



"Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given you, as I said to Moses."
- Joshua 1:3

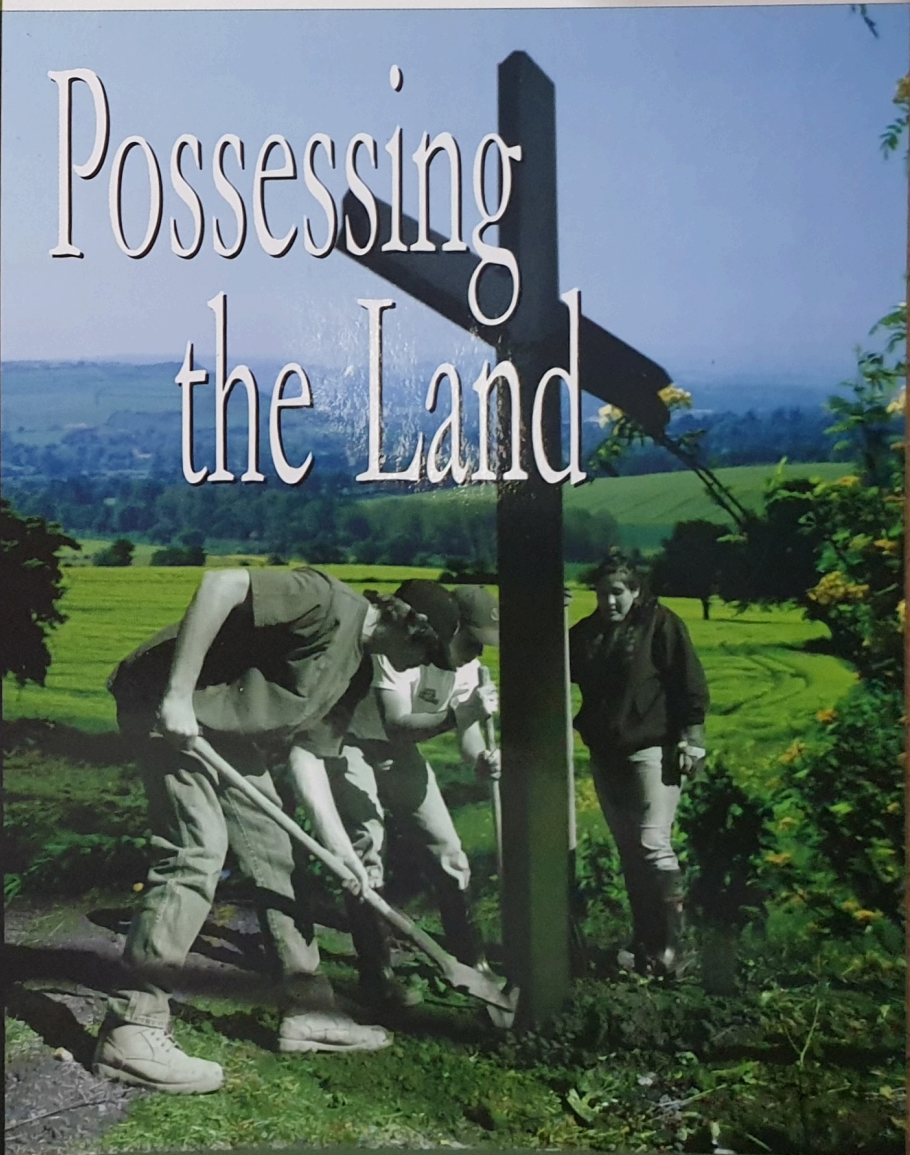


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HEALTHCARE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP
INTERNATIONAL (SOUTH ASIA) MONOGRAPHS



Possessing the Land



Healthcare Christian Fellowship, South Asia

Healthcare Christian Fellowship International (South Asia)

Monograph Series

Possessing the Land

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Introduction

After the death of Moses the servant of the LORD, it came to pass that the LORD spoke to Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' assistant, saying: 2 "Moses My servant is dead. Now therefore, arise, go over this Jordan, you and all this people, to the land which I am giving to them — the children of Israel. 3 Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given you, as I said to Moses. 4 From the wilderness and this Lebanon as far as the great river, the River Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and to the Great Sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your territory. 5 No man shall be able to stand before you all the days of your life; as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. I will not leave you nor forsake you. 6 Be strong and of good courage, for to this people you shall divide as an inheritance the land which I swore to their fathers to give them. 7 Only be strong and very courageous, that you may observe to do according to all the law which Moses My servant commanded you; do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may prosper wherever you go. 8 This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success. 9 Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:1-9

THE VISION FOR THE FUTURE

Then the LORD answered me and said: "Write the vision and make it plain on tablets, That he may run who reads it. For the vision is yet for an appointed time; But at the end it will speak, and it will not lie. Though it tarries, wait for it; Because it will surely come, It will not tarry. "Behold the proud, His soul is not upright in him; But the just shall live by his faith." Habakkuk 2 v.2-4

Write down the vision !

"Now I have come to make you understand what will happen to your people in the latter days, for the vision refers to many days yet to come." Daniel 10 v. 14

Understand the vision !

“Therefore, King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the Heavenly Vision”
Acts 26 V. 19 & 20

BE OBEDIENT TO THE HEAVENLY VISION!

The vision - A transformational river of life flowing into the health fields of Sri Lanka and South Asia and other nations, from the throne of God.

“And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding from the throne of God and of the Lamb. In the middle of its street, and on either side of the river, was the tree of life, which bore twelve fruits, each tree yielding its fruit every month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. Revelation 22: 1,2

“And it shall be that every living thing that moves, wherever the rivers go, will live. There will be a very great multitude of fish, because these waters go there; for they will be healed, and everything will live wherever the river goes.” Ezek. 47 v. 9

In 2005, May 21st, we attempted to launch this seven year Plan for the Health fields of Sri Lanka. This booklet was first released on this day. We are now reprinting a completely revised edition. Something very sad, yet very significant happened on that day. As I was preparing the message on that Saturday morning for the evening service, Mrs. Erasmia Grim, Auntie Erasmia, called me to say that Uncle Francis, Mr. Francis Grim, the human founder of HCF had passed away. She encouraged us to go ahead with our programme. It was a solemn moment.

That day we were commissioning a new National Coordinator for HCF Sri Lanka. I was deeply moved as we saw the words with which the booklet began,

“After the death of Moses the servant of the LORD, it came to pass that the LORD spoke to Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' assistant, saying: 2 "Moses My servant is dead. Now therefore, arise, go over this Jordan, you and all this people, to the land which I am giving to them — the children of Israel.” Josh 1:1-2

Was it coincidence? I think not. It felt to me that we were on the right track in launching this. Mr. Grim had died and on that very same day we were launching out. However both in Sri Lanka and in South Asia we have not made the progress we longed to see. Many said that they did not fully comprehend this plan. We had failed in communication and mobilizing people. It was and is still painful. Yet, the Lord seems to be urging us not to quit, but to persevere. At our last South Asian HCF team meeting in Sri Lanka in 2008 we discussed this again. The Leaders who were present agreed that we should relaunch this plan at an HCF South Asia Core Group Conference initially planned for late 2009. We had to postpone this due to various reasons.

So now, conscious of our inadequacies yet trusting in His grace and strength, with fear and trembling and yet with faith, we are relaunching this plan. Yes, by His grace, for

His glory and the good of all those suffering in the Health-fields of Asia, please join us in this thrust into the Health-fields of South Asia.

*"Through our God, we shall do valiantly". We hope to re-launch this on April 25th Sunday at Tansen, Nepal.
The goal of this booklet is to mobilize*

*People to pray
People to join and help implement this vision
People to support us in this project*

Yours sincerely in Christ,

*Arul Anketell,
Regional Promoter HCFI
South Asia*

CHAPTER ONE

A RIVER OF LIFE FOR THE HEALTH FIELDS

THE VISION

We envisage by faith, a transforming river of life flowing into the Health fields of South Asia from the Throne of God.

“And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding from the throne of God and of the Lamb. 2 In the middle of its street, and on either side of the river, was the tree of life, which bore twelve fruits, each tree yielding its fruit every month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.” Rev 22:1-2

“And it shall be that every living thing that moves, wherever the rivers go, will live. There will be a very great multitude of fish, because these waters go there; for they will be healed, and everything will live wherever the river goes “Ezek 47:9

Oh! For such a pure , crystal clear, life giving river of living water flowing into the Health fields!

The picture was given to us as we prayed of a river with many tributaries. All these tributaries flowed from one source, the heart of God. They were closely interconnected with each other. Then they all joined to form one gushing, mighty river of life!

SEVEN TRIBUTARIES

Transformational Prevailing Prayer

We are trusting God for a full release of prayer, all kinds of prayer. The prayer that Jesus taught us to pray is foundational; “The Lords Prayer”. The two prayers in this prayer have stirred our hearts.

