

REDEEM

Aug 2023 Vol. 4; Issue 1

Dr. Pastor William Devlin

Co-Pastor: Infinity Bible Church, South Bronx

Volunteer CEO, REDEEM! A 501c 3 non-profit & WidowsAndOrphans

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IRS 990 is available

2023 has been a busy and productive time for REDEEM! In the period April through August of 2023 REDEEM! has traveled to seven countries across the globe including:

- Nepal
- United Arab Emirates (Dubai)
- Egypt (Alexandria, Cairo, Saft al-Wasta)
- Kenya (Nairobi, East Pokot)
- Nigeria
- Israel / Gaza
- Jordan



Pastor Dr. William T. Devlin holds credentials from **Infinity Bible Church**, Bronx, New York, his sending church. As the **Missions Pastor** there, he *“travels the globe bringing the gospel of Jesus Christ to hard and dangerous places...”* Pastor Devlin is the Volunteer CEO of REDEEM! and WidowsAndOrphans.info, both 501 (c) 3 non-profit organizations.

This Newsletter contains details from those trips, highlighting the places visited, people assisted and lives changed due to your generous support of REDEEM!.

Nepal

April 17, 2023: Pastor Devlin met with members of the Religious Liberty Partnership in Kathmandu, Nepal. He was invited by the group to attend a meeting with 100 other leaders from around the world and witness their reports of their efforts to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ in difficult surroundings and war zones. Pastor Devlin presented his work to the group.

April 19 - 21, 2023: Devlin met with 15 other Nepalese Pastors and with over 50 young Christians. He conducted pastoral training, church planting sessions and evangelism studies there. While in Nepal Pastor Devlin traveled by motor scooter to the foothills of the Himalayas to share God’s love. He made 20 home visits in Nepal where he encouraged persecuted Nepalese believers.



United Arab Emirates

April 22, 2023: Devlin met with Pastor Zaif (last name withheld). Pastor Zaif has fled from Pakistan to escape persecution and threats to his life while there and is now living in UAE until he can find a suitable location to carry on his ministry. REDEEM! is supporting Pastor Zaif during his temporary stay in UAE and is working with him to find a way back to a more permanent situation.



Egypt

May 3-5, 2023: Met with Pastors in Cairo including Pastor Atef Barnaba of Kasr al-Dubara, the largest Christian church in the Middle East. REDEEM! is supporting Pastor Hanna Maher, a member of the church, in his missionary trips taking the gospel to the people of Gaza. Later that day REDEEM! traveled to Alexandria and with Pastor Hanna Maher. In the evening Pastor Devlin spoke at the Presbyterian Church of East Alexandria during their evening service and later met with many of their young adults.

Overnight Pastors Devlin and Maher traveled by train to Saft Al-Wasta, 6 hours south of Cairo. There they conducted many home visits, encouraging believers in that region. Returning to Cairo by train, Pastor Devlin traveled on to Nairobi, Kenya.



Devlin, Atef Barnaba & Hanna Maher

Kenya

May 7-12, 2023: Spoke at Victory Life International Church in Nairobi and met with Bishop / Director Dr. Titus Masika, Founder of Christian Impact Mission (CIM), REDEEM!'s partner in Kenya and the mission to the people of East Pokot, Kenya.

In Nairobi Pastor Devlin connected with Bishop Jimmy Gor of CIM. He is REDEEM!'s local coordinator regarding REDEEM!'s mission activities in East Pokot, Kenya. Together, they traveled by Land Rover to East Pokot, Kenya, a tedious 12–15-hour drive to northwestern Kenya. The purpose of the journey was to attend and participate in the dedication of a new medical clinic which has been funded by your donations by REDEEM!, in East Pokot.

En route they encountered check points manned by members of the Kenyan Army. Late in the evening they were stopped at a check point and detained for being on the road after the official curfew. Pastor Devlin took the opportunity to preach the gospel to those members of the Kenyan Army in an *ad hoc* roadside prayer meeting.





Finally arriving in East Pokot, they met with 31 warriors of East Pokot who have heard the gospel and received Christ. The following day Pastor Devlin attended a Gospel rally and had the opportunity to ordain a former East Pokot warrior as a Pastor.

