

January 2014

Happy 2014! I trust you had a wonderful time celebrating the birth of our Savior and that you've had a chance to spend extra time with the Lord reflecting on 2013 and committing to walking in obedience with Him in 2014. I find that is easiest to do when I set aside an entire day to spend focusing on Him and enjoying His presence. I was able to do that last weekend and it was a sweet day indeed. It makes me want to spend my life basking in His presence. But until He calls me home, there is work to be done, so my prayer is that I will respond immediately and completely to what He calls me to do and more importantly to be.

Though I had already put together a nine-page Your Call for this month, I changed my mind and am going to keep this one quite short. I hope you will take the time to read through it as it includes very helpful information to anyone preparing to serve in healthcare missions.

Here is what you'll find in this Your Call issue:

[The Key to World Transformation](#) by Rev. Stan Key

medicalmissions.com

[Book - The Missional Life](#)

[Updated International Rotation Handbook](#)

[CMDA International Rotation Scholarships](#)

As always, if you have questions or concerns, please feel free to email me at susan.carter@cmda.org. Likewise, if you have a topic that you would like to see covered in Your Call, I'm happy to hear that. Blessings to you in 2014!

The Key to World Transformation

by Rev. Stan Key

"Jesus answered them, 'My Father is working until now, and I am working'" (John 5:17, ESV).

When one's eyes are opened to the overwhelming needs around us and then you realize that the Lord Jesus is calling us to help change the world, it can feel overwhelming, even paralyzing. What can I do? Where should I begin? Should I volunteer for the food pantry? Share the gospel with my neighbor? Go on a short-term missions trip? Help tutor inner city students? Give more money to the Missions Fund? All of the above? To help cut through the paralysis that comes from analysis, let me suggest a plan that is both profoundly simple and simply profound: find out where God is already working and join Him there!

This idea is hardly original. Though it has been popularized by Henry Blackaby and others, it was Jesus Himself who first implemented it. He just walked around with His eyes wide open. When He found where His Father was at work, He got in on the action!

"So Jesus said to them, 'Truly, truly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of his own accord, but only what he sees the Father doing. For whatever the Father does, that the Son does likewise. For the Father loves the Son and shows him all that he himself is doing...'" John 5:19-20, ESV).

Getting involved in missions and evangelism is not complicated. It has little to do with education, gifting, funding, intelligence, abilities or even spiritual maturity. While these things certainly have their place, the real key to effective ministry is this: open your eyes and discover where God is already at work in the world around you and join Him there. Whether in the family, the workplace, the community or the neighborhood, just open your eyes. God is already there working: in the college student asking questions, in the widow living with fear, in the addict struggling with guilt, in the colleague battling depression, in the sales clerk struggling with whom to vote for, in the boss facing cancer, in the neighbor who just lost her job, etc. You don't have to cross the ocean to be involved in the Great Commission. Just look around you! Find where God is already moving and become a co-laborer with Him (1 Corinthians 3:9).

The story is told of a day some 300 years ago in London when the famous architect Sir Christopher Wren visited the work site of his most famous construction, Saint Paul's Cathedral. The workmen did not know his face so they had no clue that the architect himself was in their midst. Walking over the construction area, Wren asked various workers to explain what

they were doing. "Are you blind?" one workman snapped. "I'm cutting a piece of stone." A second man simply said, "It's a job. I need the money to provide for my family." A third laborer smiled and stepped back from his shovel. Pointing to the rising edifice around them, he proudly said, "Me? I'm helping Sir Christopher Wren build the world's greatest cathedral to the glory of God!"

Dear friend, today Jesus Christ Himself is inviting you to join him in the glorious labor of helping to establish the soon-coming kingdom of God. Those who don't respond to such an incredible opportunity are either blind or disobedient.

www.medicalmissions.com (garnered from various www.medicalmissions.com publications)

If you are not familiar with the www.medicalmissions.com website, you are missing out on an incredible resource that is all about helping you reach your goal of becoming involved in healthcare missions. Medicalmissions.com is the largest online community of healthcare professionals and students in the world. It is the place to learn about missions preparation and global health issues, search organizations, share stories and browse an extensive library of content based on your areas of interest, and it's all free.

