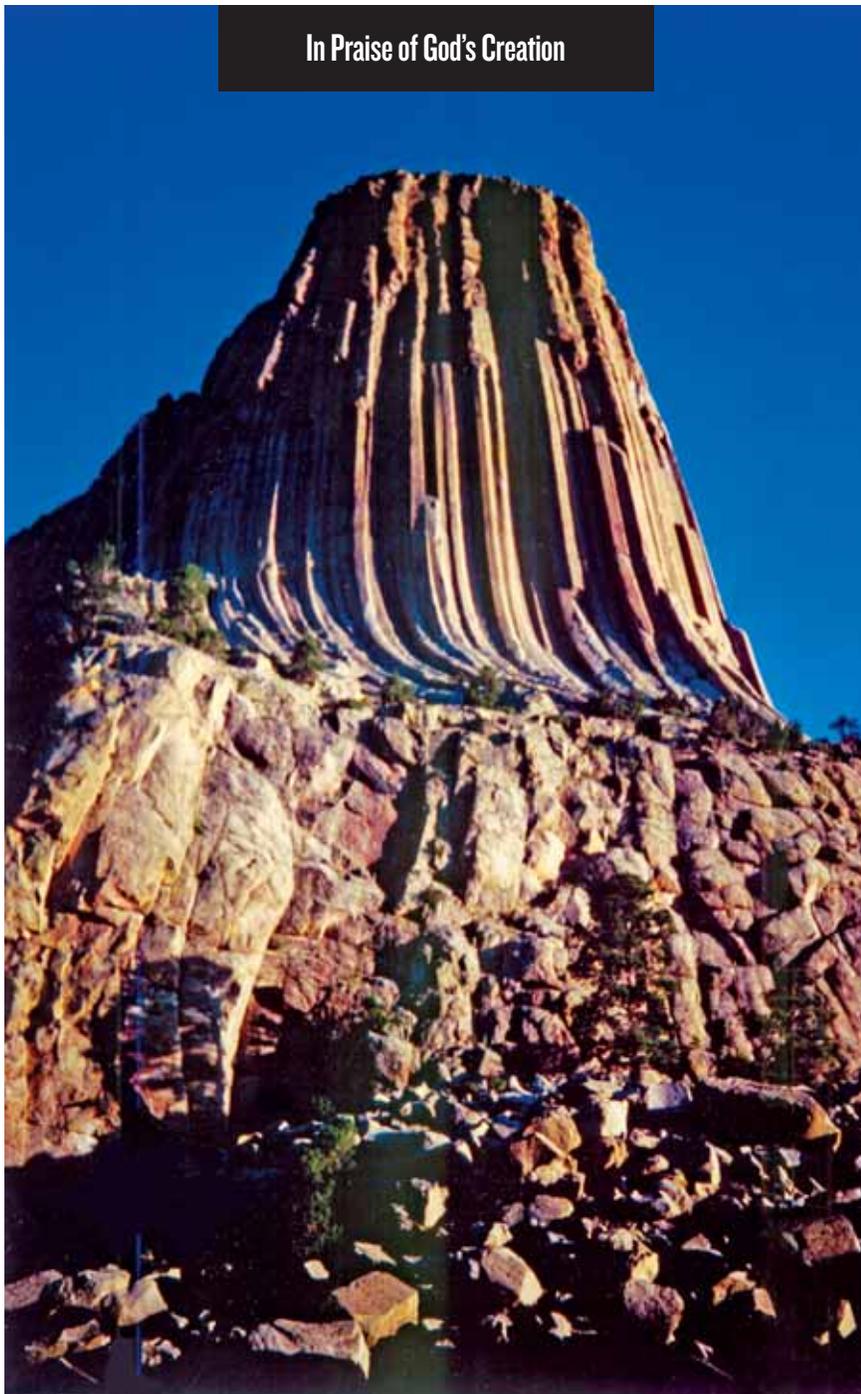


# The Climbing Way

THE QUARTERLY MAGAZINE OF CLIMBING FOR CHRIST

VOLUME 14 / SUMMER 2009

In Praise of God's Creation



Devils Tower East Face. The South Face, left, was the route of the first ascents, whether by Wyoming ranchers on July 4, 1893, or rock climbers in 1937. (Photo by Gary Fallesen)

## In Holy Hands on Devils Tower

By Isaac Will

The lightning was walking closer with every strike. The thunder shook my chest with each bellow from the heavens. It started to rain and we were more than 400 feet off the ground.

Two hundred feet lower, our rappel ropes got stuck. Dusk turned to darkness. Four of us sat on a four-foot-by-six-foot ledge and watched the lightning.

My Devils Tower adventure took place in 2007 with a good friend. The climb was his idea. I had always wanted to go, and I thought this would be a great opportunity for a "Partners In Climb" weekend — a chance to share a climbing experience and the love of Christ with another. With 20 hours in the car together and six pitches of climbing, I was really hoping and praying that I could talk with him about my best friend, Jesus Christ.

Before leaving Friday afternoon, we checked the weather one last time. It was questionable: there was a storm due through the Devils Tower area later on Saturday, which was our scheduled climbing day. I prayed for just good enough weather for a safe trip, and we hit the road.

I start off every climbing trip/adventure with prayer in the car as soon as we get on the Interstate. It's not quite a charismatic "Come-to-Jesus" prayer, but a simple moment of thanksgiving and acknowledgement of His sovereignty. On the inside, I hoped it would start an important conversation in the car.

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# Letter from the editors



We introduce a new feature in Volume 14 of *The Climbing Way*: “In praise of God’s creation.” We begin with Devils Tower, a technical rock climb that was first ascended by Wyoming ranchers using ladders. Isaac Will, a board member from what we lovingly call “the Canadian province of Minnesota,” shares a more contemporary tale of multi-pitch climbing with a partner whom he would love to introduce to Jesus.