Nigeria

June 18-27, 2023: From JFK to Abuja, Capital of Nigeria. This trip turned into a multi-day event due to numerous delays and re-routings including stops in Chad, Amsterdam, Paris, and Lagos. Once in Abuja, Pastor Devlin connected with his Nigerian Team Leader, Emmanuel Ogebe, Esq. The first leg of their travel in Nigeria took them to Kano State.

In Kano State the team met with Professor Solomon, a man who has been involved with running an orphanage 31 years. Professor Solomon was just released from jail after being incarcerated for several years because his orphanage promoted Christian values. 16 children were displaced; 5 of the younger children were placed in Muslim homes; the other 11, in their teens, were left homeless. The orphanage had been bull-dozed so that it could no longer be used to spread Christian values. The REDEEM! Team sought ways to assist these children and reinstate Professor Solomon in a new ministry there.



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The

Next stop in Nigeria was Mangu District in Plateau State. Devlin and Ogebe met with Governor Caleb Manassah Muftwang. The Governor and REDEEM! are collaborating on rebuilding one of the villages destroyed by Islamic terrorists. To visit one of the destroyed villages, Devlin and Ogebe were



Devlin, Commander 1, Governor Muftwang, Commander 2

led by two commanders of Nigeria Special forces and traveled under the protection of members of the Nigerian Army. There they toured a church which had been



destroyed, and, together with Governor Muftwang, committed to rebuilding that village (church, clinic and 50 dwellings). The estimated cost to rebuild approaches \$50,000 – a call to action!

Historical note: During May, June, and July of 2023 30,000 residents of at least 30 villages have been displaced by Fulani-speaking terrorist who are killing village leaders and targeting Christians, according to [TRUTH NIGERIA](#). “During the last 14 years, more than 1,000 Christians villages have been captured across Nigeria.”



Returning to Abuja the team met with Ene, the young girl who lost her family to Boko Haram terrorists in 2020. Pastor Devlin / REDEEM! found her living alone at age 10, took her to an orphanage, is paying for her schooling and providing for her ongoing care. Ene, now 13, received a gift sent via Pastor Devlin from an REDEEM! investor from New York. The team also met with other refugees including the 6 children REDEEM! rescued from another destroyed orphanage two years ago. These children now attend a Christian boarding school in Abuja, financed by REDEEM! funds.



Gaza

June 27 – July 5, 2023: Traveling from Lagos, Nigeria via Istanbul and Tel Aviv, Pastor Devlin arrived in Gaza to meet with Pastor Hanna Massad, Director of Christian Mission to Gaza. Pastors Devlin and Massad visited Gaza Baptist Church and met with its Pastor and members. While in Gaza, Pastor Devlin and Pastor Massad made over 30 home visits encouraging people living there and promoting the providence of the gospel. Devlin visited Jabaliya Refugee Camp, established in 1948 where dozens of food baskets were distributed to encourage Muslims and share the grace of Jesus Messiah.

Jordan



Pastor Devlin continued to Jordan by way of a circuitous route to visit with Iraqi Christians who are refugees from Iraq, where their lives had been threatened. Pastor Devlin met with the Pastor and over 700 members of that church there with Christian encouragement and teaching.

We covet your participation in our ministry. Everyone has a role to play in bringing relief to oppressed, forgotten, neglected, lost and broken people around the world.

The need for assistance and encouragement is evident wherever Pastor Devlin travels. Your support is critical to successfully bring the gospel and its message of succor and salvation to people across the globe.

Your prayers and financial support are desperately needed to continue ministering to the situations described here and many other similar stories around the world. Your prayers are the most coveted means of support. Without prayer the finances will not be properly directed. Your financial support can be general in nature or be directed to specific situation, like the support of Ene or the rebuilding of the village in Mangu District. Contact REDEEM! through www.widowsAndOrphans.info.



God bless each and everyone of you reading this Newsletter. I look forward to seeing each of you face to face and thanking you personally for your support.

Pastor Devlin



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VOL. 19 NO. 253

FEBRUARY 20, 2021

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American Preacher Offers To Exchange Self For Leah Sharibu's Release



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American Preacher Offers To Exchange Self For Leah Sharibu's Release

VICTORIA OJUGBANA
LAGOS

Concerned by Leah Sharibu's long stay in Boko Haram's captivity, an American preacher, Pastor Zakaria, has offered to submit himself to the abductors, so that the girl can regain her freedom.

Sharibu, who is one of the abducted students in Government Girls' Technical College, Dapchi, Yobe State abducted three years ago, is still being held after she reportedly refused to renounce her Christian faith.

