

He Took my Place

I. Slide#1,2 3rd annual Gifts for Eternity Catalog:

A. *The rich man is not one who is **in possession** of much, but one who **gives** much.* John Chrysostom

1. **God** gave us the best example to follow at Christmas time, in **giving** His best for us...**Jesus!** [Our goal in this Catalog is for all of us to learn truly **giving is better than receiving**]

B. Note: Each is a **share in the cost**.

1. **Slide#3 Operation SafeHouse:** Jennifer O'Farrell&Riv.Co.Task Force [Kelly's our liaison]
 - a) Support the freed life of a trafficking survivor. Empowerment through **Education**.
 - b) Help 5 survivors complete their personal goal of education.
2. **Slide#4 Free Burma Ranger:** Dave/Karen Eubank.
 - a) Provide medicine for displaced people in Burma. 70 multi-ethnic relief teams of 5. 1-3 missions a year.
 - b) Help support 10 med teams in the Kachin & Arakan States of Burma.
3. **Slide#5 Agape Int'l Missions:** Don/Bridget Brewster. 2 opportunities:
 - a) Sponsor a **Bed**. Help AIM give a girl a safe place to live & work opportunities.
 - b) Sponsor a **Tiara**. No, not buy them a *Tiara*, but because they consider these girls princesses, Help these rescued girls w/a "*Tiara package*" which includes taking care of the medical costs, food, housing, counseling & education.
4. **Slide#6 Mercy Projects:** Jeff/Paula Thompson. 3 opportunities:
 - a) Help provide a winter supply of **firewood** for widows.
 - b) Help send a child to **Discipleship Camp**.
 - c) Help w/**Bibles & school supplies** for children xmas gifts.
5. **Slide#7 Haiti Endowment Fund:** Bither Family. 4 opportunities:
 - a) Like in biblical times, to care for a widow/orphan was because *society* wasn't providing for them. HEF has launched their 1st Women's Learning Center. Help these women learn trades like sewing, embroidery, crocheting, cooking so they can provide for their families.
6. **Slide#8a Servants Serving Servants:** Cindy Arnold.
 - a) A ministry to Missionaries on the field.
 - b) Help w/the costs of doing retreats, conferences, home assignment help, & on-field visits.
7. **Slide#8b Kendi Foundation:** Marleen Van de Vorde w/a local Albanian church.
 - a) Where Larry & I visited in April.
 - b) Help in the fiances to care for **safe housing** of girls & women in Albania who have been abused or forced into prostitution.
8. **Slide#9a Global Recording Networks:** Greg/Nenet Litzenberger. 3 opportunities:

- a) These recording devices are a way to reach oral peoples in their own heart language.
 - b) 80% of people in rural Cambodia haven't heard of Jesus.
 - c) Help raise \$7000 for a **language recording**. Help toward the **distribution**, once it is recorded. Or, Help w/the \$3 for the individual **CD/DVD's**. (kids)
9. **Slide#9b Peru Hope: Pastor Albert Smith. 5 opportunities:**
- a) Were given a small piece of property developing out.
 - b) Help build **classrooms** in the little shanty town of *El Terminal*. Help acquire a **sound system**. Help w/**musical instruments**. Help w/**church office & kitchen** at the church.
10. **Slide#10 International Christian Adoptions: Charlotte Paulson. 5 opportunities:**
- a) ICA has partnered w/an orphanage in Port-au-Prince Haiti, to build a **children's village** to *foster & transition* orphaned children & youth.
 - b) Help purchase a **child's bedroom set, a refrigerator, Foster Parent bedroom furniture, kitchen cookware, Toys & playground** for children.
11. **Slide#11 Water4abillion: Myself, Alex E, Roger Taff, Steven Cole.**
- a) Right after our **Dar el Salaam well** was dug next to a church, there was an **electrical fire** & was able to be put out by the well we provided. [provided 19 so far, 4 more rt now]
 - b) Help provide *clean, cool, disease free* **drinking water** for entire villages.
12. **Slide#12 Malishev Kosovo, Church Plant: Jeff & Rachel Harry. [Jeff shared few months] 3 opps**
- a) Help buy a **church van** (Malisheve is in the middle of 42 villages/lack of transportation).
 - b) Help purchase a \$200 **heater** for their church.
 - c) Help w/the **rent** of a building for 2 children's church classrooms.
13. **Slide#13 Student Venture: Monty/Karen Sharp.**
- a) 30 yrs in our valley. Now on 30 H.S. & middle school campuses.
 - b) Goal to fulfill the Great Commission among young people.
 - c) Help w/a \$3 bible (goal 2000).
14. **Slide#14 Colina de Luz: Jim/Sue Drake. [went out from our church in the late 80's]**
- a) Phase 2 of their *dorm roof replacement plan* for the older girls.
 - b) Help share in the cost with this **roof project**.
15. **Slide#15 Latin American Missions: Luciani Family in Spain. [Care Team just Skyped last Sun]**
- a) Often some of the best investments in our missionaries is to visit & encourage. Paul understands that need & desires to provide that pastoral support for Latin Missionaries.
 - b) Help Paul **travel** to *Turkey, Egypt, & Jordan* & provide that pastoral support.
- C. **Slide#16 Let's encourage others to be generous this Xmas season.** Get your kids into this. Your extended families. Co-workers. Take as many as you need/will use.