Introducing people to Jesus is what Climbing For Christ is all about. Kyle Austin tells about his God-given opportunity to do so in Nepal in “A View.”

God has blessed us with the chance to help the least of these — the people of Haiti, the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere. The reality of what God has been doing through us in Haiti is what board member Mary Lindsay says put a face on our unique ministry. Read why Mary supports Climbing For Christ, and why you should, too.

And then check out our special report on Haiti, and read Sarah Brownell’s touching story (“Don’t flush their future”) about the billions who do not have clean drinking water or proper sanitation (i.e. a toilet).

We’ve seen the need — the spiritual and the physical. We share it with you so you will know what to pray for, what to give to, and where to go to give ‘em heaven. All for the glory of our Savior!

– Elaine and Gary Fallesen



## Climbing For Christ

We are sent to mountainous areas of the world to deliver the Gospel where other missionaries cannot or will not go.

### Mission Statement

Members of Climbing For Christ agree that we are called to:

- Bring praise, honor and glory to God — the Creator of all things, including the mountains we love — and to our Redeemer, His beloved Son.
- Inspire believers to achieve greater spiritual and physical heights in this world.
- Introduce the Lord Jesus Christ, our Savior, to those living in or visiting mountainous areas who don’t know Him personally in a new, exciting and everlasting way.

To join Climbing For Christ, visit [www.climbingforchrist.org/Default.aspx?tabid=146](http://www.climbingforchrist.org/Default.aspx?tabid=146)

THE CLIMBING WAY is a product of Climbing For Christ, Inc., a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. We are a missions-based, non-denominational organization. Send questions and comments via e-mail to [info@ClimbingForChrist.org](mailto:info@ClimbingForChrist.org) or write to:

**Climbing For Christ, Inc.**  
P.O. Box 16290  
Rochester, N.Y. 14616-0290

For more information on Climbing For Christ, go online at: [www.ClimbingForChrist.org](http://www.ClimbingForChrist.org)

To contribute to *The Climbing Way* or [ClimbingForChrist.org](http://ClimbingForChrist.org) send an inquiry to [info@ClimbingForChrist.org](mailto:info@ClimbingForChrist.org).

**WARNING!** Activities described in this publication and on [ClimbingForChrist.org](http://ClimbingForChrist.org) carry a significant risk of personal injury or death. Do not participate in mountaineering, rock climbing, ice climbing, bouldering, and hiking and trekking unless you are an expert, have sought and obtained qualified professional instruction or guidance, are knowledgeable about the risks involved, and are willing to assume personal responsibility for all risks associated with these activities.

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# 2010 Missions: Sneak Peek

Kilimanjaro, Cordilleras, Haba, Halimun, and Ararat. Tanzania, the Philippines, China, Indonesia, and Turkey. Chagga, Kankanaey, Yi, Sunda, and Kurds.

These are a few of the peaks, places, and people the Lord is sending us to reach in 2010. This is a sneak peek at some of Climbing For Christ's 2010 Evangelic Expeditions:

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## Mission: Kilimanjaro

**WHEN:** January.

**LENGTH:** 14 days.

**PURPOSE:** To teach evangelism to guides and porters who are members of the Kilimanjaro Chapter in Marangu and Moshi. Optional climb of Kilimanjaro or side trip to Malawi to explore Mulanje Mountains area.

**PRICE:** Estimated at \$1,000. This does not include airfare to/from Tanzania and Malawi. Optional climb of Kilimanjaro costs \$2,150.



Malawi's Mulanje Mountains, where the highest peak is Sapitwa at 9,845 feet/3001 meters. (Photo by Duncan Nyozani)

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## Mission: Philippines

**WHEN:** February.

**LENGTH:** 10 days.

**PURPOSE:** Trekking to and serving the people living in the rugged Cordillera mountains in the Kibungan province on the northern island of Luzon. The mountains of Kibungan offer deep ravines and rocky cliffs, leading to incredible rice terraces in remote villages such as Tacadang, Palina, and Poblacion.

**PRICE:** Estimated at \$500. This does not include airfare to/from Manila.

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## Mission: Possible

**WHEN:** March.

**LENGTH:** 10 days.

**PURPOSE:** To continue providing mountaineering instruction to guides on a 17,703-foot (5396-meter) peak in southwestern China. A team of Climbing For Christ members who have the ability and experience to teach mountaineering, first-aid, search-and-rescue, and/or avalanche detection will evaluate the abilities of local guides and teach much-needed skills.

**PRICE:** Estimated at \$1,000. This does not include the cost of a visa and airfare to/from Kunming, China.

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## Mission: Indonesia

**WHEN:** Mid-May to early June.

**LENGTH:** 14-21 days.

**PURPOSE:** Prayer climbs and research surveys of people living in the mountains on the western end of the island of Java, specifically in the areas of Mounts Karang (5,833 feet/1778 meters), Halimun (6,329 feet/1929 meters), and Ceremai (10,098 feet/3079 meters).

**PRICE:** Estimated at \$1,000. This does not include airfare to/from Jakarta.

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## Mission: Ararat

**WHEN:** July.

**LENGTH:** 12-21 days.

**PURPOSE:** To climb Mount Ararat (16,854 feet/5137 meters) in eastern Turkey. A minimum of six members required. Optional trip to Armenia to lead youth ministry mountaineering trip up 8,500-foot peaks.

**PRICE:** Estimated at \$2,500. This does not include airfare to/from Istanbul, or to Armenia.



Mount Ararat, as seen from Armenia. (Photo by Art Salisbury)

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## More missions

Watch for E-Updates and check [www.ClimbingForChrist.org](http://www.ClimbingForChrist.org) for the latest news on these and other missions in 2010.

Among the trips being prayerfully considered at press time: Denali, Nepal, and multiple Evangelic Expeditions to Haiti.

