

Lost Sheep Ministry News

October 2019—Sri Lanka

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: SRI LANKA TRIP
REPORT 4 -16 OCTOBER 2019:

This was my first mission trip to Sri Lanka. I accompanied Pastors Carter and Laura Ware and their team from Faith City Church in League City, TX. They have served the Lord

in Sri Lanka several times, so they were a great help in introducing me to the local culture.

I was able to secure some materials in the local language to distribute.



Sunday Evening: Let me begin on Friday morning when my trip started. I arranged for an Uber ride to the airport leaving my home at 7 am. I got checked in by 8:45 am with my boarding passes for EWR (Newark leaving at 10 am) and DEL (New Delhi leaving at 6 pm). I have already begun passing out the Jesus through the eyes of Children free gift cards. I love them and people are receptive. No problem on the flight to EWR about 3.5 hours with no business class seats but I knew this and was wanting to get on business class on the 13-hour flight to DEL. Well believe it or not I did get a boarding pass for seat 11A. Man I was happy and called Carol to give her the good news. But when we began to board the gate agent took my ticket back and gave me a seat in

economy. An aisle seat with no one in the middle seat. I was pouting! God, you know I'm too old for this riding 13 hours in the back of a plane. He reminded me He hung on a cross. Oops, okay God here am I send me. Then something good happened because when they closed the cabin doors no one was in the window seat either. So, I had 3 seats to get somewhat horizontal on. I did and we (Holy Spirit) and I made it. Let me back up a bit. While waiting for my flight in Houston I was in the United Club making online arrangements for a Sri Lanka visa. But I couldn't complete it



before we left. So, with a 2 ½ hour layover in EWR I was able to order a 24-hour response to a visa request which costs me an extra \$79. But I did get an email in India telling me my request was approved. Thank you, Jesus. Anyway, I arrived in New Delhi at 6 pm and my flight to Colombo, Sri Lanka was not until 5 am. So, I waited all that time without being able to sleep. But I could wander around and pass out Jesus film card and I DID! Wheelchair assistants, airline employees and just other passengers gladly took the cards thanking me.

I boarded the flight for Colombo, Sri Lanka at about 4:30 am. A 3 hr. 30 min flight. When getting off the airplane as the last person to do so the flight attendants were helping me and when I gave each of them a Card they asked can we have more? Of course, I said and gave each of them a handful. I got through immigration and customs with no problems and walked outside wondering who is going to pick me up. But I knew Pastor Carter had arrange it and it would be okay. two men from the church picked me up and after about a 1 and ½ hour ride we arrived at the church where I will be staying awaiting the arrival of the Faith City team.

Tuesday 8 October 2019: Yesterday was a good day of waiting and resting. Our mission house quarters here at the church are very comfortable. A two-bedroom apartment with nice living area, a kitchen and a bathroom with hot water and a washing machine. I got some rest and a shower. The evening service started at 5:30. It was a good service with a good response from the congregation on answering the question God asked in Isaiah “who can we send? Who will go for Us? And I said here am I send me! At 8 PM I shared with a men’s group of 16 men. I am really blessed to be here and am already falling in love with the pastor and his flock!

We left for the airport at 12:30 am to pick up the team. Lots of smiling faces and hugs when they came through the door. The ride to and from the airport is about 2 hours. We arrived at the church about 4 pm. I got some rest and now I’m waiting for our team to assemble and see what God has in store for us today. I know tomorrow we are leaving early in the am to travel about 10 hours to the north.

Tuesday night It’s been a long day as we departed at 4:30 am to travel up the mountain. It really was a beautiful journey. We stopped several times along the way to eat or simply to drink tea. Tea houses are everywhere! We arrived about 4:30 pm at our destination city but I don’t know the name yet. We ate at a Food Court that really was amazing. Food from all over the world. I stuck with my basic tomato soup. We checked into our hotel and I cleaned up and slept till about 7:30. We were served dinner. But a problem has



arrived. There was no hot water in some of the rooms, so we are moving to another hotel. I am writing this from our new residence, and we are in high cotton.