“THY KINGDOME COME!”

“THY WILL BE DONE!”

“on earth as it is in heaven” On earth (in the Health Fields) as it is done in Heaven.

Of course, we need to pray the whole Lord’s prayer, over and over again, over the Healthfields.

We also realize that prayer is warfare. The words of Pastor John Piper have challenged us;

“Prayer is not a domestic intercom, to increase our comforts. Prayer is given mainly as a war time walkie talkie for frontline soldiers to connect with Headquarters.”

S D Gordon said, *“Without God, man cannot. But without man, God will not”* He was referring to the awesome truth that God has chosen to implement His will on earth through His children. So may God deliver us from the disease of Christian Fatalism and release all kinds of prayer into the Health Fields.

The Healthfields of the world are ripe for judgement. We as God’s intercessors need to stand in the gap and plead for mercy and salvation, justice and righteousness, care and compassion, healing and wholeness, based on the finished work of the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ.

“So I sought for a man among them who would make a wall, and stand in the gap before Me on behalf of the land, that I should not

destroy it; but I found no one.” Ezekiel 22:30

A separate booklet has been written on this and more booklets on prayer are to be written to stimulate a long campaign of prayer.

EVANGELISM - MISSIONS - SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

“The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us. Not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.” 2 Peter 3:9

If we put a stethoscope to God’s heart we may hear this sound, *“None should perish! “None should perish!”* This is God’s heart beat.

Mr. Francis Grim, the human founder of HCFI and known as our beloved Uncle was very passionate about this. Sometime ago , we organized a conference, “On call with the Great Physician” at Christian Medical College, Vellore. The faculty were from Medical Evangelism Training Strategy ministry. We were deeply convicted and challenged about the priority of giving spiritual care to our patients. In fact it became clear that not only was it ethical to do so, but it was unethical to withhold spiritual care to our patients. We pray that daily there will be people added to God’s Kingdom as a result of the faithful witness by His people in the health field.

MISSIONS

“Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age” Amen”
Matthew 28: 19,20

This great commission is for all of us and we in HCF have to take this commission seriously to reach out to the unreached areas.

South Asia H C F Missions

We are praying that South Asian Healthcare Missionaries will go to areas outside of South Asia to proclaim and practice the Kingdom of God and preach the gospel. At the HCF South Asia Core Group Conference, DV, we will be commissioning the first of these, though many have already gone. HCF Oceania is being led by a South Asian Missionary.

In this context, we have been challenged by a poetic article called “The Cry of the Blood” written by Amy Carmichael. We include it as an addendum at the end of this booklet.

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

We believe that we must work together with all in the Healthcare team and with local churches. However there are times when it is helpful to focus on a homogeneous group in order to focus on the needs of that group and reach out to them. So under a larger umbrella, we may consider special outreach groups. Eg.

- ◆ Ministering to attendants, labourers etc.
- ◆ Nurses’ ministry
- ◆ Children’s ministry
- ◆ Family and singles ministry
- ◆ Doctors’ ministry
- ◆ Allied Healthcare Staff ministry

It is interesting to see how God is using some cleaners, attendants and other staff, for His glory in a number of institutions.

DISCIPLESHIP - TRAINING - BIBLICAL HOLINESS

Discipleship

“You therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also” 2 Timothy 2:1-2

We trust that though this stream will come more mature, multiplying disciples and servant leaders in the Healthfields. We also want to focus on developing young leaders, “Nazirites”, men and women set apart for God who will stem the tide of spiritual decay. In 2012, we hope to have a “Gideon’s 300” Conference for those under 40 years to reinforce this area.

Training Ministry.

We now have a full time Training Coordinator for HCF South Asia and also a member of the International Training Team and International Saline Team in South Asia. This is a blessing. We in HCF South Asia are trusting God to implement a training strategy, that will result in trained people, training others to implement the great commission in the Healthfields.

Brochures of the Training ministry will be made available

on request.

BIBLICAL HOLINESS

We have recognized the vital necessity of the teaching of and living out of true inward Biblical holiness. We long to see this truth permeate all aspects of the ministry.

“To grant us that we, being delivered from the hand of our enemies; Might serve Him without fear in holiness and righteousness all the days of our lives.” Luke 1:74

“For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Saviour Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself, His own special people, zealous for good works.” Titus 2:11-14

MINISTRY TO THE POOR – DISASTER RELIEF

"Is this not the fast that I have chosen:
To loose the bonds of wickedness,
To undo the heavy burdens,
To let the oppressed go free,
And that you break every yoke?
7 Is it not to share your bread with the hungry,
And that you bring to your house the poor who are cast out;
When you see the naked, that you cover him,
And not hide yourself from your own flesh"? Isaiah 58:6-7

Isaiah 58 has come to us as a challenge, and as a foundational chapter in ministry to the poor. Today with increasing commodification of Healthcare, the poor are getting marginalized. Even Christian Healthcare Institutions are

struggling to keep up their ministries to the poor.

In this context, we trust that this area of ministry will develop. We need to network with others and with Churches. Disasters and calamities, pestilences and wars are on the increase. In the recent past we have had to deal with a number of such situations and been thrust into facing this reality and moving from inertia and apathy into action.

We are recommending that every National HCF and every HCF group and every Christian in Healthcare will set apart at least 5% of their income exclusively for ministry to the poor.

BIBLICAL CHRISTIAN HEALTHCARE – CHRISTIAN HEALTHCARE INSTITUTIONS.

For too long, Healthcare has been dominated and influenced by a humanistic worldview. Our vision is to join with others in restoring a Biblical Hebraic worldview back into Healthcare. This will have radical implications to our practice of healthcare.

At a prayer summit for the Healthfields, the Lord gave us a word from His Word.

“Bringing back the ark”

i.e: Bring back the presence, the precepts, the principles, the purity, the power and the person of God, back into

Healthcare.

Three landmark conferences were held at Christian Medical College, Vellore, with many countries and Christian groups involved.

- ♦ 2002 – “Bringing back the ark”
- ♦ 2005 – “On call with the Great Physician”
- ♦ 2007 – “Shalom 2007”

We long to see these truths and principles being practiced, proclaimed and propagated in the Health fields. For too long ungodly philosophies have gone uncontested in the Healthfields. It is time, like David, to step into the arena to face the Goliath. David’s words are a challenge to us.

“Then David said to the Philistine, “You come to me with a sword, with a spear, and with a javelin. But I come to you in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. 46 This day the LORD will deliver you into my hand, and I will strike you and take your head from you. And this day I will give the carcasses of the camp of the Philistines to the birds of the air and the wild beasts of the earth, that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel. 47 Then all this assembly shall know that the LORD does not save with sword and spear; for the battle is the LORD’s, and He will give you into our hands” 1 Samuel 17:45-47

We long to declare over the Healthfields of South Asia and the world.

- **“Jesus Christ is Lord of Healthcare, Healing and Wholeness”**
- **“In Him are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge”** Colossians 2:3 (and that includes healthcare)

We want to focus much attention on developing this in the next seven years.

New Models of Healthcare

We in HCF are excited to see that God is raising new models of Christian Healthcare. We want to encourage and stand behind such efforts and even help to bring forth such models.

"Do not remember the former things,
Nor consider the things of old.
Behold, I will do a new thing,
Now it shall spring forth;
Shall you not know it?
I will even make a road in the wilderness
And rivers in the desert " Isa 43:18-19

We celebrate these new models that are emerging and would love to play whatever supporting role is needed in this emerging area of ministry.

SOCIAL JUSTICE – ETHICS – FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

"But let justice run down like water, And righteousness like a mighty stream." Amos 5 v. 24
"But truly I am full of power by the Spirit of the Lord, And of justice and might,
To declare to Jacob his transgression, And to Israel his sin." Micah 3:8
"He has shown you, O man, what is good; And what does the LORD require of you, But to do justly, To love mercy, And to walk humbly with your God?" Micah 6 v. 8

Injustice, exploitation and all kinds of corruption abound in

the health fields.

Sadly we, His children have often been indifferent or apathetic about this. We trust God to raise a strong prophetic voice in this vital area of need. At a prayer meeting for the health fields we paused for a time of silence to listen to the cries from the health fields and from God. After this time as we cried out to God, one HCF staff worker said she felt the biggest cry from the health field was the cry for justice. God's Kingdom encompasses all aspects of life and healthcare and we dare not limit His purposes.

John the Baptist

We have been challenged by the life of John the Baptist, a nameless, selfless, fearless prophet of God. He spoke out on many social issues and called Israel to repentance. For this he lost his life. We pray that we in HCF can also play a more significant prophetic role in the Health fields and that He, our God will raise people who can lead this area. We have written a booklet on John the Baptist for this solemn assembly.