To apply for a mission team, e-mail [info@ClimbingForChrist.org](mailto:info@ClimbingForChrist.org).



Lightning observed from a ledge on Devils Tower. (Photo by Abram Hagstrom)

#### DEVILS TOWER, from page 1

This has become a point of conflict for me. I want to share Jesus with my closest climbing partners, but I become more self-conscious with every opportunity, especially those I feel I have missed. I don't want to mess it up; I know how important it is.

**We were going to climb Devils Tower, and I didn't want this trip to bear witness to anything or anyone other than the most Holy One on high.**

We rolled into Devils Tower National Park under a moonlit sky. After 10 hours of driving, I was disappointed. There had been lots of talking, but nothing that seemed to open the door for a deeper discussion. It was late, the air was still, and the tower loomed over us in the moonlight. We had only a few hours to sleep before we started climbing.

We woke to blue skies, cool temperatures and a stiff breeze. Perfect conditions, I thought. I had high hopes for every pitch on the Tower. I remembered my prayer about the weather and was excited to see what God would provide.

We took a direct approach to the climb. This involved a pitch of five-point-easy to warm up before the actual climbing began on the main columns of the Durrance Route. The Durrance, located on the Tower's South Face, is the easiest and most popular route, with short pitches and wide cracks. The pitches are rated between 5.5 and 5.7. We were last in line to start climbing.

It was early, the weather was good, and we were in no hurry to rush our ascent. We found some comfortable rocks and soaked in the atmosphere — the blue sky, the Tower, the camaraderie. It was blissful.

I took the first pitch — the leaning column, which is rated 5.6. The pitch is a mixture of balance and friction moves with solid fist, finger, and hand jams. As an added bonus, there were two bomber anchors at the top of each pitch, really simplifying the setting of anchors and bringing up the second.

We swapped leads throughout the climb. After five pitches, we reached the meadows area and we opted to simul-climb the remaining scramble to the summit. As is customary on our climbs, we walked onto the summit together, side by side.

Once on the summit, we knew what the weather was going to do. We could see the storm crawling our way across the prairie. The wind was getting stronger, the temperature falling, the sun lowering toward the horizon, and all we had left to do was get down. We made quick friends with two other climbers and agreed to descend together to reduce the time it would take all of us to get down.

Continued on page 8

### Mountain Profile: Devils Tower

**Location:** Devils Tower National Monument, Black Hills, northeastern Wyoming.

**Height:** 5,117 feet/1,558 meters. The summit is 900 feet above the tourist trails encircling the Tower.

**First ascent:** Originally climbed by Willard Ripley and Will Rogers, two Wyoming ranchers who used a ladder of wooden pegs hammered into cracks in the rock face to take an American flag to the top on July 4, 1893. American climbers Fritz Wiessner, Lawrence Coveney and William House completed the first "technical" ascent in 1937.

**What's in a name?** During an Army expedition in 1875, the Native American name was interpreted as "Bad God's Tower," which was shortened to Devils Tower.

**Routes:** Climbs are 300-to-500 feet, and rated from 5.6 (Durrance on the South Face) to 5.12a (Bloodguard and Brokedown Palace on the West Face). John Harlin III has written that Tower ratings have "a notoriously stiff reputation. A gorgeous handcrack might be rated 'only' 5.9, but might well be that hard for 165 feet straight!" There are three rappel descents. Each requires two 150-foot ropes. Many routes (excluding the Durrance) require 165-foot ropes to reach established belay stations.

**Guidebooks:** *Classic Rock Climbs No. 07 Devils Tower/Black Hills: Needles, Wyoming and South Dakota* by John Harlin III (Chockstone Press); *Devils Tower National Monument Climbing Handbook* by Richard Guilmette, Renee Carrier and Steve Gardiner (Devils Tower National History Association); *Free Climbs of Devils Tower: A Poorperson's Guidebook* by Dingus McGee (Poorperson's Guidebooks).



Sarah Brownell teaching a sanitation seminar in Gentilhomme in December 2007. (Photo by Gary Fallesen)

## Evangelic Expeditions

“Hurry up! 2.6 billion people want to use the toilet!”

– United Nations’ WASH (Water, Sanitation, Hygiene) sanitation promotion slogan

# Don’t flush their future

By Sarah Brownell

Every year, 2.8 million people — mostly children — die from preventable waterborne illnesses. That’s almost one million more people than die from AIDS, twice as many as die from malaria, and nearly three times as many as those who die each year in the United States from cancer and heart attacks combined. In 2000, one of them was my friend Jeffery.

Jeffery was 2 years old and I knew his mom, Cally, because she taught me how to wash clothes by rubbing the cloth between my knuckles while squatting over a plastic tub on the ground. The first time I visited Haiti, a shipping problem put my solar-panel project on hold, and I passed the time learning the local language and culture. One day I stopped to help Cally with her work; she hired herself out to wash other people’s laundry as a way to earn a meager living. Jeffery was there toddling around the washbasin whenever I visited his mom and we got to be friends, maybe since neither of us spoke much Kreyol. When I went on the local radio station to announce upcoming meetings, I’d always give him a “shout out.” Before I left, Cally was pregnant with her second son, Jovenson.

By the time I returned two years later, Jeffery had died from severe diarrhea and Jovenson had suffered a bout with polio, leaving him disabled. I was left with a sorely broken heart and a clear call to prevent more illnesses and deaths.

Most waterborne illnesses (including diarrhea and polio) are **preventable** and/or **treatable**, accomplished by providing people access to safe water and sanitation, promoting good hygiene and vaccinations, and treating illnesses with rehydration serum and antibiotics. But six children will still die from these illnesses in the time it takes you to read this article.

Globally, 1.1 billion people do not have safe water to drink and 2.6 billion people have no toilet. These statistics include the majority of people in Haiti.

