

Today's Childhood Realities

Total child population **2.2** billion

1 out of **6** DIE before reaching their **5TH** birthday

The **3RD** LARGEST global income is *child prostitution and trafficking*

27,000 DIE each day!

19 Every minute

1 out of **2** living in poverty

In THAILAND alone **200,000** children **12** years old and under are FORCED into prostitution

10 MILLION children WORLDWIDE are COMMERCIALY SEXUALLY EXPLOITED because of poverty and lack of education



November, 2005

Dear Family member:

As I walk around our home I'm sure it is much like yours with family portraits from various years. Pictures of our children at different ages, each one unique and as we look at them we remember what the day was or what fun we were having at the time.



Now, with your help, the pictures also include many of the boys and girls we

have been blessed to be involved with. November is a time of Thanksgiving and family as children return home. And with Christmas right around the corner I want to share with you some information about boys and girls that don't have many of the enjoyments that this time of year brings.



Most know the story of the "The Good Samaritan" and know how many passed by. But one stopped and took responsibility for the needs of another. A Good Samaritan is one that knows the answer to the question.

Who is my neighbor?

In the story, the answer is simple. It is those who are willing to stop and help someone who is unable to help themselves, needing someone to reach out with a helping hand. I have experienced that children, like the statistics tell us, are those in great need of a Good Samaritan, you and me.

In a quote I recently read it says this:

“The quality of a child’s life depends on decisions made everyday in households, communities and government halls.”

In Asia when children are trafficked they are confined into rooms with no windows for 2 years and forced into prostitution. And where do they come from? Those most vulnerable are those in rural villages who are already struggling to survive, living in poverty situations. Almost 30% of girls never finish school past the 6th grade due



to the costs. 90% of those little girls will go on to live in brothels. These girls can also be held as sexual collateral to pay off family debts, such as the purchase of a car. These children have been robbed of their childhood. What every child deserves is the

right to run and play with friends, to have the opportunity to learn and to dream about a future filled with joy and happiness.



The passion of **Serving Our World** is to go into these remote locations and change the lives of these needy children by providing a *Good Life Home & Center*. Starting in these isolated areas and with your help we can raise a standard, letting these children know that together we will help change their future.

Childhood is about memories and not about having to worry how to survive each day.

So at this time of the year you have a great opportunity to reach out your hand with your heart and connect with **Serving Our World**. Today join us with a special gift and give those less fortunate a home, the *Good Life Home & Center*, which will

provide all the necessary comforts and support for the best Season ever!

A home that will provide all the elements of a loving family environment safe from the worries of what lies ahead, providing the safety they deserve giving them back a childhood with a future. It’s here working with the village that we can all be part of the solution.

Also plan your year end gift and from you, through **Serving Our World**, we will help countless boys and girls and families receive what it takes to live the Good Life with everlasting results.

Have a Blessed Holiday!

Michael Thomforde
Founder/President



***Good Life Home & Center
Thailand***