Jubilee.

The whole concept of the Old Testament Jubilee and its New Testament outworkings have also challenged us. One aspect of the Jubilee was a restoration of justice and mercy to those who have been denied this. We want to explore further what this Jubilee would mean to us in the 21st century.

BIBLICAL MANAGEMENT - ADMINISTRATION – FINANCE

G

od is a God of order. And this is a very big need in most of our fellowships. We pray that in the coming years, special attention will be given to the area of Administration. The ministry can be tied down by a poor administration. We envisage a good administrative structure like an endoskeleton. Not prominent and unwieldy but unseen and yet facilitating free movement. Organization around true life.

Finances – This is a vital area of the ministry and we want to see this area developing in all three areas, i.e:

- ♦ Raising of finances
- ♦ Use of Finances
- ♦ Accountability

We want to acknowledge with deep gratitude God's amazing faithfulness in this regard in the past years. As Hudson Traylor said, "God's work done in God's way in God's time will never lack God's provision"

CONGREGATIONS IN HEALTHCARE – NETWORKING – BIBLICAL HEALING AND WHOLENESS.

CONGREGATIONS IN HEALTHCARE.

The local church is one of God's key institutions. In HCF we encourage each Christian Healthcare worker to belong to a local church.

We long to see more congregations involved in Healthcare. Each congregation will of course be involved in different areas of healthcare according to the context and need in their situation. We like to work alongside local churches especially in giving training to Church members (Example - Training in Hospital visitation, care of the dying etc.)

What blessing and healing will flow to our people if each congregation gets involved in some aspect of healthcare.

It could be

- ◆ Prayer
- ◆ Hospital visitation
- ◆ Advocacy
- ◆ Running a clinic
- ◆ Hospice Care

- ♦ Ministry to differently abled, mentally challenged etc.
- ♦ Other areas of Healthcare including community health, etc.

Our prayer is that the local church and Healthcare will be joined together again. We pray that the powerful, winning combination of Pastor Paul and Dr. Luke will be restored again. “For what God has put together, let no man put asunder”

NETWORKING

Charles Cowman once spoke these powerful words,

“There is no limit to what God can do through a man or a woman provided he/she will not touch the glory.”

John the Baptist said,

“He (Jesus) must increase, I must decrease”

In Psalm 133 v. 1 we read,

“Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!”

We believe as an HCF we must work with other like-minded fellowships. We must be kingdom – oriented and not our fellowship oriented. We hope to build many networking partnerships in the future and strengthen those that already exist.

BIBLICAL HEALING

And God said, “ If you diligently heed the voice of the LORD your God and do what is right in His sight, give ear to His commandments and keep all His statutes, I will put none of the diseases on you which I have brought on the Egyptians. For I am the LORD who

heals you.” Exodus 15:26

“How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.” Acts 10:38

Our God is a Healer. And He brings “SHALOM”, a sense of well being to people. Health is a multifaceted concept in the Bible. Shalom means wholeness, completeness and spiritual well being. But it also carries a strong emphasis on relational healing.

So we long to be involved with others in healing and wholeness in it’s fullness.

- ◆ Healing of persons
- ◆ Healing of families
- ◆ Healing of society – transformation
- ◆ Healing of nations
- ◆ Reconciliation etc.

This would of course have to include the care of the dying and helping people face death.

“Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil.” and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage”. Hebrews 2:14, 15

So we pray for **Shalom**, wholeness to individuals and communities. We want to help spread this concept. Also for **signs and wonders** and the supernatural Hand of God.

And for good care of the dying. Also we hope to develop guidelines on the area of Biblical healing and expose the dangers of alternative medicine. Many people, including Christians in their desperate search for healing especially of chronic and terminal illnesses are seeking alternate methods of healing. These can be detrimental both spiritually and physically.

We need a clear Biblical alternate to alternative medicine. A balanced, biblical clear perspective is urgently needed. We hope together with churches and others that such clarity can be given.

“Lord, let your River of life flow into us and through us and into the Healthfields of South Asia”

SUMMARY

The Blessed Holy Spirit, He is the Chief Executive of the Holy Trinity. He is the Director and Lord of the Church and HCF. We entrust all these plans to Him. We believe He is the One who gave them to us. But we ask Him, to delete, change or do whatever He wants to do. Our desire is not to fulfill our agenda, but the agenda of the Holy Spirit. Also He is the Lord of the Harvest. And we know for all these streams we need people to lead and guide and work. We cry to Him to raise the labourers for the harvest and equip them to do the will of the Father

We close this Chapter with a hymn that we sang at an HCF International Conference.

The sunset tints are stealing

(To the tune of the Church's one foundation)

The sunset tints are stealing
Across the world we know
And solemn bells are pealing
Their message sad and low;
That time for work is ending
O Father can it be?
That we are slow in sending
Our forces out for thee.

We bear a sacred calling
To go and make Thee known
We know that million's falling
Before ungodly thrones;
For other lords besides Thee
Hold sway in human lives,
And other isms call them
To worthless sacrifice.

We face a task unfinished
That drives us to our knees,
Earth's needs that undiminished
Reproves our slothful ease;
For broken lives lie bleeding
Beneath sin's cruel clutch,

They know not of His pleading
Nor have they felt His touch.

Father God sustain us
O Holy Ghost inspire
O LORD Thy love constrain us
So that we never tire;
From fearfulness defend us
From apathy awake,
Forth in Thy service send us
To labor for thy sake.

CHAPTER TWO (Part A)

FOCUSSING ON THE FEW

H.C.F. CORE GROUP CONCEPT AND ASSOCIATE STAFF

For a number of years we have been using these terms in HCF South Asia, Sri Lanka and in other parts of the world. There seems to be some uncertainty and some misconceptions of what is really meant. So in this booklet outlining our plan for the next seven years, we felt we should explain the concept both biblically and practically.

Biblical Basis

Focusing on the few for future fruitfulness

Scripture abounds with such examples, and we give below a few of these examples which have been like road signs for us along the way. Each of these scriptures have deeply impacted us in the past and still do.

Individuals who took a stand resulting in many following **Our Lord Jesus Christ**

Our Lord Jesus stood all alone in fulfilling God's redemptive plan.

- ◆ He was forsaken by His disciples - Gethsemane
- ◆ He was forsaken by His countrymen - Gabbatha

- ◆ He was forsaken by God - Golgotha

He cried out, "My God, My God why hast thou forsaken me?" Yet later, He

cried triumphantly "It is finished".

And now, a great company of His blood bought children have risen up and are

continuing to share this redemptive message in the spirit of the crucified Savior.

"The Son of God goes forth to war, who follows in His train?"

Thank God for a noble succession of heroes in Christ who've done it.

David & Goliath

For 40 days, the giant Goliath went uncontested. Israel's army under Saul, shouted the war cry, but when Goliath shouted, they turned their backs and ran. "They were shouting, but not shooting!" Until, David appeared on the scene, then everything changed.

One young man, one young boy who realized that one with God is a majority, stepped into the arena, risking his life to engage the enemy.

The rest is history. A mighty victory was won.

The result?

"Now the men of Israel and Judah arose and shouted, and pursued the Philistines as far as the entrance of the valley and to the gates

of Ekron. And the wounded of the Philistines fell along the road to Shaaraim, even as far as Gath and Ekron.”1 Samuel 17:52

Suddenly the sleeping giant arose. From shouting and not shooting, they began to shout and pursue and rout the enemy. One man’s action mobilized the entire paralyzed army.

Jonathan

The Phillistines had subdued and shamed the Israelite army. No one even had weapons except Saul & Jonathan. Yet Jonathan arose. Hear his words.

“Then Jonathan said to the young man who bore his armor, "Come, let us go over to the garrison of these uncircumcised; it may be that the LORD will work for us. For nothing restrains the LORD from saving by many or by few." 1 Samuel 14:6

He attempted the impossible together with his armor bearer. They took a huge risk against impossible odds. Yet God gave them victory in the initial skirmish.

The result?

“And there was trembling in the camp, in the field, and among all the people. The garrison and the raiders also trembled; and the earth quaked, so that it was a very great trembling. ‘1 Samuel 14:15

“Then Saul and all the people who were with him assembled, and they went to the battle; and indeed every man's sword was against his neighbor, and there was very great confusion.” 1 Sam 14:20

God sent a supernatural tremor, Saul’s army was mobilized into action. One person can make a difference!

EXAMPLES OF FOCUSING ON A FEW - A small group

Our Lord Jesus Christ & His Disciples

Jesus came with a mandate from God. The assignment - the redemption of mankind. And in His brief sojourn on earth and especially in His brief three and a half years of ministry there seemed one important priority next to His first priority of the cross. It was the “Training of the Twelve”.