They get water from natural springs, hand-dug wells, or from contaminated piped supplies, and use the riverbanks, beach, ravines, or plastic grocery bags as a place to go to the bathroom. Most schools have no latrine, which often keeps girls from attending once they begin menstruating.

Where Climbing For Christ works in Gentilhomme, drinking water is an hour’s walk or more away on a treacherous path down to a (surprisingly clean, thank God) spring on the edge of the riverbank. From Malasi, they must walk several hours, passing Gentilhomme, to use this same water source. They supplement with rainwater collected off the roofs of their houses and stored in musty cement tanks. Only the church, school, and depot built and supported by Climbing For Christ have latrines.

In 2007, Climbing For Christ and my organization, Sustainable Organic Integrated Livelihoods (SOIL), began working together to improve sanitation in Gentilhomme and Malasi. The first step was holding a sanitation seminar for community leaders in December 2007.

Using stories, drawings, games, mapping, small group work, and discussions, we explored how waterborne illness is spread, how it is prevented, and the plethora of water and sanitation technologies that have been developed around the world, including extensive information on ecological sanitation (ECOSAN). ECOSAN provides people with access to a toilet, but also protects water resources and reclaims the nutrients in human wastes for use as fertilizer. After a discussion on the various sanitation options, we developed a community “Sanitation Guide” that declares what the leaders collectively want in a sanitation system. Some of their requirements included that it not be stinky, that it protect water resources, that it be easy to clean, that it provide privacy, and, after learning about ECOSAN, that it would allow the wastes to be transformed into fertilizer. We then compared the toilet types that the group liked best to our guide.

Continued on page 8

## Special Report

Spiritually lost and physically starved — few people are as poor as those living in deforested Haiti. It is a desperate place. This is where we strive to share God's love.

Ask our missionary, Miguel Rubén Guante, how we displayed Christ's love during an emergency mission trip there in May. He will talk about those lost in voodoo to whom we witnessed — “showing them the true way.” He will talk about how we corrected a pastor who was in danger of leading his flock astray. “Delivering Bibles. Delivering shoes. Preaching. Visiting farmers.”

We have been blessed since 2005 with opportunities to share the Lord's love for people living — often enduring — in the mountains of Haiti. Much has been accomplished, but much more remains to be done.

Among the things He has achieved through us:

- The construction of a church and school in Gentilhomme.
- Support for four teachers and supplies for schools in Gentilhomme, Malasi, and the Dominican border town of Jimani.
- Seminary for pastors and church leaders in 10 villages.
- Food for nearly 1,000 hungry people.
- Seeds and fertilizer for more than 100 farms.
- 5,000 banana plants.
- Nurseries in Gentilhomme and Malasi to grow 7,500 coffee plants, as well as avocado and orange trees.
- Delivery of more than 100 Creole New Testaments.
- Delivery of clothing and shoes for schoolchildren.
- Sanitation education and the construction of arborloos (toilets).
- Improvements in water collection and filtering.
- Health care for sick and injured, including a lightning-strike victim and a young teen with a broken leg. Both were left for dead and both were healed by the Great Physician. Additionally, two crippled children have been scheduled for surgery in the United States this summer.
- Fixed roads.

The need continues to be great, including repair and/or construction of churches and schools in Malasi, Thoman, Piret, Nikola, Soliette, and Jimani. Other villages also are seeking affiliation with Climbing For Christ, which desires only to share God's love and be used as a tool to cast out voodoo in this long-suffering land.

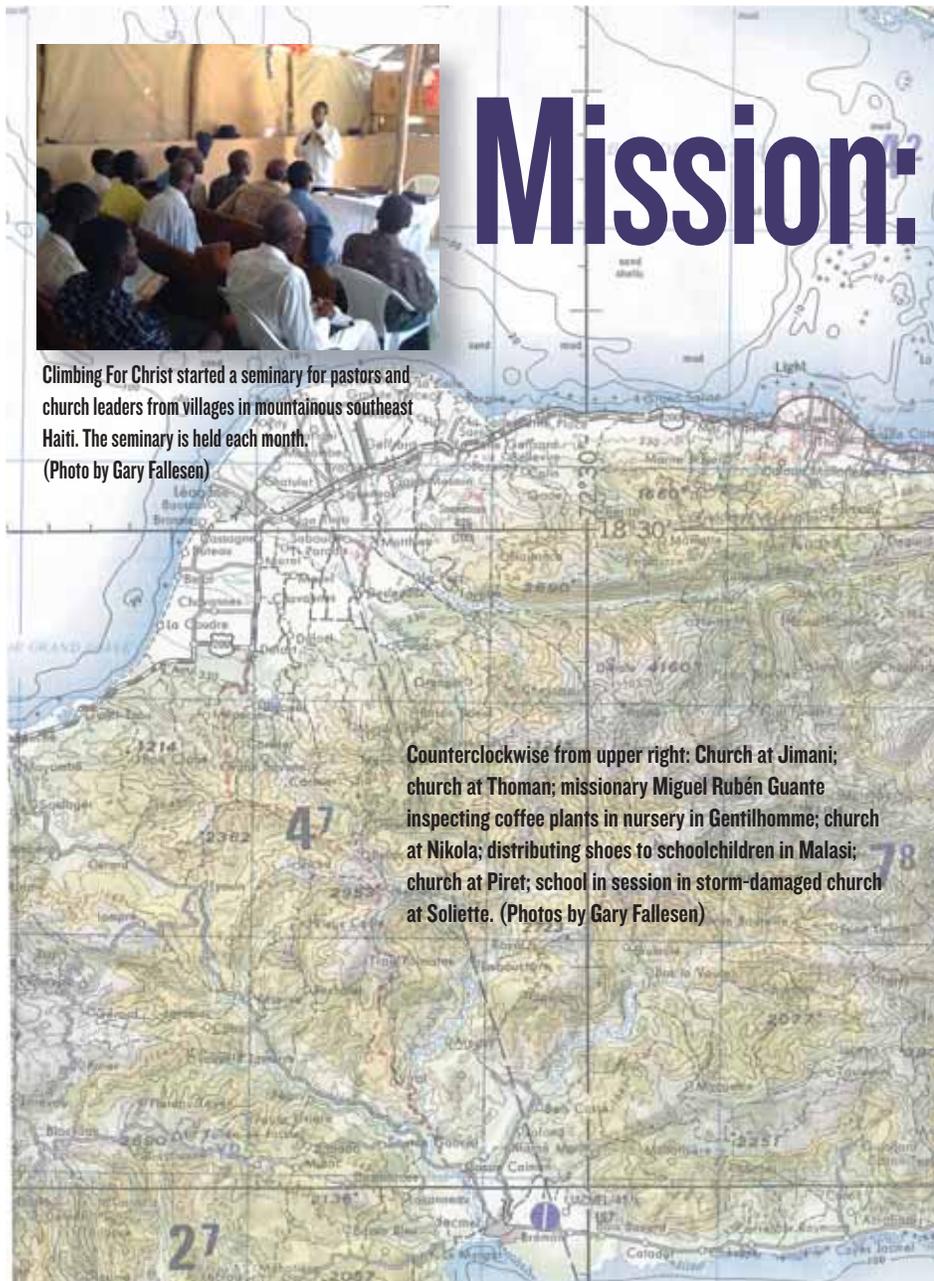
*“... and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.”*

