

# Lost Sheep Ministry News

## June - July 2019—Vietnam

**The Great Commission:** Matthew 28: 18 - 20 is a commission for *all* Christians to *go, make Disciples*, baptize them, and *teach* them to *OBEY* all that I have commanded. LSM is dedicated to evangelizing the lost and making Disciples of Christ that make Disciples of Christ according to II Timothy 2:2.

### Notes from Pastor Bob:



I joined a group from Kirkwood Baptist Church in Houston, TX on a mission trip to Vietnam for 06/23/19 to 07/12/19

**Sunday the 23rd of June** When I was checking in the Houston, TX airport, I discovered that I made a mistake and my confirmation number was for Monday 24 June not Sunday 23 June.

The United Airline representative helped me book on Sunday's flight to Chicago and then Hong Kong. I was on standby and it looked ok for Chicago, but Hong Kong was questionable. I really needed to get to Hong Kong on Monday in order to arrive in Ho Chi Minh City on Tuesday the 25th to meet the Kirkwood Vietnamese team members arriving from Paris, France.

Okay God did get me on both flights. It took four hours to Chicago and then a very comfortable six hour wait (in the United Club) followed by a fourteen-hour flight to Hong Kong. I finally arrived in SGN (Ho Chi Minh City) at 12:05 p.m. When I was boarding the plane in Chicago, I was asked to check my carry-on. It will be sent to Hong Kong the gate attendant told me. When I got to Hong Kong, my other two pieces of luggage was there but not my carry-on which held my medicine. I was helped by a United baggage representative and he noticed that my carry-on was listed. When I arrived in Ho Chi Minh City, I began to wait for the team coming from Paris. I was reading my emails when I received this one:

Dear Mr. Gibson,

Your bag due cross picked up by another passenger, we switch it under rush tag UA2016-442553, the flight arrival SGN airport around 10:15 am this morning, please contact Cathay Pacific Baggage service in SGN airport for pick up bag arrangement.

Best Regards, Hong Kong Baggage services United Airlines

I replied: "I am so grateful for your help! Thanks, Sammy, for a job well done. How can I share with your management team, your kindness, understanding and professionalism?"

God knew I needed my medicine. And I really wanted that bag back as it was a gift to me from my son Joshua.

Around 3:15 p.m. I decided to venture off to a hotel to contact Pastor Mai (Pastor Kirkwood Baptist Church) to learn where they were. While checking in I received a call and finally met them at a restaurant at 6:30 p.m.

**Wednesday 26 June** we met for prayer at 6:30 a.m. and then traveled for about one-hour to a restaurant for breakfast before going on to minister at a drug rehab center for about five-hours. I was really blessed by the participation of our younger team members. They were singing and sharing with about 80 residents at the rehabilitation center. They are so young! It was a good experience for me, and I cannot say thank you enough to John & Dot Overton, John Dainwood and others who minister weekly at Bay Area Recovery Center in Dickinson, TX! We returned to the hotel about 3:30 p.m. I am honored to be here representing our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Thursday:** In the morning we rode about 1.5 hours to a hospital for people with mental illnesses. About 800 patients were excited to see us. We are working with a local pastor who is orchestrating our schedule. He arranged for praise singers and a worship service. We then served them brunch. It is not possible to look out at their faces and crippled-bodies and not weep. Yet the God we serve is a God of love and He loves them enough to send His servants to minister to them and show them His love with smiles and physical touches of love. It reminds me of Pastor John Morgan who taught me many years ago the importance of a “kind touch”.

Then in the afternoon God put the finishing touch on our day serving Him at an orphanage run by Buddhist monks in a temple. The pastor here has developed a relationship with the monk who helped start the orphanage with his brother. *The monk testified to us that he had trusted Jesus Christ as his savior.* He also has given permission for the Christian Church to build a meeting room on the temple property. Wow! You go God! There were about 400 children ranging from newly born to teens. We had music, and dance, and praise and worship by our host pastor’s church. This is really LOVE IN ACTION! And then God put the cherry on the top by having the children sign happy birthday to me. I’m in Ho Chi Minh, Vietnam on my birthday at a Buddhist temple ministering to orphans. I was really shedding tears of joy.

During the day I was able to minister to several of the church workers. One was a young lady named Emma. She is 26 years old and



has been to Madison, Wisconsin. Her English was very



good, and we spent time together as I answered her questions. She was desperately seeking God’s will for her life. She wept again and again as I sent her to the Word of God to answer her questions. A young man named Max was a similar situation and then there is Elizabeth an 18-year-old team member with the Kirkwood Church team. So, I had a great day being used by the Holy Spirit

helping to build up and strengthen their relationship with Jesus Christ. The same is true for my room-mate-Christian who is 21 years old. I am truly blessed to be a man of God, sent by God, with a message from God and He continues to send them to me as the Holy Spirit leads them to come over and share with me. It is a great joy for this old saint to be used by the Holy Spirit to minister to and encourage younger saints. Thank you, Lord Jesus.

