referred to as “nerds” and “geeks”, then I think it’s time for us to review our own thought process. I’m sure we have talented teachers in our congregations that can convey to youngsters, and adults as well, that hard work, education, and faith in God can direct us in a life that has a proper mix of fun, freedom, and responsibility.

**121: What are some practical ways in which we can share our faith?**

**FG:** There are many ways to share one’s faith, but one of the most compelling to me is when a person’s behavior demonstrates Christian principles. There is no question that I still have work to do in this area, but it does not diminish the truth. Jesus describes believers as salt, or that ingredient that makes a recipe work. Some salty characteristics of people who demonstrate faith are honesty, integrity, a “be of service” attitude, hard working, and one who sets the standard of performance.

In the social realm, a believer should be patient, kind, dependable, help in time of trouble, a friend to all—avoiding political positioning, sincere, happy, and in control of their finances. They help in the time of trouble and what they put their hand to do, they do it well. A person with these personal attributes is rare in today’s world. They do exist, however, and I believe that the application of Christian principles can translate into effective leadership. Those who practice biblical instruction will usually wind up the head and not the tail. **121**

**Jonathan Simpson** is the Director of Development for CSM.



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Good News Medical Center brings sight to the eyes and hearts of people in Congo By Gary Henley



# Meeting Hope With Help In Africa

IN CONGO, WARS AND GOVERNMENT CORRUPTION HAVE CREATED A NATION OF “HAVE-NOTS.” While some minimal medical care is available, it is generally too little, too late, and much too far away. With virtually no roads, people often must walk more than 100 miles for treatment, or seek help from amateur “healers” in their village.

Approximately 15,000 people are blind in the Sankuru district, located in the center of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. More than 75% of these are blind because of preventable conditions, such as cataracts, advanced glaucoma, and other treatable diseases. Dr. Timothy Henry of International Outreach Ministries (IOM) is doing everything possible—and some things that don't seem possible—to make certain it doesn't happen to thousands more.

Only 3 of the 300 health centers in the district offer eye care, and only one offers more than eye washing, vitamins, and simple antibiotics. The Good News Medical Center in Lodja, with its medical and surgical ocular service, is that one. Established and directed by Dr. Henry, it is leading the way toward effective change in the treatment of preventable blindness in the Sankuru.





## Healing and Training

It is difficult to imagine how grievous it is to send a patient home blind because the boiled-leaf eye drops used by a traditional healer have destroyed his corneas. Or to explain to an otherwise healthy older man that the glaucoma which could have been surgically arrested years ago has gradually and permanently stolen his sight. Because of these and countless other patients whose lives could be changed with basic but effective eye care, Dr. Henry has established a medical and surgical eye care service in Lodja, with the vision of expanding it into a reference center of eye care, as well as a place of eye care training for nurses from throughout the region.

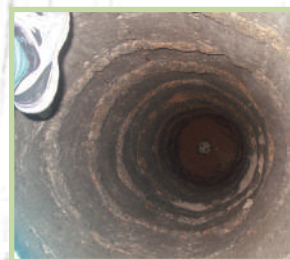
Spiritual blindness is even more prevalent in the area, which also concerns Dr. Henry. At the Good News Medical Center, the Christians on the staff begin each day with devotions. A full-time chaplain greets patients and shares the Gospel with them in various ways, often praying with Dr. Henry for their needs. Praise and worship music plays continually in waiting areas and post-op wards, and the **Jesus** film is shown often in the local dialect of Atetela. The staff also shares Christ with visiting nurses or doctors from remote village health centers and seeks to nurture their Christian faith before they return to their villages in prominent places of leadership.

Dr. Henry, a family-practice physician from Dallas, Texas, moved with his wife, Sharon, and his son, Peter, to the Congo in 1994, to strengthen and help provide future direction for IOM's medical activities there. Ten years of service for the Henrys has included intensive language and tropical medicine training, the establishment of a primary care clinic, displacement in a time of civil war during which their home and clinic were pillaged, additional training in surgical eye care, and finally the addition of a full-faceted ocular care service. In addition to patients needing eye care, others have the opportunity, perhaps for the first time ever, to receive adequate treatment for such diseases as malaria which are a continual menace to the life and strength of their communities.