Robert E Coleman wrote a truth defining book on this called, “The Master Plan of Evangelism” It is a masterly , book about our Master’s strategy. Jesus increasingly focused on a few. Coleman describes some clear steps that Jesus followed, though of course there was overlap in each of these steps.

- ◆ Selection of the twelve
- ◆ Association
- ◆ Consecration
- ◆ Impartation
- ◆ Obedience
- ◆ Supervision
- ◆ Reproduction

Jesus spent increasing time in nurturing and discipling the

twelve disciples.

Then after Pentecost they became the foundation of the mighty thrust forward of the gospel of Jesus Christ. His plan succeeded. Surely this is a lesson for us in HCF.

David's 30th mighty men

This is really a fascinating study and we long to see such mighty men and women for the Health fields of South Asia,

In I Chronicles Chapter 11 and 12 we are given a few glimpses into these mighty men and their character.

Chapter 11: 10: They strengthened themselves with him in His Kingdom, to make him King (11:10),

Chapter 11: 11 - 14 We are given an account of some of their exploits.

Chapter 11: 15 - 19 This is a beautiful story. David just sighed for some water from the well in his hometown of Bethlehem. Bethlehem was guarded by a Phillistine garrison. David never made a request. Just a sigh! And yet, the love and loyalty of three of his thirty men was so great, they risked their lives, broke through the Phillistine garrison and brought the water to David. Did David drink it? No, he was a true *hero and man of God. This was his response:*

"And he said, "Far be it from me, O my God, that I should do this! Shall I drink the blood of these men who have put their lives in jeopardy? For at the risk of their lives they brought it." Therefore he would not drink it. These things were done by the three mighty

men." *1 Chron 11:19*

Oh! That such people will be there in the Healthfields of South Asia. Those who hear the heartbeat and sighs of the Lord and then respond.

Chapter 11: 20 - 25

These verses describe further some of their great conquests and victories.

Chapter 12: 1

"Now these were the men who came to David at Ziklag while he was still a fugitive from Saul the son of Kish; and they were among the mighty men, helpers in the war"

They joined David when he was a fugitive and not when all was well. Oh! That there will be Christian Healthworkers joining us in this task now. We are still a very small group, and still not as vibrant as we should be.

Chapter 12 : 2 - 17

Further exploits of the mighty men. Can we mention a few characteristics that they had?

- ◆ Faces like lions
- ◆ Destination was written on their faces. Today's world is producing effeminate men and weak women. Where are the Elijah's of God in the Healthfields?
- ◆ Swift as Gazelles on the mountain
- ◆ They were fit, agile, active and awake. Today we are more into a peace time, flabby mentality; lunches and parties and overeating and laziness. We need utmost effort, and self discipline.

Complacency needs to be replaced by zeal and daring. May God raise such Healthcare workers.

Chapter 12: 18

"Then the Spirit came upon Amasai, chief of the captains, and he said:

"We are yours, O David;

We are on your side, O son of Jesse!

Peace, peace to you,

And peace to your helpers!

For your God helps you."

So David received them, and made them captains of the troop."

1 Chronicles 12:18

They were loyal and totally committed.

Chapter 12: 22

'For at that time they came to David day by day to help him, until it was a great army, like the army of God.'

Hallelujah! We pray that daily people will enlist in this great task in the Healthfields.

Chapter 12 : 23 - 37

Again we read of some of their exploits, attitudes and character. Included was the tribe of Issachar and their contribution was also significant.

"of the sons of Issachar who had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do, their chiefs were two hundred; and all their brethren were at their command;" 1 Chronicles 12:32

The strategists and thinkers are also sorely needed.

Chapter 12 : 38 - 40

This is a summary of these men.

- ◆ Willing Warriors
- ◆ Knew how to do battle
- ◆ Came to Hebron with one heart and mind and fully determined
- ◆ Kinsmen helped them
- ◆ Plentiful supplies
- ◆ Joy

We pray that like for David, God will raise men and women in the Healthfields of South Asia, fully determined to make Jesus, King and Lord in the Healthfields.

Gideon's Three Hundred

Again we see the clear Biblical principle, “ God can save by few as by many” And God is glorified more when He does it initially through a few and then through them mobilizes the many.

Judges Chapter 6 and 7

Gideon Rises Up:

Chapter 6:34

“But the Spirit of the LORD came upon Gideon; then he blew the trumpet, and the Abiezrites gathered behind him.” Judges 6:34

Gideon, after responding to God's call, blew a trumpet and called Israel to battle. For seven years they had been subdued, and oppressed and impoverished by the Midianites. A great cry went up to God from Israel. A great cry goes up to God from the Healthfields, from Staff and patients too. But now Gideon had risen up as God's answer to this cry.

Thirty two thousand responded to this trumpet call to join Gideon in the battle.

God's response is a surprise.

"And the LORD said to Gideon, 'The people who are with you are too many for Me to give the Midianites into their hands, lest Israel claim glory for itself against Me, saying, 'My own hand has saved me.'" Judges 7:2

"You have too many people. You will take the glory later thinking it was your strength and your numbers". So God told Gideon to tell those who are fearful to go home. Fear would be infectious and weaken the faith of the faithful. A staggering 22,000 went home, fearful.

Then comes another surprise.

"But the LORD said to Gideon, 'The people are still too many; bring them down to the water, and I will test them for you there. Then it will be, that of whom I say to you, 'This one shall go with you,' the same shall go with you; and of whomever I say to you, 'This one shall not go with you,' the same shall not go.'" Judges 7:4

Still too many people!

God gives Gideon another test. Another staggering 9,700 fail the test.

Only 300 out of 32,000 were left. They were not fearful, neither were they apathetic. This is a little less than 1%. God was pruning the army.

Chapter 7:7

God's declaration.

'Then the LORD said to Gideon,"By the three hundred men who lapped I will save you, and deliver the Midianites into your hand. Let all the other people go, every man to his place." Judges 7:7

God said, "Three Hundred is enough"

Chapter 7: 9 - 22 -

A mighty victory

Here the battle is described and indeed God wrought a great victory.

Chapter 7: 22 - 24 -

Mobilization

Then Gideon summoned the others and they joined the battle.

We are especially praying for a group like "Gideons 300", young, healthcare workers who will rise up in the Health-fields of South Asia. Some of them are at the Conference in Nepal, April 2010.

Deborah's Army

Here we read of how Jabin, King of Canaan and the Canaanites harshly oppressed Israel for twenty years. Deborah, a prophetess was judging Israel at that time. It is so good to have an example here of an outstanding woman leader.

Deborah mustered the troops and challenged the fearful Barak to lead the charge and deliver Israel from the hand of Jabin, King of Canaan. The Narrative is in Judges Chapter 4 and the song of Deborah after the battle in Chapter 5. Can we look at a few verses from Deborah's song? May it cause our hearts to burn. May there be such a group of Christians in the Healthfields.

Key to the battle - Deborah

"village life ceased, it ceased in Israel,
Until I, Deborah, arose,
Arose a mother in Israel." Judgs 5:7

Oh! That many women in the Healthfields will arise like Deborah "Mothers in Israel"

Chapter 5: 9

"My heart is with the rulers of Israel
Who offered themselves willingly with the people.
Bless the LORD! " Judges 5:9

They were willing volunteers.

Chapter 5 :11

There was a beautiful partnership with the LORD.

Righteous acts of the Lord

Righteous acts for His villagers in Israel.

Chapter 5 :13 & 14

The word “came” is repeated. People came and joined the battle.

Chapter 5 :15

“And the princes of Issachar were with Deborah;
As Issachar, so was Barak
Sent into the valley under his command;
Among the divisions of Reuben
There were great resolves of heart.” Judges 5:15

The Hebrew phrase could mean, “toes behind heels” or “at his feet” So there was a close succession, one behind the other, without any space. They rushed into the battle.

Sadly there were those who did not join the battle. Either they stayed, lingered or indulged in great searchings of heart, but never got involved.

“Why did you sit among the sheepfolds,
To hear the pipings for the flocks?
The divisions of Reuben have great searchings of heart.
Gilead stayed beyond the Jordan,
And why did Dan remain on ships?
Asher continued at the seashore,
And stayed by his inlets” Judges 5:16-17

Those who risked their lives.

“Zebulun is a people who jeopardized their lives to the point of death,
Naphtali also, on the heights of the battlefield.” Judges 5:18

Oh! For more people like this in the Healthfields and in HCF.

Jael

"Most blessed among women is Jael,
The wife of Heber the Kenite;
Blessed is she among women in tents" Judges 5:24

To her was given the honor of striking the most telling blow. Does this not thrill us?

We are not called to kill people but save people. But certainly to wage war against sin and self, satan and the world system. May God raise such worshipping warriors in the Healthfields.