My birthday yesterday was the happiest of my life. 77 years old but 46 years old in the Lord. I have been equipped by many Pastors. I simply cry out COME QUICKLY LORD JESUS, BUT UNTIL YOU COME, HERE AM I, SEND ME!

**Friday,** we ministered all day at a location about a four-hour drive from Ho Chi Minh City with a medical team made up of doctors and nurses with examination cubicles along with ability to distribute medications.

**Saturday** Another day of medical team outreach. These two days allowed us to mingle with and love on about 400 people at each location. We had many decisions for Christ!

**Sunday,** we attended Christian Missionary Alliance church. We enjoyed a wonderful service!

**Monday**, we left at 1:00 am for Dalat. At 8:00 am we began ministering at another orphanage. We truly are doing Mathew 25 ministries. I have been in awe as I watched my teammates from Kirkwood Vietnamese church labor in God's harvest field. Young and old contributing by setting-up and tearing down of equipment, food preparation and distribution and clean up. They were serving God with their hands and their hearts.

We reached our hotel in Dalat at 7:30 pm a long 17.5-hour day. And then my blessing came when Jon Friesen and his wife walked through the door. They rode a bus for four-hours from Nha Trang to come and visit. What a blessing. On Sunday I will travel to Nha Trang to visit Jon for five days.

Today Jon and his wife and I will be tourists in Dalat as I am spending the day with them as our team goes to a remote village where Americans are not welcome.

**THURSDAY 4 JULY 2019 WOW WOW WOW WOW WOW!** Last night I witnessed an incredible demonstration of God's love in a small village near Dalat. We left at 3:30 pm to travel about a one-hour ride to the village. The church was already being set up for the evening program.

Dinner was prepared for us and we had a brief time to shop at the little stores. I bought some coffee and visited with a young lady who spoke real good English. Then the program began at 7:00 pm and lasted for 2.5 hours. The program included drama, praise music, praise dance, awesome videos, and preaching. The drama included the story of Adam & Eve when they ate the fruit from the tree of knowledge of good and evil. They also performed the parable of the Rich man and Beggar and several other smaller skits. The praise team was talented. The music was fantastic all through the program. The actors in the skits and their costumes were NYC Broadway quality. I'm not kidding folks; these were God's servants using the gifts and talents God has given them to present the Gospel story to about 1,000 villagers. I believe there were eight different vocalists and each one could do Las Vegas shows. I mean it when I say that God used His very best talented servants to present His Story. Two Pastors shared: one in Vietnamese (he is 84 years old). The other pastor was probably in his 60's and he spoke the Montagnard's dialect. At the invitation 100's came forward to be saved. God please allow me to preach around the world until I'm that old!



Tears of joy were streaming down my face! I really believe I saw the hand of God and the power of the Holy Spirit rain down and the love of Jesus Christ exemplified the entire time of our presence in the village. All I know folks is that it doesn't get any better than this serving the Lord Jesus Christ! We have been in 2 drug rehab centers, 2 orphanages (1 in the Buddhist temple), Medical mission team sites (4), 6 villages (and to churches on each **Sunday**). My team-mates from Kirkwood Church are amazing as they individually and corporately demonstrate the love of Jesus Christ everywhere we go to serve. My hat's off to Pastor David Mai for the organization, training, and dedication as he leads us! Thank you Pastor David Mai for allowing me to be a part of your team.

There are approximately 5,000 Montagnard in our area. 3,000 are Christian. Christian Missionary Alliance church has done a wonderful work here!

**Sunday, 7 July 2019** John 21:25 "And there are also many other things which Jesus did, which if they were written in detail, I suppose that even the world itself would not contain the books that would be written. "

I was not allowed to visit two villages where I was not allowed because of government interference. So, I decided to stand in the gap in prayer for all who would attend who had not received Christ. One person praying for their salvation. Last night three young boys sat next to me. Ages, ten, five, and two. The two-year-old fell asleep in my lap. What a blessing for me. Later an usher came and got the little guy and took him to where there were beds for the children. This program is 2.5 hours long with drama, dance, praise songs, awesome video clips and concludes with a Vietnamese and Montagnard pastors sharing the Word and then the invitation to receive Christ as Savior. The crowd flowed to the front and I escorted hand in hand the little ten-year-old. I was crying as he prayed to receive Christ. When we left, I gave him my NASA hat and he was so happy.

This was an emotional trip for me for when I was in Vietnam in 1965, we hired Montagnard men as mercenaries to fight with us. They were good soldiers. Also, their dress for the women is so colorful. One of the group's part of the program is a Montagnard choir and the dresses are so varied and so colorful.

## IN SUMMARY:

*As I am sitting here trying to put into words what God has done with our team for the past ten days. We have worked long-hour days, traveled long distances, and helped participate in medical team projects, orphanages visitation, hospital visitation, and village crusade programs. I have been told by Pastor David, we may have seen more than 5,000 people with more than 2,000 saved. Phoung, another team member, estimates the number saved to be almost 4,000. I don't know but Jesus does! 100 Jesus Film DVD's and 1,800 Jesus Film free download cards, 3 computers, 2 video projectors, 1 printer and 100 pairs of reading glasses were distributed.*

I really want to thank all my family and friends who support Lost Sheep Ministries with prayers, financial support and hugs. I love all but Jesus loves you more!