– **Matthew 16:18** (NIV)



Climbing For Christ started a seminary for pastors and church leaders from villages in mountainous southeast Haiti. The seminary is held each month. (Photo by Gary Fallesen)

# Mission:

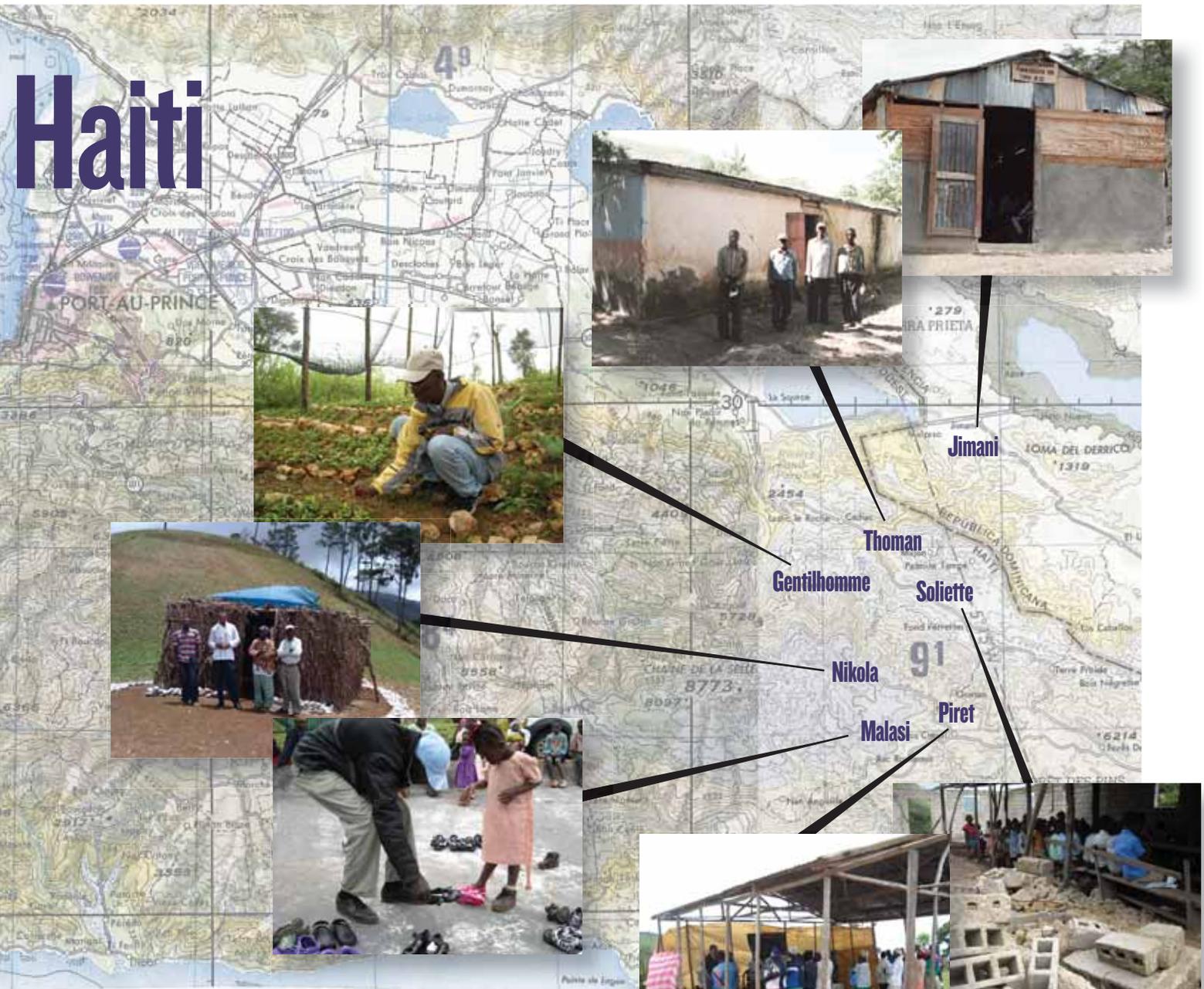


Counterclockwise from upper right: Church at Jimani; church at Thoman; missionary Miguel Rubén Guante inspecting coffee plants in nursery in Gentilhomme; church at Nikola; distributing shoes to schoolchildren in Malasi; church at Piret; school in session in storm-damaged church at Soliette. (Photos by Gary Fallesen)



Gentilhomme, where God first started our ministry in Haiti in 2005. (Photo by Joshua Carroll)

# Haiti



In Gentilhomme, they chose to compare the latrine, the arborloo, and the dry toilet.