New Testament Church Pattern

As we look at the New Testament church we see this same principle and pattern being worked out. The Apostle Paul had a large missionary vision. He travelled extensively and preached widely. Yet he too followed His Lord's Plan of training and focussing on a few. Timothy, Titus, Barnabas, Silas, Mark, Onesimus and others were fathered, mentored and disciple by the Apostle Paul. His classic teaching on this is found in 2 Timothy 2:2

"And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also" 2 Timothy 2:2

He has left us a legacy in four books of the Bible about this personal, caring, mentoring ministry. I & II Timothy, Titus and Philemon were books written to individuals whom Paul personally cared for.

Conclusion

Chapter 5 : 31

"Thus let all your enemies perish, O LORD!

But let those who love Him be like the sun

When it comes out in full strength."

So the land had rest for forty years." Judges 5:31

May God raise radiant Christian in the Healthfields, like the sun at full strength to build His Kingdom and see evil, unrighteousness and injustice defeated.

Summary

We have looked at eight Biblical examples how the principle of focusing on the few can later bring great fruitfulness and victory.

- ◆ Jesus - Redemptive work.
- ◆ David & Goliath
- ◆ Jonathan
- ◆ Jesus and the twelve
- ◆ David's 30 mighty men
- ◆ Gideon's 300
- ◆ Deborah's army
- ◆ The Apostle Paul

In the next chapter, we will outline what we envisage as guidelines for both the Core-group and Associate Staff in HCF South Asia.

CHAPTER THREE

JOSHUA GOD'S MAN – THE BOOK OF JOSHUA***A MODEL FOR HCF SOUTH ASIA***

THE CAPTAIN OF THE LORD'S ARMY

Joshua 5 v. 13 to Joshua 6 v. 5

This surely was the turning point in the entire campaign. Joshua, Israel's General and Commander was alone. They had crossed the Jordan river and retreat was not possible. Ahead lay that impregnable fortress, Jericho, that stood between them and the entire land. Joshua must have been contemplating as to how he could take Jericho.

Suddenly he is confronted by a man with a drawn sword. Like a true soldier Joshua confronted him with a question, "Are you for us or for our adversaries." The reply stunned him. *"No, but as the Commander of the army of the Lord I have now come."* Joshua recognized Divinity. He crumpled down on his face and worshipped.

Who was this Commander? We believe it was none other than our Lord Jesus Christ. He accepted Joshua's worship. Then Joshua was eager to get the strategy for Jericho and asked, "What does my Lord say to His servant?" The Commander recognized that Joshua was still not in the right posture or position to receive the strategy. *"Take*

your sandals off your foot, for the place where you stand is holy.” And so finally, face down, shoes off, in an attitude of true worship, and total dependence on God, Joshua received the strategy. It seemed ridiculous. Yet he obeyed and Jericho was conquered.

Jesus Christ is the Lord of Healthcare, Healing and the Health fields. He is our Captain. We recognize that only as we truly worship Him, submit to Him and honour Him can we see His Kingdom extended in the health fields.

When Israel’s captain fell at the feet of the Captain of the Lord’s army, the forces of darkness must have shuddered. A new Captain was taking over. He does not come to take sides but to take over.

“So Lord Jesus, take over and take charge of this extension of your kingdom in the Health fields.

You are Lord!!”

JOSHUA GOD’S MAN

God’s method is a man/woman. And Joshua had been prepared by God for this task. We believe God is preparing many for this task in the Healthfields.

A Man who had encountered God

We have already mentioned this above. Joshua had met with the Lord and this was foundational in the whole conquest of Canaan.

A Prepared Man

Joshua was prepared by God over a long period. In fact even before we come to the Book of Joshua there were some crucial experiences that he went through. These were vital in the preparation of this Man of God.

Events prior to Joshua taking over.

Exodus 17: 8 – 16

Here he learnt the great lesson that the real victory was won on the mountain as Moses exercised authority in prayer. He also learnt a new name of God, “Jehovah Nisi” “God is my Banner”. He had to fight in the valley, but he needed the exercise of God’s authority in order to overcome.

“So the LORD spoke to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend. And he would return to the camp, but his servant Joshua the son of Nun, a young man, did not depart from the tabernacle” (Exodus 33:11)

Even after Moses left the tent of meeting, Joshua lingered and waited in God’s presence. He learnt to value and love the presence of God and it was probably here that he learnt to hear the voice of God. How vital this was in the battles in Canaan.

“So Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' assistant, one of his choice men, answered and said, "Moses my lord, forbid them!" 29 Then Moses said to him, "Are you zealous for my sake? Oh, that all the LORD's people were prophets and that the LORD would put His Spirit upon them!" Numbers 11:28 -29

Here Joshua learnt from Moses the importance of having a large generous heart. He also learnt that his primary loyalty was to God and not to man.

Numbers 13 & 14

In these 2 Chapters we read how only Joshua and Caleb out of the 12 spies had the faith to go in and possess the land. As a result the people turned against them and even thought of stoning them. Here he learnt to stand alone for God. He learnt that the majority is not always right and that one with God is a majority.

All these were great preparatory lessons for a leader.

A Man of Prayer

Joshua a man of prayer - Though it is not explicitly stated, we can surmise that Joshua was a man of prayer.

11 times in the first 11 chapters of Joshua we read the phrase, "The Lord said to Joshua" This shows that he was in vital contact with God.

Once he prayed a mighty prophetic, proclamatory prayer.

"Then Joshua spoke to the Lord in the day that the Lord delivered up the Amorites before the children of Israel, and he said in the sight of Israel: "Sun stand still over Gibeon; And moon, in the valley of Aijalon." Joshua 10:12

We read later these amazing words.

"And there has been no day like that before it or after it, that the Lord heeded the voice of a man; for the Lord fought for Israel." Joshua 10:14

A Man of Faith

Joshua was a man of faith. Later in this booklet we have devoted a whole chapter to describe Joshua as a man of faith. In fact a good title for the Book of Joshua is “Victorious by Faith”

“Faith, mighty faith, the promise sees
And looks to God alone,
Laught at impossibilities,
And cries, it shall be done!

Hallelujah!

A Man of courage

When God commissioned Joshua, three times the Lord said to him, “Be strong and very courageous”

This shows that when Joshua took over from Moses, he was not confident. He would have had fears and misgivings with regard to the gigantic task entrusted to him.

Yet as we progress through the book of Joshua we see him grow in confidence and courage in the Lord. He faced indomitable odds from without and within. Yet nothing could deter him until he had finished his task. We will need this so much in the next seven to ten years.

A Man of humility

For forty years he was content to play “second fiddle”. He never sought honor but sought to bring honor and glory to God. We see this attitude even in the two instances of failure in the book of Joshua. One was when Achan had

sinned and Israel was defeated. Joshua was “face down” before God and concerned for God’s Name. The Lord showed him the problem and he courageously dealt with it. The other was when the Gibeonites deceived them. Again he acted righteously and God turned even that failure into an opportunity for one of His greatest miracles in Chapter 10. Failure is never final with God.

A Man of discernment

He knew his people and knew their hearts. In the closing chapter of Joshua (Chapter 24) he repeatedly probes further and further, demanding a repentant, real, recorded choice from his people. He was not impressed by their glib statements, “we will serve the Lord”

A commissioned Man

Joshua was no self appointed leader. As we said earlier, for 40 years he played “Second fiddle” contentedly. He never sought to take the leadership on his own, until it was God’s time. He was commissioned by Moses in the presence of Israel and he was directly commissioned by God.

“Then Moses called Joshua and said to him in the sight of all Israel, “Be strong and of good courage, for you must go with this people to the land which the LORD has sworn to their fathers to give them, and you shall cause them to inherit it. 8 And the LORD, He is the One who goes before you. He will be with you, He will not leave you nor forsake you; do not fear nor be dismayed.” Deuteronomy 31:7-8

“Now Joshua son of Nun was filled with the spirit of wisdom because Moses had laid his hands on him. So the Israelites listened to him and did what the LORD had commanded Moses” Deuteronomy 34:9

“And the LORD said to Moses: “Take Joshua the son of Nun with you, a man in whom is the Spirit, and lay your hand on him; set him before Eleazar the priest and before all the congregation, and inaugurate him in their sight. And you shall give some of your authority to him, that all the congregation of the children of Israel may be obedient. He shall stand before Eleazar the priest, who shall inquire before the LORD for him by the judgment of the Urim. At his word they shall go out, and at his word they shall come in, he and all the children of Israel with him — all the congregation.” So Moses did as the LORD commanded him. He took Joshua and set him before Eleazar the priest and before all the congregation. And he laid his hands on him and inaugurated him, just as the LORD commanded by the hand of Moses.” Numbers 27:18-23

Finally, He was directly commissioned by God. Joshua 1:1
—9

“After the death of Moses the servant of the LORD, it came to pass that the LORD spoke to Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' assistant, saying: 2 “Moses My servant is dead. Now therefore, arise, go over this Jordan, you and all this people, to the land which I am giving to them — the children of Israel. 3 Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given you, as I said to Moses.” Joshua 1:1-3

So we conclude with this principle. “God’s method is a man or a woman”. May God raise such people for the healthfields and bring such into partnership and communion with other like minded warriors.