Zakaria disclosed his intention while meeting with journalists in the company of a universal human rights Nigerian lawyer, based in the United States, Emmanuel Ogebe, at the VIP Lounge of the Murtala Muhammed International Airport (MMIA), Ikeja, Lagos.

The New York-based pastor, who is on a humanitarian mission to Nigeria, said: "I have met with senior government officials from Sokoto State and in Abuja and asked if they will be willing to bring me to Boko Haram so I can negotiate Sharibu's release.

"They said that nobody knows where they are and it

is very difficult to deliver the message. Then I came back in December, and went as far as Jos in Plateau State and again, tried to find out where she is so I see if I can plead with them."

Zakaria said he informed the State Department and the U.S. Embassy in Nigeria of his mission in the country, adding that he has the permission of his wife of 41 years, five children, and nine grandchildren.

The Emotional Trauma Depressants Rehabilitation specialist noted that he has been following the case of the teenager since her abduction, adding that this is his third visit in four months to negotiate the girl's release.

"Am here to negotiate the release of Leah Sharibu, exchange me for her and go into captivity. I have sought assistance from top government agents to meet with the Boko Haram captors," he said.

Pledging to offer money or lay his life for Sharibu, Zakaria said: "Take me and release Leah. Am sure they will want a Westerner much more than Leah Sharibu.

"What are they going to get hurt her? It is better to take a Westerner and release her. I believe there must be some-

thing to negotiate, whether it is money or whatever they may want," the preacher emphasised.

Ogebe, however, used the third anniversary of the abduction of the 16-year-old girl to appeal to those who have held her in captivity to consider the possibility of exchanging her with this pastor.

"But even if they don't want to exchange her with the pastor, they should just have the feeling of human decency; you have done the worst possible, if she has had a child for you, leave her and let her go.

"There is no point for you to continue keeping her. As far as we know that there is no compulsion in Islam. What they are doing is clearly not even consistent with the tenets of the Islam religion. Since there is a shadow of that, they should lose her and let her go."

According to Zakaria, "What am offering to them is to exchange Leah for me and I will go into their captivity. Wherever she is, I am willing to go there and exchange for me. The basis of this is John 15:13 in the gospel "Greater love has no man than this, that a man lays down his life for his brother and his sister."

Pastor MATT & Coastal Christian!

Thank you for your investment in my life & work.
Pastor Dev transformed by Jesus:

June 23, 1971.

One week after Jesus saved me, I volunteered to go fight in The Vietnam War. I was in Vietnam, October 1971.

One year later, June 1972, after Jesus saved me,

I was hit/wounded by enemy fire and received the Purple Heart Award, Combat Action Medal & Meritorious Unit Commendation Medal.

All glory to God.

Going strong for Jesus 52 years later!

Married 43 years to Nancy D!

5 kids and their spouses all serving Jesus.

All 11 grandchildren being raised in the nurture & admonition of our Lord.

This article appeared in the San Diego Christian Servicemen's Center in September 1971.

Eternally grateful for your investment in my life & work

In Jesus,
P.B. Berhan

PB
age 19 -
volunteered
to go
into the
vietnam
war -
spent 2
years in 'Nam
52 years
later,
still in
the battle!

"THE HELMSMAN" SEPTEMBER 1971

A TRANSFORMED LIFE



Bill Devlin came into the Center four months ago but not really realizing why he was here. As one of the personal workers and I talked to him he said he knew his need for Christ, but wanted to wait till the following week-end to receive Him.

For over an hour we talked and urged him to receive the Lord right now and not wait. **Finally he decided it would be best to receive the Lord that night.** We went into the Prayer Room; showed him more Scriptures, (prayed with him and he asked Christ into his life.

He left walking on clouds! He has been back a number of times now and on one of his earlier visits he said after he had received the Lord here he went out on the street and wanted to tell everyone in San Diego he was saved!

He witnesses to his buddies aboard ship. He sings hymns and Christmas carols and just simply has turned on and started his Christian life on the run.

He has found a good fundamental church and is memorizing Scripture and has really grown more in four months than many Christians do in years.

Pray for him as he now goes overseas for two years. Also pray for his parents and relatives who are not saved—yet!

★

Man talks of the survival of the fittest—but the glory of the Gospel is that it transforms the unfit.