## Notes from Jon Friesen:

Greeting from Cam Ranh Bay Vietnam. Two years ago, Pastor Bob and I joined Pastor David Mai, Kingwood Baptist Church in Houston, TX, USA, and a small team of church members on a mission trip to Vietnam. I have great memories of that trip as I reflect on God's plan in progress. We all have a part; (I Corinthians 12:14 For the body is not one member, but many.)

As members of the Body, we do our part and the whole church body works together so that all things come together to accomplish His will.



While on our missionary journey two years ago, I felt a familiar presence of the Holy Spirit as we shared the good news of Jesus Christ in CamMau and Ho Chi Minh City then journeying on to Dalat.

During this time Fong Filler (one of the Vietnamese men in our mission team) suggested that we return and teach Bible English together I said yes, but much needed to be done to prepare for such a radical commitment. I honestly started to comprehend what Jonah must've felt like. Jonah is such an amazing book. Have you ever thought about what Jonah packed when he ran from God? What did he take with him what did he leave behind? Who did he say goodbye to?

Eventually Jonah lost everything, but God spared his life to accomplish His will.

I said goodbye to my family and friends and started my journey towards God's destination with 200 pounds of belongings much more than what Jonah must've packed.

Here I am Lord send me; Pastor Bob always says while he had mixed emotions about this new course for my ministry. Pastor Bob has been my teacher for thirty-three years and the last three years were the final exams, I must have passed because Bob ordained me and blessed me to be a blessing to others but he also gave me a serious warning from; 1 Corinthians 9:16 "***For woe is me if I do not preach the gospel***", God put together a great team in Pastor Bob and Carol Gibson and I am so very thankful for their sacrifice, faithfulness and continued encouragement in my life and the testimony through Lost Sheep Ministries.

There are many details I am not at liberty to effectively communicate as I must respect the authorities and people I am working with. Vietnam is a communist country. While there are Christian churches here, public evangelism is not a platform allowed by the government. I am monitored by the government and have to check in, periodically like a parolee to a probation officer. I am here as a foreign native English teacher working with a very supportive family.

Sharing God’s word is challenging since the government prohibits religious propaganda, I can be jailed, deported, and my visa and work permit can be revoked. My neighbors all know that I am a Christian.

There are many ways we can present the gospel, but I believe the most important way is by living your testimony, and doing what we have been commanded to do in Luke 10 : 27 **“And he answering said, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbor as thyself”**.

By keeping this command people will know not just who I am but that I am a Christian and that we have been called to love one another. The Ten Commandments, along with the command of Christ that we love one another, have been the focus of my ministry as this is the specific message laid on my heart about four years ago

So, for me it was not a surprise when I arrived in Cam Ranh City and began to look for a church. I found a great church family at the only church in town and they were teaching a series on the Ten Commandments. I was permitted to help with Vacation Bible School, where there were about sixty children, I was blessed as two children made professions of their faith after I spoke on how to remember the Ten Commandments with hand gestures

So how am I supposed to preach and witness? Many times, it’s easy to overthink things, and feel that we need to do everything on our own, but that’s not God ‘s plan. God ‘s plan is that we are to work together with Him and with each other. The plan is that we simply show up, present a clear message of the gospel verbally or nonverbally with our words, or with our heart’s testimony and leave the rest up to the Holy Spirit to convict , and comfort with the message of the mercy, grace, and steadfast love of Jesus.



Discreet opportunities are always available when you remain faithful. Your Shepard’s calling and let the Holy spirit whisper into the conscience soul of the lost sheep

I want to thank, Pastor Bob and his wife Carol, my Vietnamese friends,

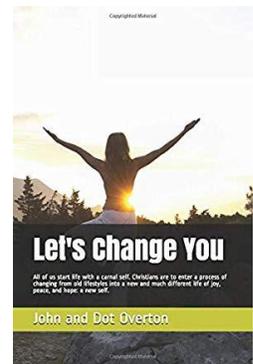
### **Recommended Reading: *Let’s Change***

**You** by: John and Dot Overton. This book focuses on you personally. All of us start life with a *carnal self*. Christians are to enter a process of changing from old lifestyles into a new and much different life of joy, peace, and hope: *a new self*. Many are,

however, taught that accepting Jesus’ death as payment for their sins and waiting to die and join Jesus in heaven is the total purpose of Christianity. This is Satan’s deception and it has effectively weakened the contemporary church to a state of luke-warm ineffectiveness!

This book is a curriculum for Christlikeness and will serve as the introduction to new life in Christ following salvation. The purpose of Christianity is to Change the World from evil to good and Christians, are to join Jesus in making this change.

**Tax Deductible Donations to LSM:** Lost Sheep Ministries is a 501(c) non-profit organization. Donations may be made to LSM, 2951 Marina Bay Drive, Suite 130-144, League City, TX 77573. We seek funds to travel, equip, and commission others to take the Gospel of Christ to all nations.



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