An arborloo is like a traditional latrine, but it has a shallow pit less than one meter deep with a light concrete slab and house structure over it.

When the pit fills, you simply move the slab and house over a new pit, cover the full pit with soil and then plant a tree. Families can also add other compostable organic wastes like kitchen scraps and leaves.

The dry toilet is called “dry” for two reasons: it doesn’t use water and the urine is separated from the feces by the toilet seat. They are collected separately. Urine is virtually sterile and makes a great fertilizer when diluted with water. The feces are covered with a drying material like sawdust or sugar cane bagasse to keep the smell down and the flies out. The dry toilet has two chambers, one that is in use and one for storage. The toilet seat can be moved between the chambers, which allows the feces to sit for up to a year before being removed and composted.

Using the sanitation guide, Gentilhomme’s leaders decided that the arborloo was most suited to their situation.

Because the community leaders chose the arborloo, I returned to Gentilhomme with Climbing For Christ in 2008 to build experimental arborloos using SOIL’s new design called the TwaletSOL. Eight families agreed to test the TwaletSOL, which can be built for about US \$80. We also held a similar sanitation seminar in Malasi and built one arborloo at the pastor’s house there. If the pilot TwaletSOLs are successful, we will work to bring them to all households in Gentilhomme and Malasi, so that no one will have to use the ravine or riverbank again!

## Helping Haiti

Climbing For Christ is working on a clean-water program and sanitation project in the villages of Gentilhomme and Malasi. This likely will expand to other villages, where Climbing For Christ is ministering (see pages 6-7). **An arborloo costs \$80 to build and for as little as one cent a day we can provide a person with the recommended intake of two liters of clean drinking water.** Will you help make this possible? Please send your gift to Climbing For Christ, P.O. Box 16290, Rochester, N.Y. 14616-0290.

Most people think that the flush toilet is the height of toilet design. You flush it and your wastes are carried away. But where are they carried away to? Mexico City, the largest city in the world, treats only 2 percent of its wastewater before discharging. Even in the U.S.,

cities with combined sewers dump millions of gallons of untreated wastewater each week. Approximately five times a day in San Francisco and almost every time it rains in New York City, untreated water pours into the ocean.

At the same time, people living in Gentilhomme and Malasi would be taxed to provide the water needed to flush a toilet, carrying it for at least an hour in 5-gallon buckets on their heads. As water and energy shortages continue to occur more frequently in the world, we all may need to reconsider if it really makes sense to go to the bathroom in perfectly good drinking water. Dry toilets and arborloos may be the wave of the future.

As an engineer, I feel blessed to be able to offer my skills to the people in Gentilhomme and Malasi, but I have much to learn from them as well: about community, about faith, and about living in tune with the natural world. I am grateful to God for the opportunity to serve and be served, both for the sake of children like Jeffrey and for my own. †

**Sarah Brownell, a member of Climbing For Christ since November 2007, is co-founder of Sustainable Organic Integrated Livelihoods (SOIL). Visit [www.oursoil.org](http://www.oursoil.org) to learn more about SOIL. Brownell, who calls Cap-Haitien, Haiti and Rochester, N.Y. home, has participated in Mission: Haiti 2007 and 2008.**

Prayers can be answered in many ways, and it seems that I often miss God’s answer to my prayers in the moment, only understanding what He has done after reflecting on the experience later.

The big storm came, but stayed just far enough away to keep the rain and lightning from causing any serious issues. Prayer was answered.

Agreeing to descend with the other climbers gave us an extra rope to get down. Without that rope, we would have needed to create prussic ascenders and climb 150 feet to free the ropes, or spend the night on the ledge. (There really is something to that whole “good Samaritan” thing.)

Combine all of the above, and you get the equation for a blessing in disguise:

**Ropes stuck + small ledge + darkness + lightning storm in the distance = an opportunity to talk about God’s magnificence.**

“Breathtaking.” “Wow, dude.” Words could not express what we experienced that night. But we were moved to talk about it. It was an opportunity to share. God is good.

We watched the light show and finished our descent. Recently, I had the chance to pray for my friend in a moment of need. I almost didn’t, but I’m getting better at connecting my heart, brain and voice. Our prayer was answered, even though doctors said it would never happen.

I know God is working in my friend’s life, drawing him closer. I have hope in the future, faith in the unseen, and peace while in His holy hands. †

**Isaac Will is an at-large board member of Climbing For Christ, and the coordinator of our Minnesota Chapter. He joined Climbing For Christ in July 2005. One of the other two climbers who joined Isaac on the descent has since become a member of Climbing For Christ.**

# Why I support Climbing For Christ... and why you should, too

By Mary Lindsay



I've been asked that question a number of times and it's very often followed by the phrase "especially when you don't climb?" From the very first time that my dear friend, Gary Fallesen, started talking about Climbing For Christ, I knew that it wasn't

going to be an organization that would ultimately turn out to be a "club." I knew that it would be something very unique.

When Gary and his wife, Elaine, asked me to be part of the Board of Directors of this new organization called Climbing For Christ, I didn't know what to expect, especially since I'd never climbed, didn't know anything about climbing, and didn't even know anyone other than Gary who climbed.

But at the center of the purpose of this organization was something (or Someone) I know a lot about, and that is Jesus Christ. Reaching people in Christ's name in very different ways than any traditional mission work I was familiar with was really making me think outside the box. I decided that I definitely could offer my support with the gift of my time. As the ministry took shape, I could be of service with the skills I'd learned in the business world. Financial support came as an additional way of helping achieve the goal of reaching people for Christ.

