Transformative Healing In Missions

Integrating Medical Practice and Long-Term Gospel Witness

Paul K. Lim, MD

lifenlim@pm.me

Goals

1. Specialty and sub-specialty occupations can be useful for missions
    1. CME/CE credit for this session
2. A decision-making framework for choosing a field location
3. Motivations for missions—for now and for eternity

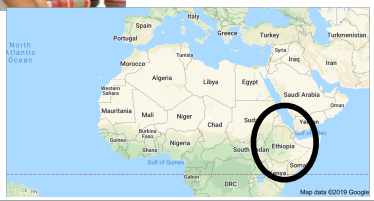
20 "When your son asks you in time to come, '***What is the meaning of the testimonies and the statutes and the rules*** that the LORD our God has commanded you?' 21 then you shall say to your son, 'We were Pharaoh's slaves in Egypt. And the LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand. 22 And the LORD showed signs and wonders, great and grievous, against Egypt and against Pharaoh and all his household, before our eyes. 23 And he brought us out from there, that he might bring us in and give us the land that he swore to give to our fathers. 24 And the LORD commanded us to do all these statutes, to fear the LORD our God, ***for our good always***…"

The Holy Bible: English Standard Version. (Deuteronomy 6:20–24a)

lifenlim@pm.me



January 2008: Ethiopia



CURE Ethiopia Children's Hospital



lifenlim@pm.me

Why did we go?

112 nations in Ethiopia

31 **unreached**

2000 years

lifenlim@pm.me

[redacted]

lifenlim@pm.me

Clinical Considerations for Elective Pediatric Disability Surgery

1. Tight selection criteria
2. Crucial role of generalist
3. High quality anesthesia specialist

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lifenlim@pm.me





lifenlim@pm.me



January 2020: North Africa ("N.A.")





Our Five Decision-making Factors

1. Unreached-ness of the UPG (unreached people group)
2. Personal/professional qualities
   - American medical doctors
   - Korean descent
3. Directness of engagement of UPG individuals
4. Family/personal considerations
   - Susan's complex retinal condition
   - Our children's age-dependent considerations
5. Awareness of a particular opportunity





Eastern hemisphere map with Thailand in green

1. Unreachedness of the UPG

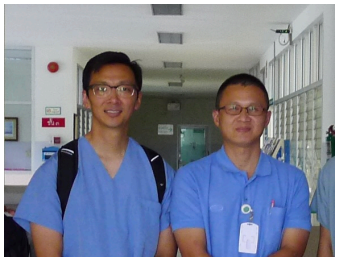
- The Thai people group is a UPG per Joshua Project definition:
  - >98% Buddhist, <2% Christian
- Field location target: Umphang Village in Tak Province
  - Thai people group: 100% Buddhist, 0% Christian



Tak Province in red

lifenlim@pm.me

2. Personal/Professional Qualities



Paul with Hospital Director

- American medical doctors
- Korean descent

lifenlim@pm.me

3. Directness of engagement of UPG individuals



US surgery team with Umphang Hospital OR staff



Region just outside of town

lifenlim@pm.me

4. Family/Personal Considerations

- Susan's complex retinal condition
  - Ophthalmology in region
- Our children's age-dependent considerations
- Thai language acquisition

5. Awareness About a Particular Opportunity

- US cleft palate team to Umphang Hospital in 2014



Paul (seated) operating at Umphang Hospital in 2014

For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed?
And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard?
And how are they to hear without someone preaching?
And how are they to preach unless they are sent?

Romans 10:13-15

Truly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or lands, for my sake and for the gospel, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this time, houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions, and in the age to come eternal life.

Mark 10:29-30

Indeed, if we consider the unblushing promises of reward and the staggering nature of the rewards promised in the Gospels, it would seem that Our Lord finds our desires not too strong, but too weak. We are half-hearted creatures, fooling about with drink and sex and ambition when infinite joy is offered us, like an ignorant child who wants to go on making mud pies in a slum because he cannot imagine what is meant by the offer of a holiday at the sea. We are far too easily pleased.

C.S. Lewis

Drs. Paul & Susan Lim's email:

lifenlim@pm.me

Session evaluation: