

1 November 2018

*"They sowed fields and planted vineyards that yielded a fruitful harvest;" -Psalm 107:37*

# 16

## Bonus Byproducts

Yielded by Your Investment in ITMI Partners

Your Support + Holy Spirit → Kingdom Work + Next Generation

Several of our partners' kids are grown and choosing to become involved in ministries of their own. Others are choosing to minister alongside their parents! It's exciting to see a new generation of national workers equipped and ready for ministry!

### South Africa

#### 1: Jason van Wyk

Seventeen-year-old Jason van Wyk, the son of ITMI's **Charl van Wyk**, had the opportunity to minister in Mexico this summer with YWAM. Jason had the opportunity to use his soccer skills to reach out to at-risk youth, homeless and refugee communities.

Sounding a lot like his father, Jason writes,

"One outreach stands out. We went into a ghetto and did a prayer walk; while we were walking we heard multiple gunshots and screams. This was certainly not the safest of neighborhoods – but then, my father's friend always says that safety is overrated – certainly, when it comes to the Gospel, we must be prepared to give all to Christ, even our very lives."

Jason was well prepared for the mission field. He and his brother, John Mark, have accompanied Charl on

outreaches, popping up in photos with their dad in Stone Hill and at outreach camps for youth in Zimbabwe.

#### 2-6: Talitha, Jurie, Martie, Naomi and Duma le Roux

In the Northern Cape area of South Africa, ITMI's **Gerhard le Roux** says,

"For my wife and I it would have been impossible to do the work that we do at Onseepkans had it not been for our children helping us and in the process becoming future co-workers who can take forward the work of the Lord. Pray for them as they grow into the calling of serving our Lord Jesus as missionaries for His Kingdom."

With ten children and two parents, the le Rouxs have a lot of mouths to feed, but those mouths come with hands and as we know, "many hands make light work." This principle comes to life at Onseepkans Mission, where the le Roux offspring wrangle goats, feed chickens, care for sick animals and tend the garden.

For these kids, their parents' ministry at Onseepkans is their mission. Their ownership shines through the words of **Talitha**, 18, who says, "We are building a mission in the Northern Cape in a small town called Onseepkans. I am much involved in

the practical work to build up the mission and help my father with the management of the practical work."

Their 14-year-old son, **Jurie**, says, "I love working on the mission, especially with the date trees and the seed production. While I work I have opportunity to talk to some of the people passing by, especially the teenager boys. I can see how they start to build up trust in me and I hope to share the Gospel with them."

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**Martie**, who is also 18, says, “For me it is a great privilege to grow up in a Christian missionary home.” Martie is in charge of the chickens on the farm. She enjoys sharing the fruits of the family’s labor with visitors and those in need in the community. “It is my prayer,” she closes, “that the Lord’s work in Onseepkans may grow and that many may be helped to find life in our Lord Jesus.”

**Naomi**, 17, demonstrates humility and grace beyond her 17 years, “At the mission I help serve as Jesus would have served and for this I need to hold on to Him everyday.”

**Duma**, 16, provides a little glimpse into how he’s grown into his role at Onseepkans Mission,

“I never really understood what the word ‘missionary’ meant until God through His grace started using me. I can start a conversation with the local people and made friends with some of the local police men. I always feared them until I realized that they are normal human beings and also need to know the Savior. Many times when I see that they are tired and miserable I chat with them and sometimes even pray with them. I realized that a person does not need to have a degree or special qualification in order to spread the Gospel. All you need to know is the voice of the Holy Spirit and He will guide you what to do. I thank God for this great opportunity to serve Him.”

#### 7-9: Fifi, Wyatt and Zoe Smith



In Zulu Natal, our partners **Kelly and Cherise Smith** just welcomed their daughter, Fifi to the 7 Rivers ministry team. Not long ago, **Fifi** became an official ITMI partner, too. A Zulu who was raised in this community, Fifi is a powerful witness, allowing the people around to see that Jesus isn’t just for those with white skin. His Good News is for the Zulu, too. Fifi visits the elderly, helps young women earn income through crafting jewelry and runs an after-school sports outreach for the children of the community with her brother, **Wyatt**.

Their youngest sibling, **Zoe**, 17, also helps with the ministry of Seven Rivers. Zoe assists with the various outreaches at 7 Rivers, making sure everyone is greeted with a smile at outreach events, chopping “considerable amounts of vegetables,” serving the meal and cleaning up at community events. In Zoe’s words these events are, “a great time to get to know the community ladies and share about my faith.”

Zoe also helps the local children with their schoolwork by teaching them English, which gives her the opportunity to share the Gospel.

Near the end of each year, Zoe goes to town with her mom on a massive shopping trip for the Christmas parties the Smiths put on for local school children as a part of Project Christmas Blessing. For many of these impoverished kids, this is the only Christmas celebration they will have. She helps pick out gifts the school children will love, pushes loaded shopping carts and sorts piles of gifts.