Tomorrow is the Pastor’s conference which Pastor Carter will be presenting for more than 250 local pastors. I’m excited. Anyway, I as always am blessed to be here. discover and learn about a new culture and people group and of course begin to fall in love with them. Thank you, Jesus.



Friday night 8 pm 10/11/19 The Pastor's conference was definitely a divine appointment. About 500 came to receive an awesome message from Pastor Carter. He shared his "Year of Job". And believe me the attendees were on the edge of their seats waiting to hear the victory that Pastors Carter and Laura received from God. The praise team was almost as good as ours. Well maybe Bella and Justin they were as good as you are. The message that God laid on Pastor Carter's heart to share was the one many needed to hear. Of Course! That's our

Holy Spirit who whispers in our ears His message He desires for us to share. The joy was immeasurable. So many smiles and laughter. At the conclusion of the meeting our team stood by the door and shook hands with all as they left the conference. I was able to pass out 500 Jesus film cards.

Today was a day of rest and tourism. We walked down to a coffee shop a good distance and Carol would be happy I walked. But it was all downhill. Going back, I will ride in a jeepney. I



again was able to pass out 500 Jesus film cards and 500 Chick tracts in Tamil language. People receive them with a smile, and most say thank you. I went to the barber and got a haircut and beard trim. And then much to my surprise a massage of my head and neck— It hurt when he went first to the left. I was fearful when he prepared to go to the right but lo and behold, I feel good!

We went back to the food court for lunch. I spotted a couple of young ladies at another table and decided to go and ask them where they were from. They invited me to sit and join them and one lady was from Norway and the other from Sydney, Australia. Well I went to Oslo, Norway with Dana Poole and to Australia with the Kirkwood Vietnamese church so I shared with them my joy of visiting their countries. I then shared the Gospel message and they both wanted to pray to receive Christ as their Lord and Savior! So here I am in Sri Lanka and God sends me two ladies from distant countries to lead to Christ. But I am endeavoring to win Sri Lankans to Christ also. Maybe they will all come via Jesus film cards and Chick tracts.

I want to share a story that Arch a driver shared with me. I was back at my room and the team was out for dinner. On the way home Pastor Rebecca said we have to stop and get Pastor Bob his Pepsi. Well it was almost 10 pm when the shops close and at the first stop they did close the door in their face. But Pastor Rebecca said no. We are going to bring pastor Bob his Pepsi. So, they went to another store and bought me my Pepsi. Man, that's love!

Tomorrow I will preach at Thalawakele Church.

Saturday 10/12/19: I travelled about 1 hour down the mountain from where we are to Talawakele Church whose altitude is 3,930 feet. There were about 80 in attendance. I was really blessed to see their smiling faces and happiness that God has sent me to them. I shared The Bell with them:

Keep this bell ringing...pass it on "The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn His face toward you and give you peace. ."Numbers 6:24-26

After that I gave them all a wordless book bracelet and taught them how to share the gospel with it. They loved them and the lesson. I am grateful to God that He chose me to come here and minister to these He loves! Tomorrow I will be at 2 churches and Justin and Kaylee at 1 other church. Today Justin and I just had 1 church. I am blessed to be on our Faith City team with them.

Monday 10/14/19: Yesterday was two mountaintop experiences for me! We packed the car and departed Nuwara Elaya to travel back to Colombo. We dropped off Justin & Kayleigh to share at Pundalu Oya Church and I went on to churches in Kotagala and Hatton. I really can't describe the joy in my heart. The churches were small in numbers maybe 50 to 80 but large in Spirit! I was blessed to see the smiles on the elderly who received reading glasses. Of course, suckers, tracts and Jesus film cards create smiles also. In Hatton I observed a young couple who came into the church about 15 minutes after Praise started. Anyway, I noticed that neither one sang any of the hymns. I taught a lesson from Dave Wilkerson "the 6 major events in your life". Eternity Passed (No beginning) Life (Maybe 80 years), Death (Doorway to your destination) Heaven or Hell Bema Seat Judgement or Great White Throne Judgement Eternity Future (No ending)

I decided to present very clearly the gospel message and gave an invitation. I don't do this often, but I felt led by the Holy Spirit to single out that couple. And yes, they came forward for salvation along with another couple and a single man. I am grateful that God gave me five Sri Lankan souls to go along with the two ladies from the food court from Australia and Norway. Still have two days to go so of course I'm asking the Holy Spirit for more!

