

A CALL TO PRAYER.....

The recent events at the World Trade Center have caused our nation to reflect on many things. We will forever be changed by these horrific events. They have caused us to know that we are not immune to the evil that plagues the world. Our children will no longer think that these type of things only happen to others; they now know the pain and loss of innocence. But our nation did not retreat and hide. We boldly stood up and did anything we could to help those who needed it most. We stood as a nation united, praying for the lost and wounded. We sent blood, money, food and people into the war zone. We showed the world that we are not an easy people to defeat and that God will make us strong again. We are wounded but not defeated.

It has been amazing to see how many people have sacrificed in this time of horror, but we are a people who have sacrificed throughout history. We have come to the aid of our enemies when they were in danger. We have lost soldiers in many foreign lands defending their freedom. We have sent missionaries into lands where no one else has dared to go. *The missionaries are the soldiers of the Lord and some have even lost their lives in this war.*

Friends,

I am writing this today as a daughter of soldiers of the Lord, Billie Joe and Josephine Hart. They took my brothers and I, as spoiled Americans and tried to make us children of missionaries. We were not in the least happy at the idea, but we were not asked our opinion. They had a mission and they knew they had to fulfill it. I saw my parents sacrifice, not an opulent life but a comfortable one, to go into a place where they didn't have anything. They spent years clearing a jungle to help build a Bible School. They had to sacrifice a normal home life; we had to go to school in another city to attend an American school. My brother Jim graduated from school in Brazil and returned to the States; my mother cried for 2 weeks. My mother decided that the only way Billie Joe would learn Portuguese was to go to a language school. We moved to Sao Paulo and they attended school; well my father *went with* my mother and she learned to speak better Portuguese. I graduated from an American school in Sao Paulo and returned to America; this time my mother cried for 3 weeks. When that was completed they spent the next 10 years building what is now Maanaim. My parents built Maanaim out of love and sweat. My father spent many hours in the mud, heat and rain with the workers, watching over every brick that was laid. They took their first baby in before we even had anywhere or anyone to help. His name was Walter and he lived in their house for 6 months before he was adopted. My mother had to fight my father to give him up to the new parents. With the help of many people and churches we were able to start receiving children. Many of you went to Brazil and sacrificed your time and money to help build the buildings.



In this time my brothers and I got married, had children and went on with our lives. My parents were here when both my sons were born, but they missed their first steps and their first words. They missed many things that most of us take for granted and I never heard them complain or say that they wished they had never gone to Brazil. Sure they missed having a normal life, but they have been rewarded in many other ways. They made a difference to a country; they changed lives.

As many know in 1998, Billie Joe went to be with the Lord. He got sick in Brazil and never made it back to the States. We tried to get him home but he would not leave; he felt that he had so much to do in Brazil that he could not go. Another soldier passed in service to his Lord.

Josephine has stayed to run Maanaim by herself. She does have a wonderful staff in Brazil and they are very dedicated to the work and to her. She is sacrificing what should be her mature years and instead of slowing down has sped up to double speed.

My parents sacrificed not because they had been attacked or their way of life had been threatened but because there were people that needed them and no one else was there to help. Not only have they sacrificed but all of you have done the same. By being faithful supporters and prayer partners, you have become soldiers in their army. You have always had a heart that cares and reaches out to others even when it meant a sacrifice for yourselves. I as their daughter want to thank all of you for making this work possible.

God Bless,

Teena

After the bombing of Pearl Harbor the Emperor of Japan said that he feared they had awakened a sleeping giant. What they thought would defeat us only made us stronger. I hope this tragedy not only awakens our people to stand up for America but awakens our souls. That this feeling of renewed spirituality stays and reaches out to the world. We must continue to reach out to anyone who will let us help and build an army that can win the world. Please continue to pray for this work in Brazil as well as every missionary throughout the world.



Special Prayer Request:

Josephine and Suely have been battling some physical problems recently and are both undergoing critical medical tests. Please hold them up in prayer that we'll not only get a *good* report but any trace of problems will be *gone*!

NOTHING IS TOO HARD FOR GOD!!

For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8:38-39

Please remember BCO when writing your Will and Estate Planning

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