

On a Mission from God

Many of us remember the classic line from the Blues Brothers movie where the two brothers say, "We're on a mission from God."

With apologies to the Blues Brothers, I doubt if they had any idea just how true those words are thousands of times each day as American Christians board planes, trains and automobiles and participate in short term mission trips.

My wife Elizabeth, a registered nurse who works at the Augusta Medical Center, recently took the mother of all mission trips. She was part of a team of doctors and nurses that went into the remote jungles of Papua New Guinea and did the only surgeries the tribes' people there will have access to all year long.

In addition to all of the plane flights, Elizabeth had to take a 5 hour canoe ride to finally reach the village! She worked with an eye doctor, saw over 200 patients during that time and did over 60 cataract surgeries! Of course the hardest part of the trip for Elizabeth was leaving our three children in my care for two weeks, but that's another story!

The tribe that hosted the event is one that has become predominantly Christian over the last thirty years, and hosting the medical clinic is a way to reach out in love with help and the hope of the gospel to tribes they used to wage war with. It never ceases to amaze the people that Christians from far away in America would come at great personal expense to share the love of Jesus in word and deed.

But that's what we do!

We're really on a mission from God to show the love of Jesus in word and deed.

Some may complain that Christians are doing that around the world but not enough here in America. Nothing could be further from the truth!

For instance since Hurricane Katrina, the denomination our church is part of, Southern Baptists, have served 14.4 million meals in the affected region and done 17,000 clean up projects while putting in 165,000 volunteer days. Many from our church have participated in these efforts! And so have people from across denominations.

This summer you will no doubt see many media stories and commentaries about all that is wrong in the world. When you see them don't forget that there are thousands of people going out of their way to do something to make the world better.

They're on a mission from God!

Danny Campbell <><