Then came Haiti, and everything changed my point of view. There were **real** faces connected to people who needed to be helped ... in the name of Christ. There were circumstances that revealed both a desperate need for physical help and eternal salvation. A pitiful,

incomplete thatched hut that was a poor substitute for church was a heart-wrenching picture of a life that, for me, was unfathomable.

As plans to build that community in Gentilhomme a church took shape, the possibilities of what that could mean really began to sink in to me. The chance to be part of something which would serve as a church, a school, a community gathering place, maybe even a medical clinic was something that kept tugging at my heart. God's voice kept inviting me to not let this opportunity slip away. It was my chance to follow His command to "go, and make disciples ..." so that others would know the joy of a relationship with the Lord.

I'm not physically able to climb, but there was no reason I couldn't be a part of this mission by being a prayer warrior, or serving on the Board of Directors, or contributing financially. I just couldn't turn my back on the voice of God calling me to help. Looking at the pictures Gary brought back, I couldn't forget seeing God's redemption in the face of all those people who anxiously awaited help from God's mercy to aid them in their destitution and poverty. That Haitian community needed His Hope to learn that it's God's mighty hand and His Perfect Plan that should guide and direct them, not the voodoo that is entrenched in them and the culture of their land.

Haiti was just the beginning. The opportunities to serve by supporting the Lord's work are more than abundant. God just keeps opening doors for Climbing For Christ to reach people where others don't even think about going. Won't you listen for God's voice to speak to you? Your life will change in ways you never imagined possible. †

**Mary Lindsay has been an officer on Climbing For Christ's Board of Directors since its inception in 2004. Her undying servant's heart, prayer warrior mentality, and generous financial support have helped make more things possible than we can count. She is a blessing to His ministry.**



The church at Gentilhomme then (as an incomplete thatch hut) and in May 2009. (Photos by Gary Fallesen)

# 2008 in review

## Approach (\$1-\$1,200)

Adirondack Mountain Club  
Adventure Calls Outfitters, Inc.  
Joann Alldredge  
Bertha Alonso  
Steve & Karen Anderson  
Emre & Susan Arican  
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Tim Burling  
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Business Men's Fellowship  
of Rochester, N.Y.  
Donald & Nancy Busse  
Robert & Ruby Busse  
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Cameron Carson  
Wallace & Sharyl Carson  
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Clifton Springs United  
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Jenifer Heath  
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Douglas Hickerson  
Matthew Hiltz  
Marsha & Ronald Hogan  
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Christian Houck  
Houghton Wesleyan Church  
Mary Howard  
David & Sue Hurlbutt  
Immanuel Lutheran Church  
and School  
Mark & Beverly Janosky  
Cathy Jean-Coulson  
Robert Jenkins  
Todd & Wendy Jenner  
Jill Johnson  
Larry & Ann Johnson  
Robert Jopson  
Gary Jordan  
Alyssa Kaelin  
Nancy Kaiser  
Rob Kaiser  
Paul & Sarah Keene  
Justin Keener  
Bethany Kelsey  
Dr. Gary Kent  
Katie Kimble  
Kevin & Laurie Kimble  
Beatrice Klingner  
Chris Kniese  
Terry LaFrance  
Mark & Barb Lambrecht  
Calvin & Janet Landrus  
Stanley Lewis  
Mark Lorah  
Jeffrey Lynch  
David & Colette Madison  
BJ & Pamela Madson  
Gregory & Joyce Madson  
Timothy & Jill Mahoney  
Teresa Manes  
Stanley Marshall  
Cynthia Martin  
Dennis Miguel Martin  
Bernard Martutat  
Carol McDonald  
Dorothy & Joslin McDowell  
Dean & Stephanie McDowell  
Thomas & Lisa McNulty  
Daniel & Anne McQueen  
Thomas & Angela Melancon  
Melissa Mihalyov  
Jamie Miller  
Morton & Marylynn Miller  
Stuart Milligan  
Minneapolis Foundation  
Richard Missell  
James Moore  
Carol Moran  
Robert & Elizabeth Morasse  
Clifford Morgan  
John Moriello  
Terry & Mary Motsinger  
Chuck & Jennifer Myers  
Jack & Lisa Needy  
Daniel & Nancy Nelson  
Karen & Michael Norman  
Janet Norton  
Bernard & Carolyn Obrien  
C. John & Anna Oegema  
Bruce & Theda Olmsted Jr.  
Warren & Sandra Olson  
James & Amy Paris

James & Winann Patterson  
Katherine Payne  
Web & Heidi Pearsall  
Hershel Peppers  
Providence Christian Church  
Michael & Linda Raha  
Donna Randall  
William Reddy  
A.Ralph & Mary Reed  
Mary Howard  
Richard & Oksana Robinson  
Cristina Robles  
Rochester Ski Club  
David & Rhonda Romines  
Katy & Dolan Rossi  
Mark & Lisa Rothrock  
Jordan Rowley  
Armin & Sarah Rudd  
Julie Sampson  
Keith Sanger  
Reid Savage  
Mick & Judy Scarpella  
Todd & Rebecca Scarpella  
John & Lucy Schliesser  
H.D. & G.S. Schrom  
E. Shaub  
Graham & Cindy Shaw  
Richard & Gwynn Shear  
Andrea Sheldon  
David Silloway  
Joel & Pat Slesak  
David & Diane Smith  
Kenny & Helen Smith  
Nona Spitzner  
St. Christopher Church of Chili  
St. Paul Adella Society  
St. Paul Lutheran Church  
Robert & Jennifer Stanchus  
Brad & Carol Steele  
Nick & Sarah Stevens  
Emily Stimpson  
Pastor Larry & Jill Stojkovic  
Patrick & Diane Sturmer  
Summit Drive Baptist Church  
Stephen & Jennifer Takatch  
Mary Tarver  
AJ Tate  
Meredith Thomas  
Thrivent Financial for Lutherans  
Daniel & Milly Traina  
Donna Treat  
Matthew Troyanek  
John Van Kirk  
Dan & Evelyn VanderJagt  
Delore Vecchiarelli  
Marci Waheibi  
Michael Wall  
Alick Warner  
Marc & Patty Wernli  
Isaac & Nicole Will  
RR & JH Willour  
Joseph Wipff  
William & Theresa Wos  
Stephen & Douglas Youd  
Kristin Young  
Shari Zeiler