“It’s such a joy to see the kids faces upon receiving a gift as well as the gospel being shared in the kids own language,” Zoe shares.

#### 10: Ben Parris

Ben Parris, the son of ITMI partners **Mark and Cindy Parris** of Durbanville, South Africa had the opportunity to spend a month of his Christmas break teaching English to students in Korea. After being stranded with 5 other minors in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia for two days without luggage, the Lord provided a local missionary couple who cared for him and got him on to Seoul. This experience built Ben’s confidence in the Lord as he ventured out to follow Him.

## Poland

#### 11: Adelyne Nungesser

This summer, the whole Nungesser family served at a camp for at-risk children in Kalisz, Poland. **Richard and Brooke’s** daughter, **Adelyne**, 12, and a Polish friend worked tirelessly for days to present a song for the families of the children at the end of camp. She also translated stories and skits from English to Polish. According to Brooke, Adelyne has previously shied away from translation, but Brooke notes, “God is building her brave and strong and we could not be more grateful.” Not long ago, Adelyne asked Richard if she could be in charge of Bread of Life. “She is only 12, so who knows what her future holds,” Brooke comments, “but the very fact that she loves and participates in the work of **Bread of Life** as much as we do is a beautiful gift from God alone!”

#### 12-13: Luke Wakula and Paulina Wakula

Luke, 29, the son of **Leszek and Anna Wakula**, has led a men’s discipleship group for over three years, which involves both believers and non-believers. This yields him the opportunity to both share the Gospel and teach the Bible. He is attending European Leadership Forum, where he learns and grows in Apologetics. Luke was an initiator of the 5th Gospel Worship Gatherings for young people from different churches in his city, Lodz, Poland, (the 3rd largest city in Poland) an event that encourages young evangelicals to live out the Gospel. He provides IT support for “Refresh” a youth event attended by 500-700 young people from all over Poland. His sister, **Paulina**, 31, a young wife and mother, is active in discipleship relationships through her local church.

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# The Untold Story

## *Of a behind the scenes partner*



USA

Pastor and counselor, **Gary Howell**, has been on the ITMI team since 2011, quietly serving in the background.

It's likely you haven't heard his story. Because the majority of Gary's ministry is counseling, Gary can't share too many specific stories from his ministry.

But Gary's own story is something we don't want you to miss.

It's a story molded by deep heartache that has made Gary who he is today and enabled him to serve and help the suffering around him. But it's also a story filled with joy...and Gary's dry, ironic humor.

When Gary was 6 years old, he wanted to be a pastor...and a professional baseball player. "I spent years running toward ministry at the same speed I was running away from ministry," Gary laughs.

Gary met his wife, **Candy**, when he was 20 and she was 16. Chuckling, Gary said, "When my daughter was 16, I would never have let a 20 year old come around!"

Gary and Candy married young. Gary worked while going to Bible school part-time. Soon the Howells welcomed a daughter into their family.

Two years later, Gary and Candy buried their firstborn daughter.

God blessed them with two more daughters, and Gary started full-time Bible school. He was a year into the course of study when his fourth daughter was born. She had the same condition that took their first. When she was a year old, she became really sick. Gary went to the dean and dropped out of Bible school with 20 hours left to complete his degree. Two-months later, she passed away.

Years later, these painful experiences have shaped Gary's compassionate heart and his drive to help the hurting.

"When you bury two daughters, you know what it's like to hurt. When I see people hurt, I can't stand it. I'm obsessive about getting them out of pain. If I hear of a marriage breaking up, I won't be able to sleep."

Years later, these painful experiences have shaped Gary's compassionate heart and his drive to help the hurting.

Meanwhile, Gary spent time working part-time as a youth pastor, helping start churches and speaking at chapels for professional athletes. He was 34 when he enrolled at Liberty University and finished his degree in 2 weeks.

Gary spent time as a college pastor, a pastor of student ministries, a teaching pastor and a counseling pastor. "I love people and I love to speak," Gary said, then added dryly with a chuckle, "I can talk until I actually say something."

He felt his biggest impact was as a counseling pastor, and got his masters in counseling. At that time, it was "en vogue" for every church to have a counseling pastor. But they were the first to go when times and budgets changed.

Gary began doing counseling for many churches. He has done that for almost 17 years. He served alongside ITMI's **Steve Evers** as an elder for a church plant in Chandler. Of that experience, Gary says, "I lived chapter one of the SALT material, 'I Am Not God.' [I acted like I was God.] It didn't work." The SALT material is Biblical living training created by counselors, which ITMI has found to be very effective all around the world.

Gary landed at ITMI in 2011. "ITMI gave me a place to land and the courage to leave [what he was holding on to]," Gary said, "I love the people, I love every [ITMI] partner I've ever met."