Our hosts Neil, Rebecca, Arch and Shohoney have been so gracious to us. They have spoiled us. Neil & Rebecca have kept me in Pepsi and small ice cream cones.

The ride up and down the mountain is truly awesome filled with the beauty of God's creation. The heavens and the earth declare the handiwork of God!

Our Faith City team has truly made an impact everywhere we have travelled and ministered. Thank you, Holy Spirit.

I would like to say thanks to all for your prayers and for those who have donated towards the cost of this trip. Your rewards await you in heaven at the Bema Seat Judgement!

Tuesday 10/15/2019 Yesterday was a long fun day - 12 hours long as I went to several shopping malls and other favorites in Colombo. Of course, I don't like to walk so I always found a comfortable place to "fish". I literally talked with people from three continents, Asia, Europe and USA. I met two men from Alabama who are here working construction of the US Embassy. Later I met their wives. I met a Lady from Germany. I distributed about 300 Jesus film cards and maybe 150 Chick tracts in Tamil language. People would smile and say thank you as I would shake their hands and return their smiles. Of course, some said no when I offered a free movie, but most said yes. I met several Christians who asked me for more!

Well finally I could sit there no longer so I went to the pizza booth and had the honor to lead a young



lady to the Lord. She went and told the others working there (three men) and they came over and wanted to hear the gospel story also. I was using the wordless book bracelet.

Black – sin and death

Red – blood of Jesus
Christ – salvation

White – repentance
and faith leads to washing
my sins away and I am



adopted into God's family

Green – grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ Pray – Study the Bible – Fellowship in a local church – Share your testimony and the Gospel message with others

Gold - Eternity in heaven one day!

Our time together the Faith City Team and our hosts team spent the day loving, laughing, and laughing some more. I thank God for allowing me to travel here with our Faith City Team and falling in love with the Sri Lankan people. Especially Neil & Rebecca and Arch & Shehnai who has spent our time together doing everything they could to make us comfortable. Of course, for me comfort is Pepsi and ice cream!

I am bringing home some tea for my support team members. Usually I bring coffee, but Ceylon Tea is a must to bring home and bless others. I am packed pretty much and watching the United pass rider list. The Business class seats have dwindled to 2 available but I don't know what number I am on the list because the United app is not working properly to show me the details. But they are enough seats in Economy to assure me I will be on the plane. As you read this please pray for me asking God to put ole Pastor Bob in Business class.

Thanks to all my dedicated prayer partners and those who financially support Lost Sheep Ministries. I was able to lead 11 to the Lord so far but believe me the Pastor's Conference that Pastor Carter presented touched the life's of more than 500. We truly did provide a drink of cold water to many, many, many Christians.

Proverbs 25:25 Like cold water to a weary soul, so is good news from a distant land.

Friday 10/18/2019

My trip home was long long long! I spent about 38 hours from the time I left God's Church until I reached my bed at home. I am very blessed to have had the opportunity to travel with the Faith City mission team to Sri Lanka. It really is a beautiful country and the people are very kind, polite and gentle. Our hosts were non-stop in providing all our needs. Their love was demonstrated daily. I believe I was able to distribute 5,000 Jesus film cards and 500 Chick tracts. I also was able to donate a new video projector to Pastor Rebecca. She has called me twice since I've been home just checking on me to be sure I am okay. So, to all my dear friends and supporters of Lost Sheep Ministries a BIG SRI LANKAN thank you for your financial support and prayers.

Recommended Reading: *Celebration of Discipline* by Richard Foster. "Like a child exploring the attic of an old house on a rainy day, discovering a trunk full of treasure and then calling all his brothers and sisters to share the find, Richard Foster has 'found' the spiritual Disciplines that the modern world stored away and forgot, and has excitedly called us to celebrate them. For they are, as he shows us, the instruments of joy, the way into mature Christian spirituality and abundant life."

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.

Note: *All of our Newsletters and Power point discipleship presentations along with student manuals are available free from our*

web: www.lostsheepministries.com

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