## Base Camp (\$1,201-\$1,800)

Johanna & Adam Bachman  
Jason & Kristi Loper  
Mortenson Construction  
North Shore Adventures, Inc.  
Steve Quakenbush  
Joseph & Christine Stirpe

Tara Storch  
James & Deborah Wehrle

## Camp 2 (\$1,801-\$3,000)

Dan Bartolomucci  
Rodney & Joelle Briggs  
Rebecca Catlin  
Kathryn Fink  
Derek & Karen Fullerton  
Peter & Mary Hohmann  
Daniel Karlsen  
David Lesh  
Karim Mella  
Jim & Shiloh Nowlin  
Miguel Samper  
Larry & Linda Smith  
Erica Zeiler

## High Camp (\$3,001-\$10,000)

Buena Vista Wesleyan Church  
David & Grecia Lamos  
Mary & Ken Lindsay  
South Suburban Christian Church

## Summit Club (more than \$10,000)

Aerial Machines & Tool Corp.  
AustriAlpin, Inc.  
Hope Lutheran Church

# Help wanted

Climbing For Christ, a 501(c)3 non-profit based in Rochester, N.Y., received \$191,310.49 in contributions in 2008. That money was used to fund six major Evangelic Expeditions (to Alaska, China, Haiti, Nepal, the Philippines, and Tanzania) and help grow the ministry to nearly 1,000 members by the end of the year. It also paid staff salaries.

**One change in 2009: no salaries are being drawn from Climbing For Christ support. All of the money given is going into the mission of serving the spiritual and physical needs of those in mountainous areas of the world. It is sending us — and with us, the Good News of Jesus Christ — where others cannot or will not go.**

There are five suggested levels of giving:

- Approach (\$100 per month)
- Base Camp (\$150 per month)
- Camp 2 (\$250 per month)
- High Camp (\$5,000 annual gift)
- Summit Club (\$10,000 annual gift)

The money you give can go a long way toward furthering the kingdom of heaven. Please send your donation to Climbing For Christ, P.O. Box 16290, Rochester, N.Y. 14616-0290.



Friends of Kyle Austin praying over a woman who accepted Christ in Dapcha, Nepal.

connect with fellow Climbing For Christ members who were supposed to be serving with me, and when I did get ahold of them I learned my plans and hopes for helping them work with the handicapped of west Nepal were not going to be realized.

At that time I didn't know how — or even if — God intended to use me on this Evangelic Expedition. So I prayed that God would grant me patience, and give me the faith that He would provide ministry opportunities.

God did just that a few days later. I was in a village in the hills in the Khavre District, where I was going to teach in a small church. While God was faithful to provide me with a ministry opportunity, He did not cease working on my patience with a series of delays and last-minute changes.

A brother in Christ was delivering a long sermon for the benefit of five adults, while most of the 20 or so kids in attendance wandered away before I had an opportunity to do the children's message. I have a heart for the children of Nepal, working with them for much of the two-plus years I've worked as a missionary in that country. After all, Jesus said, "Let the children come to me" (Luke 18:16).

So this seemingly squandered opportunity upset me. Thankfully, before I said or did anything that might have hurt or offended my friend, I prayed that I would do nothing to make things worse.

After that, I simply asked the remaining kids to go bring their friends back. They did, and I was able to share the children's sermon.

Shortly thereafter, a woman attending the church accepted Christ as her Savior. It was the highlight of the trip for me.

I was instantly struck with the memory of my prayer before leaving the States for Nepal — that Climbing For Christ would be able to reap some fruit. I had forgotten that desire.

I was also reminded how much bigger God's plans are than our own. I was hoping through that time of worship to encourage some kids. That had been my highest goal. God did this, but He also saved one of His lost sheep.

"Rejoice with me," Jesus instructed us. "I have found my lost sheep" (Luke 15:6). I was blessed that He allowed me to be a part of this incredible moment.

**Kyle Austin, a member of Climbing For Christ since January 2005, was a participant in our inaugural Evangelic Expedition (Mission: Mexico 2005). He also served on Mission: Nepal 2008 and Mission: Nepal 2009 after spending two years working as a missionary in that predominantly Hindu nation. He is a college student from Houghton, N.Y.**



www.austrialpin.com  
phone Toll Free 866.962.7008





Kyle Austin, left, preaching through a Nepali interpreter at the Sara church in Dapcha, Nepal.

# Serving a patient God in Nepal

By Kyle Austin

I went into Mission: Nepal in May acknowledging that its success was in God's hands. But my conviction of this was tested throughout the journey as God continued to teach me to have faith in and reliance on Him.

He also challenged me to increase my patience while waiting for the humans required to do the ministry.

I realized that these lessons were probably part of God's agenda for me about a week into the trip. I was waiting for a landlady who had changed a lock on us, when we were trying to deliver a huge (and heavy) water filter in

Kathmandu. She told us — and our hired truck — to wait. “She was coming.” She never came.

I think the good-natured attitude my Nepali brothers in Christ actually had only added to my frustration. In my task-oriented mind, I felt that if they could feel what I felt we could solve this problem. The truth is, there was no solution to the problem. She wasn't coming, and I let my frustration get the better of me.

I later viewed that situation as an example of what this mission trip was becoming. It had taken me days to

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P.O. Box 16290  
Rochester, N.Y. 14616-0290