Now, Gary counsels people from all over the world, including local believers, not-yet

believers, ITMI partners and supporters. Because Gary is not on any church staff, he can counsel any denomination's pastors who need a safe, private place to turn.

You heard that right. Pastors, missionaries and even counselors... need counseling. Because we live in a sinful world, people hurt each other. And every single one of us can benefit from help working through that hurt and letting Jesus heal our wounds, our lives and our relationships. We often need an outside perspective to do it - even if we know the Bible and the truths that would set us free, it can be hard to see the forest through the thick underbrush of our own emotion.

At the time of this interview, Gary was counseling 25 couples and about 50 individuals. Counseling both believers and non-believers has led to regular opportunities to share Jesus with many who don't know Him yet. Gary's clients refer people from all faiths and lifestyles to him. He loves to share the restoration and healing that the Gospel brings to each individuals' issues.

Gary teaches marriage classes. "I love to sit with a couple and watch their marriage heal. I love to introduce them to a community where they can connect if they need it."

He is authoring a book about, "Understanding your soul ID."

"God is the 'Wonderful Counselor,'" Gary says, "He is honing me to understand that counseling is what I have to offer. Counseling is restoration. I love that part."

Gary loves that he gets to benefit ITMI partners as a byproduct of his counseling ministry.

Your support of ITMI has allowed Gary to be used to help mend so many hurting hearts, and to keep doing what the Lord has shaped him for and called him to - while still supporting his family.

Many of his clients can't pay for counseling. Some of them are just people he approaches to share the healing Good News with. Your support helps fill the gap. It allows Gary to help people who wouldn't get it otherwise. It allows Gary to help people heal and return to spiritual health - which pays great dividends for the Kingdom.

-Summer Kelley, Steve Evers

## India

### 14-16: Paul and Molly's Girls: Sarah Grace, Karis and Sonya

Nagarani was once the prophet for the village where **Paul and Molly's** girls' home is. Now she works with her husband, a shepherd. Families that live and work as shepherds are marginalized in India. During the no-moon night ritual, village families would fast and gather all night at the temple for a prophetic word from Nagarani.

The moment she stepped onto Paul and Molly's land, Nagarani said "her god left her." She said she began to cry out to Paul and Molly's God.

Paul and Molly's girls live in a large home outside a rural village about an hour and a half from where Paul and Molly planted their church. The village is the "hub" village for many surrounding villages.

Paul and Molly intentionally hired Nagarani's husband to shepherd the animals they raise on the land.

Molly and three of her daughters, **Sarah Grace, Karis and Sonya**, were walking out to the farm animals when they ran into Nagarani.

Paul's aunt gave Nagarani a Tamil Bible and she reads it everyday. When the girls are not in school, she often runs up to them, asking questions about what she has read.

This time, Molly was with the girls and she was able to share with Nagarani about her relationship with Jesus, the three girls translating and even jumping in to add their own knowledge of the Gospel!

"I enjoyed so much sharing about Jesus and His love for her, sharing about grace and how He's paid the way for her salvation.....as my GIRLS translated for me. Such a joy!!

The villagers and old friends continue to call Nagarani for prophecies. She tells them, "I have a new God, the One True God, Jesus," and that she cannot return to pagan worship.



Paul and Molly are raising 23 children. Their youngest, Belle, will be 2 this month. Their six oldest girls are 14.

Molly and the children have been shocking the believers of Harvest Bible Chapel, the church Paul and Molly planted, by cleaning the church facility once a month. The pastor's family caring for the building is something you would never see in India.

"It makes me proud of them - they want to get their hands dirty and take care of God's special place," Molly says.

Paul and Molly's girls are truly blossoming into beautiful young ladies - inside and out.

-Summer Kelley, Steve Evers

## Give a lasting gift this Christmas.

Look for our Christmas Giving Catalog:

- ☒ In your mailbox
- ☒ Online at [intouchmission.org/catalog](http://intouchmission.org/catalog)

### For Praise

1. Poland - Daniel Machlowski - Safe arrival of baby Michael Machlowski! Mom, Jagoda, and baby doing well.
2. South Sudan - Vicky Waraka - Successful surgery on both eyes and divine care and appointments in Cairo, Egypt.
3. South Africa - Onseepkans - new opportunity to share the Gospel with wayward local children through chess clubs.
4. Zimbabwe - Charl van Wyk - Ministry co-worker, Cozmore, delivered donated uniforms to overjoyed village children.

### For Prayer

1. Myanmar/India - Steve Evers - Travel mercies and fruitful ministry meetings and SALT trainings.
2. India - Paul and Molly - The completion of the temporary school hall for their 19 girls, currently under construction.
3. Uganda - Muhindo Kawede - Provision of funds for Portable Bible Schools in prisons.
4. Poland - Jim La Rose - Unofficial "adopted" son, Daniel, facing possible medical issues with his heart and in need of a reliable employer.

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