1. Give online at www.calvarymarketplace.com/giftsforeternity
2. Give by check: checks to CM. Use the enclosed envelope. Place in our offering boxes. Or, folks can mail in.

II. Intro:

- A. Pray:
- B. Slide#17 “Humpty Dumpty sat on the wall, Humpty Dumpty had a **great fall**, all the kings horses & all the kings men couldn’t put Humpty together again.”
 1. Why? Because this wasn’t a job for **horses**, **nor** for the **kings soldiers**, **but** only for the king Himself...*King Jesus*.
 2. And our King Jesus is still in the business of **fixing broken vessels, broken or even scrambled lives**.
 3. Unlike Humpty, you may not have a **wall issue**, **but** we all have a **falling issue**.
- C. Slide#18 Title: *He Took my Place*

III. HE TOOK MY PLACE (1-1)

- A. Slide#19 WHO WAS BARABBAS? Barabbas = *son of the father*.
- B. He had made **insurrection** (open revolt against civil authority) **against Rome**.
 1. And in the **rebellion** had committed **murder**.
 2. In the eyes of the Emperor he would be considered a **dangerous political prisoner**.
(a Terrorist)
- C. Jesus was **delivered**. Barabbas was **released**.
 1. Jesus **delivered** bound, **delivered** unto death.
 2. Barabbas **released** unto freedom, **released** to life.
- D. Barabbas should have died for his crime **but Jesus** occupied *his cross*.
 1. Let’s place ourselves in Barabbas’ cell that Thursday night.
 - a) *Contemplating* death by torturous crucifixion.
 2. The light of Friday mornings sun rays beam into the prison cell.
 - a) **Then**, the sounds of marching soldiers coming to take you away to that horrible, **yet** deserving death.
 3. Then the words of Pilate & **then** the soldier, *“Barabbas...you’re free!”*
 - a) **Free???** *“Yes, another is to die in your place.”*
- E. Slide#20 Show Barabbas clip, from Passion of the Christ.
- F. Slide#21 WHAT HAS BARABBAS DONE? [Adapted from Judah Smith’s message on Barabbas]

1. He deserves this. He's a bad man. He's a thug. A terrorist. He should be on death row. He's a rebel for wrong. He led a rebellion. He murdered people. He deserves this. He deserves the chains. He deserves crucifixion. He deserves death He deserves hell.

G. Slide#22 WHAT HAS JESUS DONE?

1. He didn't deserves this. He's a good man. He heals. He restores. Delivers. Sets free. Opens blind eyes & deaf ears. Heals the lame & the leper.

H. Slide#23 WHO DO YOU CHOSE? Who do you want me to **release**? Barabbas or Jesus?

1. They chose **lawlessness over** the **law**.
2. They chose the **law-breaker instead** of **Jesus**.
3. They chose **war instead** of **peace**.
4. They chose the **man of blood instead** of the **Prince of Peace**.
5. They chose **hatred & violence instead** of **love**.

I. Slide#24 BARABBAS & JESUS STAND FOR 2 DIFFERENT WAYS:

1. **Barabbas** – stood for the heart of hate. The stab of the dagger. The taking up of the sword to accomplish his conquest.
 - a) **The chief priests wanted** a leading Zealot, a political activist, a man of action who would even murder to reach his own ends.
2. **Jesus** – stood for **the way of love &** thus conquered with only 1 weapon...**His love**.
 - a) **Jesus had disappointed them w/His inaction.**
 - b) They wanted **revolution**, not a King riding a donkey.
 - c) **Barabbas seemed much more logical.**

J. Slide#25 BUT THIS ISN'T FAIR

1. There seems to be **no conscience** w/Barabbas.
2. We **don't** see him turn to Jesus saying, *"I owe you everything now, for you have set me free."*

K. (Jesus) It's ok Father, let them have Barabbas.

1. He knew the Father would have to treat **Jesus** like **Barabbas** so He could treat **Barabbas** like **Jesus**.
2. **Remember**, this is all about **Jesus going to the cross**.
3. (Jesus) **Yes, let them have Barabbas, Take me!**
4. Jesus could have easily snapped those **cords** like **Samson** did to **the Philistine ropes**.

