

July 23, 2004

Dear Family member:

I would like to take a moment to share with you, not only the great things that are taking place weekly with your generous contributions, but also give you a prospective view of orphaned children through the eyes of the people of Thailand. And hopefully bring new understanding to the steep uphill struggle the children face when left to themselves.

90% of Thai people have adopted the views of Buddhism where orphaned children are concerned and thus believe if a child is orphaned he or she is just living out a former life of some wrong they have done. Therefore they deserve to live as they do, and will have to learn from it, so that in the next life it will be better for them.

A child becoming an orphan is not a fate that is his or her destiny to be lived and learned from. It is not the design or plan of a higher power that one should carry the weight and pain of losing parents.

In the scriptures I read in Palms 27:10, "When my father and my mother forsake me, then the Lord will take care of me." From here we see the opposite, we see a divine being reaching out to rescue them and not a life cycle which they must suffer through. Just an act of mercy and compassion. I have heard it said, "Compassion is the basis of morality."



In answering the question, "How will they be taken care of?" I have found this; "He who has a generous eye will be blessed, for he gives of his bread to the poor." And also I have found, "Whoever shuts his ears to the cry of the poor will himself not be heard."

These are Proverbs from the wisest man ever to live, Solomon. And here is where you and **Serving Our World** have been involved with weekly outreaches in remote villages. You are already changing their lives and your own by your acts of kindness.

On our recent trip to Thailand we visited a home with twelve orphans, and when we arrived we saw them out by the road doing chores. Pulling weeds and raking with a simple make shift rake, they were all covered in dust and dirt. The children paused as we walked up and we began to talk to the staff.

I was then listening to our host in a discussion of which I didn't understand a word, as it was in Thai. So I pulled out the balloons I carry with me to have some fun with the children. They were very excited when I blew up the first balloon and all the work stopped, as it was playtime!

“I expect to pass through life but once. If therefore, there be any kindness I can show, or any good thing I can do to any fellow being, let me do it now, and not defer or neglect it, as I shall not pass this way again.”

—William Penn

As we were resting after the balloon chase, I noticed a man on a bicycle pass by. I looked at our friend and mentioned to him if we could get the man to stop. We caught him and the children responded excitedly, as he was the ice cream man. We all enjoyed seeing the children rush to get in line with big eyes and dirty hands to receive the cold treat.

One of the leaders of the children was now talking to our host and pointing to a 4-year-old girl with a smile. She was telling us that the little girl told her while working that she had prayed and asked God for an ice cream! Now she was licking her lips after enjoying her answered prayer.

Did we feel good for the small amount it took to bless twelve children? You bet! Was it life changing, not really, but being involved on a regular basis brings amazing results that can last a lifetime. Does it take a lot to meet the needs of a child that has been orphaned or abandoned?

Let us compare:

One meal with your family (a family of 4) typically costs \$60.00.

Serving Our World multiplies this and can provide 120 meals!

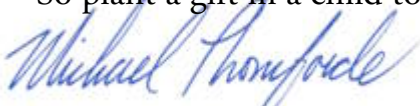
The purchase of one dress, shirt or blouse = \$30.00.

Serving Our World can provide 6 or more complete outfits.

Because of the great needs, where **Serving Our World** and you are working, we would like to continue to expand by providing more care for these who have never known so many of the daily things we take for granted. Like a bed or a toothbrush. So we are right now in the process of securing buildings to begin this care in a loving environment.

Only as each one of us steps in and reaches out to those living in a culture such as this. A culture that accepts the tragedies and struggles of children, who face the loss of family members, will the cycle be broken and future generations influenced by your generous participation.

Little turns into much.
So plant a gift in a child today!



Michael Thomforde
Founder/President



Here's one boy that's looking forward to having a family.

NEW Serving Our World website coming soon!



Become a Serving Our World Family Member

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Touching Lives,
Building Futures.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-mail _____ Phone _____

All donations are tax deductible

Please multiply my gift of:

- \$30 to feed 60
- \$60 to feed 120
- \$ _____ to feed and care for as many as SOW can!

"We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give."

-Winston Churchill



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