Some of the tools available are:

- GMHC message speakers: Comment on sessions and even interact with the speakers
- Podcasts: Subscribe to the general podcast or any specialty podcasts by area of healthcare specialty or passion area
- Dynamic Search: Narrow your search by academic area, passion area or healthcare specialty area
- Library of Sessions: Learn from hundreds of online sessions
- Tracks: Learn from an organized group of sessions addressing one major topic of healthcare missions
- Preparation Map: View the preparation map and explore opportunities at each educational stage
- Discussions: Participate in discussions around each of the online sessions
- Pathway Graphic: Learn from the infographic "Pathway to healthcare Missions" and explore your journey

Features that make networking easy:

- Trip Opportunities: Search for specific short-term and mid-term length healthcare mission trips
- Country Pages: Dive into a page for one specific country to see who is working there and what is happening today
- Tags: Take a quick look at the variety of connection points for an organization.
- Twitter Feed: Every organization's Twitter feed integrates into their profile page
- World Map: Hover over the interactive world map to see the healthcare mission organization in each country
- Healthcare Pages: Connect with others in your healthcare specialty area - join groups and find your home
- Job Listings: See current job listings that automatically import from LinkedIn
- Directory: View a directory of healthcare missions organizations
- Passion Area Pages: Have a passion about a particular global healthcare need? Explore the major areas and learn more
- Electronic Cards: Add and/or view related cards on your profile page
- Social Medical Links: Stay up-to-date with Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and LinkedIn via quick links to social media

And so much more! Yes, there is even a mobile app! Please don't miss this incredible resource for your journey to becoming a healthcare missionary.

Resource

Book - A Missional Life - I highly recommend that you pick up a copy of this new book, *A Missional Life*. This new resource is for anyone interested in healthcare missions, and it is focused on preparing you to face the major obstacles and challenges you will encounter in your journey to enter the mission field. Designed to help you grow stronger in your faith and your commitment to spreading the gospel, *A Missional Life* includes chapters from leaders in the field of healthcare missions, each speaking to their respective areas of expertise. You'll also find a wealth of recommended resources and materials to help you further explore the various topics.

The book defines a missional life as "a life surrendered to Christ for service in line with the Great Commission, following wherever and however that may unfold; marked by a deep commitment and obedience governed by a close relationship with Christ to closely listen, continually hear and follow through." So if you're looking to learn how to fully surrender yourself

to a missional life, this resource is just for you.

Every healthcare ministry who receives visiting staff or students should have a stack of these books to give to those who are interested in serving long-term. The book was produced and distributed at the 2013 Global Missions Health Conference. You can also purchase your copy online at the [CMDA Bookstore](#).

CMDA's Handbook for International Rotations is Now Updated and Available

If you or someone you know is looking for an international rotation, we have some wonderfully revised documents to help you reach that goal at www.cmda.org/internationalrotations. Thanks to Scott Reichenbach's hard work and long hours, we have split the previous document into two parts and added a third. The narrative is a separate document from the information on specific sites. The new part is information in table format that makes it possible to identify appropriate sites by where someone is in training or by specialty. We trust this updated resource will be a great help to those searching for a healthcare mission experience. Scott or I are happy to answer questions you might have but arrangements for an international rotation must be made through the contact person listed.

CMDA's International Rotation Scholarships

CMDA offers multiple opportunities for medical/dental students and residents to apply for financial help in fulfilling dreams of international rotations. Other cadre of healthcare professionals can apply for travel money from the Tami Fisk fund. You can learn about all of the scholarships at www.cmda.org/scholarships. Please note that scholarships are limited to one during your student years and one during residency. For questions regarding the Tami Fisk, Westra and Johnson scholarships, please contact me at susan.carter@cmda.org.