## A New Level

Now, however, Dr. Henry and IOM are seeking to raise this care to a dramatically new level. The present clinic is limited in function by its physical facility, a rented 5-room building built as a single-family residence, with no running water or electrical system. (Neither running water nor electricity is available in this town of 100,000 people. Due to the cost of fuel, a small clinic generator runs only a couple of hours per day for surgeries and to power the video simultaneously.) We have therefore conceived plans for, and begun construction of, a 15,000 square foot regional hospital and training center for medical and surgical eye care. Construction began in August 2004, and is estimated to require several years for completion, given the challenges of construction in the interior of a developing nation. So far, a concrete foundation has been finished, and hand-made bricks are being prepared locally.

Imagine building a hospital 600 miles away from paved roads, with concrete brought by IOM's river barges to a not-so-nearby river



port, then trucked to Lodja in aging trucks over washed-out sand roads using expensive fuel. Local workers have seldom seen a concrete foundation poured, let alone one with actual re-bar as a base. The water was carried to the site in containers on workers' heads, the concrete mixed with shovels, and poured over the rebar with wheelbarrows. The pictures of this process will give you an idea of the determination of this missionary doctor to bring Christ and quality medical care to the needy people of central Congo. An additional \$170,000 will be required to complete the construction, and none of it is in hand.

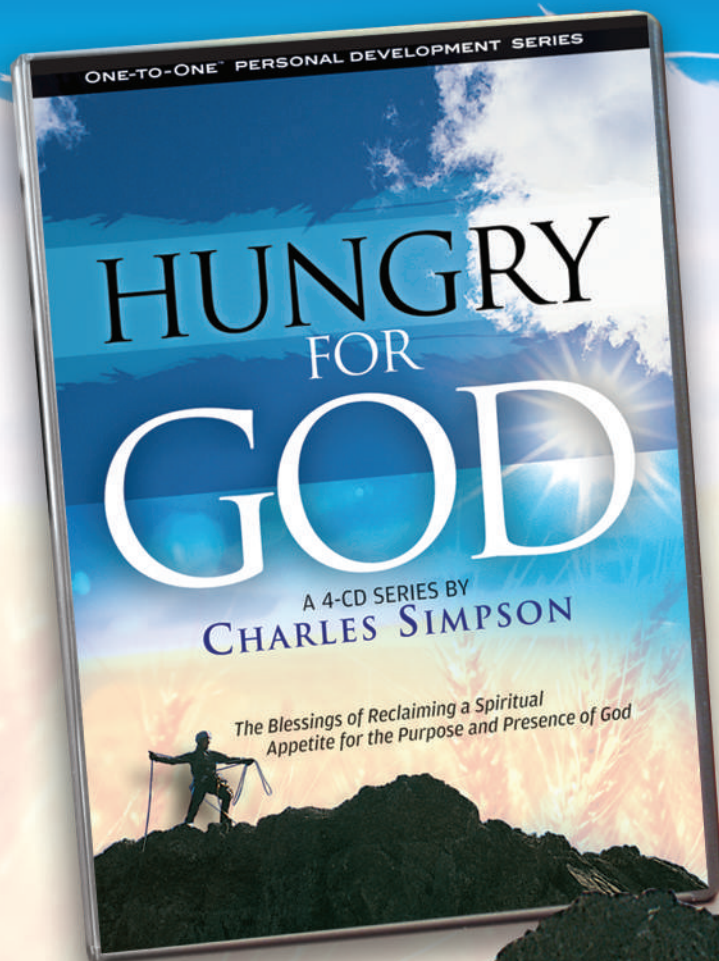
These obstacles do not deter Dr. Henry, a former Eagle Scout who has committed his entire life to minister to the spiritual and physical needs of the Congolese. In addition to all I have described, Dr. Henry has also begun a simple video training program for pastors (run by that same little generator), disciples a group of teenage boys, directs the translation of books into Atetela, and has nearly completed a hand-dug 130 foot well which will someday provide fresh running water for the new hospital. Meanwhile, Sharon keeps house in this waterless world, teaches women's Bible studies, helps with translation, and home-schools the very bright and inquisitive Peter. Together with the rest of the IOM team in Congo, they are out to change lives to the glory of God in a place where most live their lives in desperate need, and in which His glory is not often acknowledged.

If you would like more information about this amazing family, the Good News Clinic and the emerging hospital, contact IOM at (251) 626-1777. Also, see the Henry's web site at [www.CongoEye.org](http://www.CongoEye.org). 121



**Gary Henley**, the Director of International Outreach Ministries, travels widely encouraging missionaries around the globe.





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