CHAPTER FOUR

THREE PIVOTAL MOMENTS IN THE CONQUEST OF CANAAN

Gilgal – Joshua 4 v. 19-6 v. 5

Joshua and all Israel came up out of Jericho. Here they lingered for some time. And here in Gilgal some very important matters were dealt with. God was preparing them for the conquest. And Gilgal became a vital base.

At Gilgal:

- ♦ The whole new generation was circumcised
- ♦ They celebrated the Passover after thirty eight years.
- ♦ The manna stopped
- ♦ They tasted the produce of Canaan

Alan Redpath in his book “Victorious Christian life” on the book of Joshua, describes Gilgal in this way. Gilgal was a place of:

Death and Resurrection - Into the Jordan- death and coming out – Resurrection

Remembrance – Memorial stones to remember what God has done.

Renunciation - Circumcision – a sign of inward set-apart-
edness to God

Restoration – Passover – Celebrated after thirty eight
years

Realization – At last, they realized the promise and tasted
the produce of Canaan

Revelation – Joshua and the Captain of the Lord's army.

Radical obedience – They obeyed God's seemingly
"ridiculous" plan.

In our seven year plan, we seem to be at Gilgal. May we
allow the Lord to search us and sanctify us and fill us with
His Spirit all for all that is ahead. And may He do it to us
collectively.

Shechem I – Joshua

Shechem 1 – Joshua 8:30- 35

After the triumph over Ai, one would have expected Josh-
ua to launch out on the Southern Campaign. Instead he
does a strange thing which seemed militarily foolish. He
took all Israel, (perhaps three million) on a thirty mile pil-
grimage to Shechem. There in accordance with what God
had commanded Moses, he called all Israel to make a
fresh covenant with the Lord. Shechem was a fertile val-
ley in the middle of the country surrounded by two
mountains. Here Joshua wrote on stone the copy of the
law of Moses and brought Israel to worship. Joshua rec-
ognized that this battle is a spiritual one and that the is-

sue of true worship and consecration to God were absolutely vital. What a vital lesson for us in the twenty first century!

Shechem 2 – Joshua 24

At the end of his life and after taking the promised land Joshua again brought his people to Shechem. Here he recounted first to them all what God had done.

Joshua spoke as a prophet on behalf of God. The personal pronoun “I” comes at least 18 times, and “he” twice. God recounted all that He had done for them.

“I took you -

I sent you -

I gave you etc.”

Having said this, the Lord, through Joshua called them to a reconsecration.

“Now therefore fear the Lord and serve Him in sincerity and in truth, and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the River and in Egypt. But as for me and my household we will serve the LORD. Joshua 24 v. 14

Joshua knew how fickle the hearts of his people were. So he called them to make:

A real choice – v. 14-15. His famous words are recorded here, *“As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord”* They responded in a shallow manner that they will serve the Lord. But Joshua was not satisfied. He called them

successively to make:

A responsible choice. 24 v. 19,20

A repentant choice 24 v. 23

A recorded choice 24 v. 25,26

Decisions determine destiny. As we begin to launch out on this task may we also make our choice to live for and serve the Lord.

From subtle love of softening things,
From easy choices weakenings,
Not thus are spirits fortified
Not this way went the crucified
From all that dims thy Calvary
O Lamb of God deliver me.

Amy Carmichael

We invite the reader to carefully study this chapter. It will yield rich dividends.

CHAPTER 5

VICTORIOUS BY FAITH

The book of Joshua is a book of faith. And as we launch on this seven year plan we recognize the vital importance of faith in the LORD.

“Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen” *Hebrews 11:1*

“But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him” *Hebrews 11:6*

Some examples of faith from the Book of Joshua

The word of faith

“Pass through the camp and command the people, saying, ‘Prepare provisions for yourselves, for within three days you will cross over this Jordan, to go into possess the land which the LORD your God is giving you to possess.”

Joshua had received God’s commission, command and promise. By faith he commanded the officers to prepare provisions for in three days they were going to cross the Jordan. This was a word of faith as the Jordan was at flood stage at that point.

A woman of faith

Rahab, the harlot the gentile from Jericho shines forth as a woman of faith in Chapter two. In fact in James Chapter two when he gives the examples of faith with works, Rahab is coupled with that giant of faith, Abraham.

It is amazing that without any teaching about GOD, she honoured the GOD of Israel and referred to Him as LORD or Yahweh. She believed that Jericho had been given over to the Israelites by the LORD. She acknowledged that the GOD of Israel was GOD in Heaven above and the earth below. As a result she and her family were saved. And when the walls of Jericho fell, the greater miracle was that her part of the wall did not fall.

Later Salman married her and through her offspring came Boaz, Obed, Jesse, David and Jesus. Her name is in the genealogy of Jesus in Matthew Chapter 1. What a woman of faith! May God raise many Rahabs in the Health Fields!

A step of faith

“And as those who bore the ark came to the Jordan, and the feet of the priests who bore the ark dipped in the edge of the water (for the Jordan overflows all its banks during the whole time of harvest), that the waters which came down from upstream stood still, and rose in a heap very far away at Dam, the city that is beside Zaretan. So the waters that went down into the Sea of the Arabah, the Salt Sea, failed, and were cut off; and the people crossed over opposite Jericho. Joshua 3:15 & 16.

The Priests had to step into the water. Only then the LORD worked and stopped the water flowing. Faith always leads to action and obedience. Many steps of faith will surely be needed in the coming years.!

Memorials of Faith

“And those twelve stones which they took out of the Jordan, Joshua set up in Gilgal. Then he spoke to the children of Israel, saying: “When your children ask their fathers in time to come, saying, ‘What are these stones?’ “then you shall let your children know, saying, ‘Israel crossed over this Jordan on dry land; “for the LORD your God dried up the waters of the Jordan before you until you did to the Red Sea, which He dried up before us until we had crossed over, “that all the peoples of the earth may know the hand of the LORD, that it is mighty, that you may fear the LORD your God forever.” Joshua 4:20 – 24.

Twelve stones were brought from the bed of the River Jordan and set up at Gilgal. These were memorial stones, so that the coming generations would remember what God had done such a powerful verse.

“That all the peoples of the earth may know the hand of the LORD, that it is mighty, that you may fear the LORD your God forever.” Joshua 4:24.

The same thought is repeated around eight times in the old testament.

Thank GOD for many memorials of faith in the past years and may we continue to remember and write down and record what the LORD has done.

The shout of faith

“So the people shouted when the priests blew the trumpets. And it happened when the people heard the sound of the trumpet, and the people shouted with a great shout, that the wall fell down flat. Then the people went up into the city, every man straight before him and they took the city” Joshua 6:20

What a shout of faith! The walls of Jericho came tumbling down. There will surely be times when such shouts of faith will be needed in the future.

The Command of faith

“Then Joshua spoke to the LORD in the day when the LORD delivered up the Amorites before the children of Israel, and he said in the sight of Israel:

“Sun, stand still over Gibeon; And Moon, in the Valley of Aijalon.”
So the sun stood still, And the moon stopped, Till the people had revenge upon their enemies. Is this not written in the Book of Jasher? So the sun stood still in the midst of heaven, and did not hasten to go down for about a whole day.” Joshua 10:12 & 13.

Joshua and all Israel were in a tremendous conflict. He needed more time to finish the battle. In that context , he makes this amazing command of faith. Jesus taught this same truth in Mark 11:23 & 24.

“For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, “Be removed and be cast into the sea’, and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says. “Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them.”

“We sometimes busy ourselves praying to God about the mountains when GOD tells us to issue directives to the mountains” The mountains here of course refer to various obstacles to the progress of God’s Kingdom.

The testimony of faith

Caleb

In Joshua Chapter 14, Caleb describes how GOD had kept him alive for over forty five years according to His promise. Three times we read that Caleb followed the LORD

wholeheartedly. And at 85 years of age, he had the courage to ask for a very difficult mountain, Hebron, where even giants lived. Joshua gave Hebron to Caleb and he took it by faith. This is the courage and daring of faith. His faith was infectious and his daughter also had that same desire to ask God for greater things. We are reminded of William Carey's famous words, "Expect great things from God, attempt great things for God".

