# ANZAC EDITION | No.5 | September 2007



God is

500,000 meals distributed

20,000 first night of crusade

320 pastors conference







Feed The Hungry President, Peter Sumrall, challenged partners and friends to help send three containers of urgently needed food to rural Cambodia.

Thanks to your generous response, we were able to surpass this challenge with a <u>fourth</u> container of food!

our vision is simple...

#### feed the hungry

encourage pastors reach the lost

Isalah 58:6

FTH was privileged to participate in "Hope for Cambodia", a national outreach initiated by Joyce Meyer Ministries.

Involving multiple worldwide ministries, FTH partnered with Ps. Billy Jo & Sharon Daugherty from the Victory Christian Centre in Tulsa Oklahoma.

The Victory team hosted a large openair crusade over three nights in the main city of Kampong Thom. During the day, Ps, Billy Jo & Sharon held leadership training sessions, while their youth mission team travelled to rural villages sharing the gospel.

FTH sent over 70 tonnes of rice, peas and dehydrated soup mix for distribution in Kampong Thom, located about 4 hours north of the capital Phnom Penh.

The equivalent of more than 500,000 meals, this food was distributed among 130 local pastors to share with neighbours in their home villages.

Pastors enlisted volunteers from among their own church to prepare and distribute the food packs.

Minimizing operational costs, and maximising the impact of the local church, these volunteers are a core component of a FTH food distribution.

This partnership with the local church helps to demonstrate that God really does answer the prayer,

"Give us today our daily bread."

#### **FEED THE HUNGRY**

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#### REACHING THE LOST...

The planning of a large scale open-air crusade was a new experience to the Pastors of the Kampong Thom region. Unsure of how many people would gather to the crusade, the organizers were hoping to attract around 4000 people.

The meetings were promoted through giant billboards, flyers and word of mouth. These flyers promoted the crusade and also mentioned that food would be given away, encouraging them to come to the meeting to find out where and when.

Before the service began on the opening night, a team of 12 volunteers were kept busy for two and a half hours as they stamped flyers giving the information for the food pickups in their local village.

Hoping for up to 4000, local Pastors were amazed when over 20,000 Cambodians attended the first night.

Part of the success of attendance was attributed to the hiring of almost 100 trucks. Holding around 30 people each, they transported people daily from areas up to 50km away.

Ps. Billy-Jo & Sharon Daugherty led a simple evangelical service. It included praise & worship, special music, dramas & testimonies, the gospel message and concluded with a call to salvation.

With the generosity of Joyce Meyer Ministries, free books translated into local dialects, were given to all people responding to the salvation call.

Ps. Sokhan, a man instrumental in the organization of the large meeting, was asked about the progress of the meetings. With a wry smile, Ps. Sokhan raised his hands in the air and remarked, "God is too much!"







#### ENCOURAGING PASTORS...

The Victory Centre approach is to hold crusades in the evening and leaders meetings during the day.

With sufficient interest from these day meetings, they establish a bible college. A Victory team member is brought on the trip with the intention of staying behind for the first year to oversee it's foundation. Local pastors again made the conservative goal of attracting 70 people to these leadership meetings.

The next day, at the leadership conference God's dramatic breakthrough continued with over 320 leaders attending instead of 70.

A special ladies meeting attracted 665, which caused some last minute panic for the organizers as they scrambled to buy extra scarfs as gifts for the larger crowd.

The training of spiritual leadership is of critical importance in Cambodia. Due to Khmer Rouge atrocities, more than 50% of the entire population is under 21 years of age. They also imposed a total ban of all religion in the country; a ban that was only recently overturned in 1994.

This means that seasoned pastors are very rare, and that most pastors are young and have less than 5 years ministry experience.

#### FEEDING THE HUNGRY...

It was great watching the children enjoy the meals we brought.

Once they tasted this new food and realised it was okay, a steady hum could be felt as the children got to work on emptying their bowls.

The laughter and joy of discovery from new tastes was echoed throughout the region, as local Pastors shared the food you helped send. For the survival of the family, parents are forced to send their children out to forage for food to sell, or help tend the fields at the expense of their education.

Our long term goal in Cambodia is to add them to our growing network of children in the <u>Feeding EveryChid EveryDay</u> initiative.

With their regular meals provided for, parents can allow their children to attend school and gain a crucial education.













#### Youth Team...

The last component of the successful Victory model is to bring a small youth missions team. Veterans of mission trips to many countries, these high school students gave up their holidays to travel among the rural villages sharing fun and the Gospel. We joined the mission team on several of these trips.

Ministering with a highly energetic barrage of simple ice-breaker games and good natured nonsense, these expert missionaries broke down any cultural barriers.

Rolling around on the ground, and making much more noise than the children ever could, everyone couldn't help but laugh uproariously. Soon, both children and their parents were relaxed and ready to receive the simple message of Christ. With the message shared, FTH began serving the hot meals we had prepared earlier.

Having won their hearts, the Victory team were able to minister personally to both children and parents, leaving peace, comfort and the joy of the Holy Spirit.

#### Disaster Relief...

The purpose of the FTH food distribution in Cambodia was to help relieve a rice shortage. However just days after the food was distributed, the Kampong Thom region suffered terrible flooding.

Reports indicated that over 19,000 hectares of rice paddies throughout North-East Cambodia have been submerged under flood waters for over a week. Around 60% of the Kompong Thom paddy fields are ruined.

This flooding initially forced 19,000 people from their homes although most have now returned despite reports of damage to over 12,000 homes. The shipment of

food intended for one purpose has become, through God's timing, a blessed relief in the face of disaster.

This was made possible with thanks to our partners and friends who contributed to the transportation of food (generously donated by US ministry *Feed My Starving Children*).

Thank you for your generous and faithful support.





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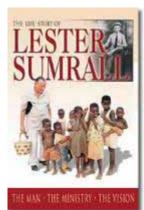
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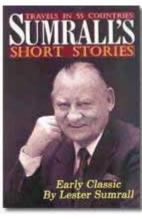
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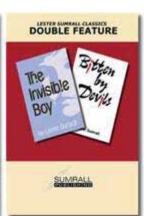
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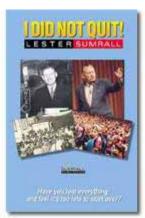
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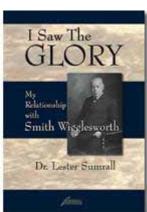
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