



A Justice and Compassion Mission: The Isaiah 58 mandate

A little girl of priceless worth...

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Dear friends and family,

It is particularly difficult to consider trauma in a young woman or child. Whether it is by nature, physical, emotional, or spiritual; I have been asked on several occasions regarding a perpetrator, "How do I reconcile retribution vs. restoration?" I would have to say ultimately, it is a matter of God's Justice and compassion... I do know this from experience, that it is so very important for the child to know that they are fully loved, accepted, and did nothing wrong.

Where compassion is found

The loss of innocence and pain that is associated with exploitive-abuse is of the deepest violation. Yet to observe life enter the eyes of a young woman or child in a place of physical, emotional, and spiritual safety is beyond earthly price. It's in the eyes and demands everything we are to impart dignity, hope and life to them

If you give yourself

...loose the chains of injustice and untie the cords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break every yoke?' Isaiah 58:6

I want to share with you a story of a little 13 yr old girl who is physically disabled and unable to walk, we will call her Jen. It was several years ago that I would often see Jen in the market area and observe people literally step over her as she sat on the ground with a paper cup in hand. I would sit and talk with her and get her something to eat; the family stubbornly refused to allow Jen to leave and be in the safety of our F.T.C. Children's center.

Then Jen disappeared for several years and I often asked and wondered where she could be. Then it was last week that a store-manager in town told me "my wife was told by a girl on the streets that for the last 4 months Jen was being raped and was pregnant." I contacted Grace the governmental head of the office for abused children. Then the police (Pic-1) accompanied us and after numerous attempts to find Jen, we found her. Thank you Lord!

When we opened the door she was sitting expressionless on the floor as though it were a dream and covered in a hospital-like gown held together with a clothes-pin. I asked her, "Do you remember me? She nodded her head Yes. I had to take a deep breath, or else I would break down a little. Although the perpetrator escaped only for now; it was beyond words to describe the elation of having Jen safe with us and away (Pic-2-3) from oppression and abuse.

During Jen's initial medical screening, and without going into specifics, she is 5 months pregnant. I went to buy her clothes last night and we all had a good laugh together, including Jen because the clothes were all too small. So some young women went and of course, they returned with the exact size.© Continued on the page



Picture1-The mutual relationship we share with the government leaders is crucial to seeing children free and safe. Our God uses all people to accomplish His purposes.



Picture 2-We just arrived into our FTC refuge center for children. This begins a new chapter of healing, while surrounded by people who deeply love and care for Jen.



Picture 3- We brought Jen to the kitchen area, so she could eat, I could somewhat see her slowly feel that this isn't a dream but that she is safe now.

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The healing presence of God

It will be a process of healing but I also believe, that in the presence of God, her healing will 'spring forth like the morning dawn.' It is from my experience here, and I have seen it multiple times, where wounds of grief and shame are replaced with a resounding (Pic-5) voice of compassion and conviction in Christ.

Yes, Lord we pray for Jen and ask you to heal her body, mind, and spirit. Lord take this horrid evil and turn it into something beautiful in her little life. Consume her with your presence and visit Jen in times of despair, help her to know that you are the "God who see's" Thank you Father, we love you so much.

The healing presence of others

It is impossible to over emphasize the healing power of connection and communication when it involves painful experiences such as this. I have been (Pic-5) brought to tears to see the other young women fully embrace Jen and selflessly go the extra mile. The government office has provided us with a wheelchair for Jen and it was so very enriching to see the girls gladly push her around (Pic-6) with a heart of genuine love!!

The meaning and destiny of life

I think our eternal destiny should define our meaning and pursuit in life. It is critical for us to consider in these days, that people don't need the convincing facts and truth that spring from an empty soul. We need are eyes opened and are ears sensitized in the presence of God. We need the internal trust, courage and vulnerability; they begin with time in the stillness of His presence.

To contribute you may contact:

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Online giving:

ccwc.org -mission
support-
Jeff Rice in the Philippines

I will have a follow-up letter regarding the life of Jen along with necessary needs that she has for her well-being and the developing child.

In the love of Christ, I thank you so much for your stand and your financial partnership. Your investment in His kingdom work is about people and is making a difference in the lives of men, women, and children. Your generosity will be used to further God's Kingdom, while rescuing those who are abused, abandoned, or seriously neglected. Thank you and May God richly bless your life, as you enrich others...

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Rice



Picture 4-This is Jen's first smile ☺ and her first good meal. She is presently eating a lot, it's a wonderful thing!



Picture 5- A culture of compassion and conviction in Christ has been established among the young women and children.



Picture 6- Pushed like a 'queen' ☺ I know this is the first time Jen has ever experienced unconditional love.