Joshua

"Behold, this day I am going the way of all the earth. And you know in all your hearts and in all your souls that not one thing has failed of all the good things which the LORD your God spoke concerning you. All have come to pass for you; not one word of them has failed." Joshua 23:14

What a testimony! Joshua could testify that every single promise had been fulfilled.

Joseph's bones

"The bones of Joseph, which the children of Israel had brought up out of Egypt, they buried at Shechem, in the plot of ground which Jacob had bought from the sons of Hamor the father of Shechem for one hundred pieces of silver, and which had become an inheritance of the children of Joseph" Joshua 24:32

Why are Joseph's bones mentioned? They surely are a testimony of faith. Joseph when he was dying had spoken by faith and given orders concerning his bones. Every generation after him remembered his orders of faith. His bones were kept in Egypt for 400 years. Then they were carried through the red sea, through the wilderness for 40 years, through the Jordan, through all the conquest of

Canaan and finally, laid to rest in Shechem. Hallelujah! What a story of faith and God's faithfulness!

So we need to walk by faith as we seek to possess the health fields for GOD.

We Live by Promises and not by Explanations

The book of Joshua is full of promises. We just want to quote a few and we want to claim these same promises for the ministry of extending His Kingdom into the health fields.

Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given you, as I said to Moses. (Joshua 1:3)

Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid; nor be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." (Joshua 1:9)

Joshua said to the people, "Sanctify yourselves, for tomorrow the Lord will do wonders among you." (Joshua 3:5)

And the Lord said to Joshua, "This day I will begin to exalt you in the sight of all Israel, that they may know that, as I was with Moses, so I will be with you." (Joshua 3:7)

"For the Lord your God dried up the waters of Jordan before you until you had crossed over, as the Lord your God did to the Red Sea, which He dried up before us until we had crossed over, that all peoples of the earth may know the hand of the Lord, that it is mighty, that you may fear the Lord your God forever." Joshua 4:23 & 24

"And the Lord said to Joshua, "See I have given Jericho into your hand, it's king and the mighty men of valour." Joshua 6:2

“And the Lord said to Joshua, “Do not fear them, for I have delivered them into your hand; not a man of them shall stand before you.” Joshua 10:8

Also right at the end of his life Joshua affirms that God has fulfilled all His promises.

“Behold, this day I am going the way of all the earth. And you know in all your hearts and in all your souls that not one thing has failed of all the good things which the LORD your God spoke concerning you. All have come to pass for you; not one word of them has failed.” Joshua 23:14

So let us stand on the promises in God’s word.

Shall we launch out with our eyes on Jesus and our confidence in His word?

CHAPTER SIX

THE CONQUEST OF CANAAN

The Battle belongs to the LORD.

Possessing the promised land was no picnic. There were seven nations and over thirty kings who were deeply entrenched in the land. They would not easily give in. In addition these kingdoms were backed up by demonic and occult forces. Every inch of territory had to be fought for and taken. From Joshua Chapter six to Joshua Chapter twelve we read of one long campaign in which Joshua and all Israel possessed the land. Here are a few principles from these chapters which are relevant to us as we contemplate the battle in the Health Fields.

The promise & purpose of God

Joshua did not launch out on some self appointed campaign. GOD had clearly spoken His purpose and given His promise.

“Moses my servant is dead. Now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, you and all this people, to the land which I am giving to them – the children of Israel.” Joshua 1:2

“Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given you as I said to Moses”. Joshua 1:3

Obstacles

As mentioned earlier every inch of ground had to be

fought for. All kinds of forces stood against Joshua and all Israel.

There were:

- ◆ Seven nations – deeply entrenched
- ◆ Thirty one kings
- ◆ Strong armies
- ◆ Coalition of enemy forces
- ◆ Iron chariots
- ◆ Demonic, occult strongholds
- ◆ Physical obstacles like rivers and mountains
- ◆ Deception

In addition Joshua had to face problems within his own people.

There was

- ◆ sin
- ◆ apathy
- ◆ unbelief
- ◆ Presumption, etc.

Yet by faith and perseverance he was able to overcome all obstacles

No spectators

Over and over again especially in Joshua Chapter ten we read the words, “Joshua and all Israel”. Look at these beautiful words,

“So Joshua ascended from Gilgal, he and all the people of war with him, and all the mighty men of Valor” Joshua 10:7

So it is that we cannot afford to have spectators in our ranks. Everyone must be mobilized for this God-given task.

No Survivors

Over and over again we hear this refrain “*he left no survivors*” Joshua 10:40- is frightening.

“So Joshua conquered all the land; the mountain country and the South’ and the lowland and the wilderness slopes, and all their kings; he left none remaining, but utterly destroyed all that breathed, as the LORD God of Israel had commanded.”

In today’s spiritual warfare we are not called to kill those who oppose us. We are called to lay down our lives for those who oppose us. Nevertheless, it was GOD who commanded Israel to destroy all. GOD is teaching us a vital principle. In spiritual warfare we cannot allow “survivors”, secret sins, broken relationships, compromises, idolatry etc. to remain. In Joshua Chapter seven, one man Achan sinned and it caused all Israel to lose the battle.

So as we prepare to possess the land, let us be willing for radical cleansing of our lives and ministries.

Kings were dealt with

There are always strategic or decisive or defining moments in any battle. Joshua encountered thirty one kings. All were conquered and defeated. Their list is given in Joshua chapter twelve.

So there are kingdoms and kings in our hearts and in the health fields. We must deal with them. One of the most deceptive and dangerous kings is “self” and all his/her associates. Self will; self glory, self pity, self confidence.

The only remedy for self is to be crucified with Christ and then to know His mighty resurrection power working in us. We must give consent to the Holy Spirit to do the surgery in our souls.

One Long Campaign

From Joshua Chapter six to twelve there was one long campaign in which the central part of the land and the Southern and Northern parts were conquered.

“All these kings and their land Joshua took at one time, because the Lord God of Israel fought for Israel.” Joshua 10:42

“So Joshua took the whole land, according to all that the Lord had told Moses, and Joshua gave it as an inheritance to Israel according to their divisions by their tribes. Then the land rested from war.”
Joshua 11:23

So let us steel ourselves for one long campaign in the next seven years. It is possible that the time frame between Joshua chapter six and chapter twelve was seven years.

The battle belongs to the Lord

The LORD fought for Israel. Hallelujah! YES, Joshua and all of Israel had to fight, but it was GOD who fought for them. They fought from victory and not for victory.

“And there has been no day like that, before it or after it, that the LORD heeded the voice of a man; for the LORD fought for Israel”
Joshua 10:14

Paul the Apostle, in Ephesians Chapter six has given us a classic description of the warfare we are involved in. In that powerful passage from Ephesians 6:10 – 20 he tells us four times to “STAND”.

So may GOD give us courage and boldness to stand our ground and advance His kingdom in the Heath Fields.

Arise, this is the final hour
Arise, ye soldiers of the cross
Arise, put on your Holy armour
For the gates of Hell, shall not prevail
So Arise, the Spirit says Arise,
ARISE!

CHAPTER SEVEN

COMPLETING THE TASK

GOD had given Joshua a mandate, a commission in Chapter one. Joshua accepted this charge and challenge and completed the task that he received. The words of Joshua 21:43 – 45 are very reassuring.

“So the Lord gave to Israel all the land of which He had sworn to give to their fathers, and they took possession of it and dwelt in it. The Lord gave them rest all around, according to all that He had sworn to their fathers. And not a man of all their enemies stood against them; the Lord delivered all their enemies into their hand. Not a word failed of any good thing which the Lord had spoken to the house of Israel. All came to pass.” Joshua 21:43 – 45.

Joshua completed his task except for a few areas which were not taken.

Joshua 15:63, 16:10 and 17:12 & 13.

Our Lord Jesus

In the life of our Lord Jesus too we see His passion and perseverance to complete the task His father had given Him. At the age of 12, He said *“I must be about my Father’s business”*. At the mid-point of His ministry he said these words.

“But I have a baptism to be baptized with, and how distressed I am till it is accomplished!” Luke 12:50

Towards the end of his life when the Greeks tried to side-step Him from the cross, He spoke these powerful words.

“Now my soul is troubled, and what shall I say? Father, save me from this hour”? But for this purpose I came to this hour. “Father, glorify Your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, saying, “I have both glorified it and will glorify it again.” John 12:27 & 28.

He set his face like a flint towards Jerusalem until He had completed the work and cried out “IT IS FINISHED’.

So may GOD enable us to complete the task He has given us. There will be many obstacles for sure. But let us by faith and patience inherit the promises.

CONCLUSION

Please do pray with us as we launch into this new phase of Ministry.

“So he answered and said to me: “This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: “Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit; Says the LORD of hosts.” Zechariah 4:6

Be thou Exalted O LORD !

Revive us O LORD!