- a) But there were *other cords* that bound Him. The *cables of* covenant agreements, oaths, promises. The *zip-tie bond of His love* to you & I.
5. What a picture of **divine Grace** this *substitutionary death* presents.
- Substitution** = *The just for the unjust.*
 - Vicarious** – *Taking the place of another.* [Vicar/substitute]
 - Barabbas could say, “He died for me.”
- L. **Slide#26 I’M SURE BARABBAS THOUGHT *THE PEOPLE* SET HIM FREE.**
- The people** didn’t set Barabbas free. **Pilate** didn’t set Barabbas free. **It was ONLY the Love of the Father** that set Barabbas free.
 - (God the Father) *I Love Barabbas. I wanted him to go free.*
 - (me) **WHAT?** but he’s **bad** man.
 - (Father) *But I Love Barabbas. I wanted him to go free.*
 - (me) **But didn’t you know** he probably never will acknowledge the free gift?
 - (Father) **Yeah, but I love him.** Brian remember, *For while we were still sinners Christ died for us.*
 - (me) So You are saying you sent Your Son Jesus, *for Barabbas*, even the one who would *walk away from* Jesus and His free gift & never come back.
 - (Father) *I Love Barabbas. I wanted him to go free.*
- M. **Slide#27 WHO IS THIS BARABBAS REALLY?**
- Barabbas is **you...its me...its us.** *We are Barabbas.*
 - How many times have I stood on that platform w/Pilate & Jesus, and **I’m Barabbas.** *And they started to take my chains off. And I say, No, No. I deserve this. I deserve the guilt. I deserve the shame. I deserve the consequence. I deserve it.*
 - And Jesus responds, *No son. Let me have it. Let me have your sin. Let me have your pain.*
 - (me) No God, I did this to myself. I deserve this. I deserve divorce. I deserve poverty. I deserve sickness. **NO!**
 - (me) **But God I’m so ashamed.** (Jesus) Give Me your shame.
(me) **But what if I do it again.** (Jesus) I’ll still be here again.
(me) **God I don’t want to do this anymore.** (Jesus) Give Me your sins son.
 - This is all **we** got. It’s all **I** got. It’s all **you** got.
 - It’s God alone.
- N. **Slide#28a MEET ME HALF WAY?**
- O. An ancient king enacted a law against a certain crime, & the punishment of anyone who committed the crime was that he should have **both eyes put out**. His own son committed the

crime. The king, as a strict judge, said, *“I cannot alter the law; I have said the loss of 2 eyes shall be the penalty. Take out 1 of mine & one of his.”* So he strictly carried out the law. But at the same time, he was able to have mercy in part upon his son.

1. **But** the case of Christ **goes further** than that. He did not say, “Exact half the penalty from **Me**, & half from the **sinner**.” He said, **Slide#28b** “Put both my eyes out. Nail me to the tree. Let me die. Let me take all the guilt away, & then the sinner may go free”
2. Jesus doesn't say, **meet Me half way**...You can't even get **part** of the way by yourself...It's **Jesus all the way**.

P. **Slide#29 JESUS IS ENOUGH**

1. Your greatest challenge is **not** your discipline, your devotion, your focus.
2. Your greatest challenge is **believing the gospel**.
3. **Could there be that there's a God with a love so scandalous. So wide. So deep. So vast. So high. So expansive. So welcoming.**
 - a) **Just give me your sin son.** And I do.
 - (1) Then I see him walking now to the post to be whipped. While I stand a free man. He says go son, live your life. Be free. I'll pay the price.
4. **What were we thinking? We couldn't set ourselves free.**
 - a) **It's still Jesus. It will always be Jesus. It will never stop being the power of Jesus.**
 - b) **His blood** is sufficient **for** your salvation. **His blood** is sufficient **to** sustain you... **through every challenge & every sin & every temptation.**
 - (1) **Slide#30 JESUS IS ENOUGH!**