Perspective is EVERYTHING

Global Capacities
Sept. 9, 2021

Dear Friend -

It is Thursday morning September 9 and I am on a flight to Florida for my first mission trip since January 2020 to China. I can't believe I've been essentially "grounded" in Minnesota for the past 19 months (my cats have really enjoyed it ;). However, my ministry hasn't stopped and has barely slowed down during this time. Have you noticed that God will use us wherever we are? He just wants us to be like children, to listen, to love, to be open, and to be willing to give up our agenda and to follow where He leads.

As I sit here by the window looking out, reading the newspaper and my devotional, I'm struck by the word "PERSPECTIVE". Being high in the air gives perspective of things on the ground that is different than if I was driving. Even as I fly the sun hits
and reflects off of bodies of water, metal roofs, and the small plane flying by differently by the moment. Clouds and trees obscure other things and many things like cars, people, and pets are simply too small to see from this height.

Likewise the headlines in today's newspaper highlights the things the media thinks are important for me to know; however, I don't agree with everything that is included and what was omitted from the news section of the newspaper. I found the stories in the special 6-page section on the victims and survivors of 9/11 interesting and well done, but not much else.

In particular, there were several noticeable omissions that stand out to me: the situation on the ground in Afghanistan and people not able to get out of the country: stories and status of helping and resettling Afghani refugees, impact and remnants of the recent Hurricane (Ida? I'm even having trouble remembering its name - and I have done disaster response in the past). These are all major events still impacting tens of thousands of people and these items are not significant enough to be included in this morning's newspaper despite the fact they've happened less than two weeks ago.

The situation most on my heart this morning are the hundreds of people in Afghanistan unable to get a flight out of the country to safety. I personally know people who personally know more than 120 family and friends in hiding and trying to get out. Please pray with me that God would make a way out, that He will protect each one of them body, soul, mind, and spirit, and that they will come to faith in the Son of God in the process.

**Feeling you need to help, need to do something? Me too!** The world situations are heavy, but we can prepare to love and bring hope to those who have left their homes, their communities, their friends, and perhaps even their families with the clothes on their back to get to a place of safety with some sort of future for their children.

To this end I've set the goal of **raising $10,000** to be able to help Afghani Refugees with tangible necessities. This $10,000 will be practically multiplied in partnership with the HEART Community Redistribution Warehouse and the HEARTLAND Outlet. We will be able to acquire tens of thousands of dollars worth of new items (clothing, shoes, coats, undergarments, toys, baby stuff, bedding, towels, etc.) to Afghani families who are currently being processed for resettlement in the Midwest.

$5,100 has already been raised through a Facebook fundraiser, so there is just **$4,900 remaining**. Would you join me in **donating online** using the button below or by sending in a check to (The Palm Branch, P.O. Box 24044, Apple Valley, MN 55124 - memo "Afghani needs"). Thank you in advance for your generosity and prayers.

Oh I almost forgot about the mission trip to Florida that I started to tell you about - **STAY TUNED... more on that in the next couple of days!**
This week also marks 21 years in full-time ministry. Thank you for praying and the financial support that has made the past 21 years possible. I am so very grateful and am excited to see what God continues to do in and through me.

Love and blessings, Jill

Give NOW to help Afghani Refugees