Take your glory Lord!

MARANTHA, EVEN SO COME, LORD JESUS!

A DECLARATION OF OUR COMMITMENT TO THE HEALTH FIELDS OF SOUTH ASIA

WE THE PEOPLE OF GOD WORKING IN THE HEALTH FIELDS OF SOUTH ASIA, AFFIRM WITH ONE VOICE THAT WE BELONG TO THE LORD JESUS CHRIST. WE ARE ONE **BODY**, UNITED IN **ONE SPIRIT**, CALLED TO **ONE HOPE**, TO SERVE **ONE LORD**, OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST. WE ARE **ONE IN FAITH**, BELIEVING IN THE **ONLY TRUE GOD, THE CREATOR AND THE FATHER OF ALL WHO BELIEVE IN HIS SON JESUS CHRIST**.

AS GOD'S PEOPLE IN SOUTH ASIA, WE STAND TOGETHER TODAY TO ENTHRONE OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST AS THE SOVEREIGN LORD OVER THE HEALTH FIELDS OF OUR NATIONS. WE ACKNOWLEDGE AND DECLARE THAT THE HEALTH FIELDS BELONG TO HIM, AS HE IS THE AUTHOR AND FINISHER OF THE HEALING MINISTRY, AND THE ONLY SOURCE OF ALL TRUE HEALTH AND WHOLENESS.

TODAY WE DEDICATE THE HEALTH FIELDS OF OUR NATIONS TO THE LORD JESUS CHRIST. WE DECLARE THAT EVERY ENEMY THAT WOULD OPPOSE HIS AUTHORITY IN THE HEALTH FIELDS HAS BEEN DEFEATED ON THE CROSS OF CALVARY FOR HE CAME TO DESTROY THE WORKS OF THE DEVIL. WE OPEN WIDE THE GATES OF OUR HEALTH FIELDS TO JESUS,

WELCOMING HIM TO REIGN IN OUR LIVES, WATCH OVER US, INSPIRE, MOTIVATE, AND ENERGIZE US TO BUILD HIS KINGDOM IN OUR PLACES OF WORK. WE DECLARE OUR DEPENDENCE ON HIM, FOR WITHOUT HIM, WE CAN DO NOTHING. WE DECLARE OUR WILLINGNESS TO BE AVAILABLE TO HIM, SO HE CAN USE FOR HIS PURPOSES, AS SEEK HIS KINGDOM AS OUR FIRST PRIORITY.

WE DECLARE TODAY BEFORE GOD THAT WE ARE WILLING AND READY TO ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE SPIRITUAL CONDITION OF OUR WORKPLACES. WE DETERMINE TO PRAY WITH FAITH, TO PROCLAIM HIS SALVATION WITH BOLDNESS, AND TO WALK IN CHRIST-LIKENESS, UNTIL THE HEALTH FIELD TURNS GOD-WARD IN OUR GENERATION. WE COMMIT OURSELVES TO SEEK HIM UNTIL OUR HEALTH FIELDS ARE TRANSFORMED BY HIS PRESENCE AND POWER IN OUR MIDST, AND ALL WILL RECOGNIZE THAT HE IS THE LORD OF THE HEALTH FIELD! WE JOIN WITH THE CRESCENDO OF PRAISE IN REVELATION CHAPTER FIVE AND SAY, "WORTHY IS THE LAMB, TO RECEIVE POWER AND RICHES AND WISDOM, AND STRENGTH AND HONOUR AND GLORY AND BLESSING!"

THY BROTHER'S BLOOD CRIETH

AMY CARMICHAEL

The tom-toms thumped straight on all night, and the darkness shuddered round me like a living, feeling thing. I could not go to sleep, so I lay awake and looked; and I saw, as it seemed, this:

That I stood on a grassy sward, and at my feet a precipice broke sheer down into infinite space. I looked, but saw no bottom; only cloud shapes, black and furiously coiled, and great shadow-shrouded hollows, and unfathomable depths. Back I drew, dizzy at the depth.

Then I saw forms of people moving single file along the grass. They were making for the edge. There was a woman with a baby in her arms and another child holding on to her dress. She was on the very verge. Then I saw that she was blind. She lifted her foot for the next step ... it trod air. She was over, and the children over with her. Oh, the cry as they went over!

Then I saw more streams of people flowing from all quarters. All were blind, stone blind; all made straight for the precipice edge. There were shrieks as they suddenly knew themselves falling, and a tossing up of helpless arms, catching, clutching at empty air. But some went over quietly, and fell without a sound.

Then I wondered, with a wonder that was simply agony, why no one stopped them at the edge. I could not. I was glued to the ground, and I could not call; though I strained and tried, only a whisper would come.

Then I saw that along the edge there were sentries set at intervals. But the intervals were too great; there were wide, unguarded gaps between them. And over these gaps the people fell in their blindness, quite unwarned; and the green grass seemed blood-red to me, and the gulf yawned like the mouth of Hell.

Then I saw like a picture of peace, a group of people under some trees

with their backs turned towards the gulf. They were making daisy chains. Sometimes when a piercing shriek cut the quiet air and reached them, it disturbed them and they thought it a rather vulgar noise. And if one of their number started up and wanted to go and do something to help, then all the others would pull that one down. "Why should you get so excited about it? You must wait for a definite call to go! You haven't finished your daisy chain yet. It would be really selfish," they said, "to leave us to finish the work alone."

There was another group. It was made up of people whose great desire was to get more sentries out; but they found that very few wanted to go, and sometimes there were no sentries set for miles of the edge.

Once a girl stood alone in her place, waving the people back; but her mother and other relations called, and reminded her that her furlough was due; she must not break the rules. And being tired and needing a change, she had to go and rest for awhile; but no one was sent to guard her gap, and over and over the people fell, like a waterfall of souls.

Once a child caught at a tuft of grass that grew at the very brink of the gulf; it clung convulsively, and it called - but nobody seemed to hear. Then the roots of the grass gave way, and with a cry the child went over, its two little hands still holding tight to the torn-off bunch of grass. And the girl who longed to be back in her gap thought she heard the little one cry, and she sprang up and wanted to go; at which they reproved her, reminding her that no one is necessary anywhere; the gap would be well taken care of, they knew. And then they sang a hymn.

Then through the hymn came another sound like the pain of a million broken hearts wrung out in one full drop, one sob. And a horror of great darkness was upon me, for I knew what it was - the Cry of the Blood.

Then thundered a voice, the voice of the Lord. "And He said, 'what hast thou done? The voice of thy brother's blood crieth unto me from the ground.'"

The tom-toms still beat heavily, the darkness still shuddered and shivered about me; I heard the yells of the devil-dancers and weird, wild

shrieks of the devil-possessed just outside the gate.

What does it matter, after all? It has gone on for years; it will go on for years. Why make such a fuss about it?

God forgive us! God arouse us! Shame us out of our callousness! Shame us out of our sin!

Extract from *HEAVEN AND HELL* by Francis Grim. Taken from: *THINGS AS THEY ARE* by Amy Carmichael of the Dohnavur Fellowship. Reprinted by permission

This poem By Amy Carmichael is also a challenge to us.

From prayer that asks that I maybe
Sheltered from winds that beat on Thee
From shrinking when I should aspire
From faltering when I should climb higher
From silken self O Captain free
Thy soldier who would follow Thee

From subtle love of softening things
From easy choices weakening
Not thus are spirits fortified
Not this way went the crucified
From all that dims thy Calvary
O lamb of god deliver me.

Give me the love that leads the way
The faith that nothing can dismay
The hope no disappointments tire
The passion that will burn like fire

Let me not sink to be a clod
Make me thy fuel, flame of God

**Give me a passionate passion for souls,
Give me a pity that yearns,
Give me the love that loves unto death,
Give me the fire that burns,
Give me, O Lord, to be fervent in prayer,
Pouring out all for the lost;
Give me to pray in the Conqueror's Name,
Spirit of Pentecost."**



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“This booklet is a study of the Book of Joshua and a vision for seeing God's Kingdom extended in the Health Fields of South Asia. It has been revised and rewritten for the HCF South Asia Core group Solemn Assembly in Tansen, Nepal, April 2010.

We have partly failed in the past attempts to launch this plan. Now by God's grace we hope to renew our commitment to see His Kingdom come in the Health Fields of South Asia and like in the Book of Joshua, a great advance in the next seven years.”

**In whom (Christ) are hidden all the treasures
of wisdom & knowledge -Colossians 2:3 (NKJV)**

Then the Lord replied:

**Write down the revelation and make it plain on tablets so
that a herald may run with it. For the revelation awaits an
appointed time; it speaks of the end and will not prove
false. Though it linger, wait for it; it will certainly come
and will not delay. -Habakkuk 2:2,3 (NIV)**