

NEWS BRIEF

NEVER, NEVER, NEVER GIVE UP!

AUGUST 2018



Winston Churchill, Prime Minister of Britain during World War II, led his country through some of the darkest moments of the war. Churchill was not only a great leader but an extraordinary orator as well. His speeches often left his people breathless.

During one of those dark moments of World War II the British were expecting the Nazi War machine to invade England at any moment. The country was tense and fearful.

In spite of the situation, Churchill felt he must fulfill an obligation he had to speak at one of the most prestigious secondary schools in the country. Many of the key leaders of the British Isles were graduates of this particular school.

As Winston walked to the podium after being introduced and welcomed by a thunderous applause, a hush came over the packed auditorium as the Prime Minister stood before them ready to speak. Moving his head from side to side surveying his audience he uttered not a word. Then, suddenly, his booming voice exploded with these words: **“Never, never, never give up”**.

Winston then looked at his audience with steely eyes, turned and walked to his seat. It was one of the shortest speeches that Churchill ever made and perhaps one of his most memorable.

In addition to Churchill's speech, I have had occasion to share an experience I had when playing for my high school baseball team. Our team had been invited to play in the highly regarded Compton Baseball Tournament. Seventy-two teams started out in this single elimination tourney. Our team reached the finals.

These same words echo throughout GSSM's textbook as we challenge our students to never, never, never give up... even when things seem impossible and everything is going wrong.



It was the bottom of the ninth inning and we were losing 10-1 with two outs, no one on base and two strikes on the batter. I was “on deck” (the next batter) hoping to get up for one last chance to start a rally. Then I noticed our batboy beginning to put our bats in our travel bags. I told him to stop...

the game was not over yet. He shook his head and did what I and some of the other players requested.

And then it happened. The player at bat walked. I walked, then a base hit and the parade began. More walks, base hits, hit batters and when the dust settled our team won the Compton Tournament, 11-10. *Never, never, never give up!*

Many of our GSSM students face challenges that seem to be impossible and cry out to just give up. Well-meaning friends

add to the confusion when they throw in their opinion... "No way – give it up". And some do.

However, there are others that know that nothing is impossible for the Lord and continue to move forward in spite of the obstacles that confront them.



Take David and Patrick from Uganda, for example.

Both are graduates of GSSM. Both lost their jobs yet continued to volunteer their time to help Barnabas Mwesiga, our African Director. Before long they formed a unique group called the Ebenezer team. Then a few others joined in including Isaac, a very talented young man who I am told is an outstanding leader. I have not yet met Isaac but I have read a number of his reports and they are impressive. And just what does the Ebenezer team do? They ultimately want to go to every town and village in Uganda to share the Good News. And that is not just some wishful thinking. They are off and running. They contact local churches in

different regions, put on sports programs, clinics, show videos like the Jesus film and other Christian videos. They also provide help for the poorest of the poor, repair homes for the elderly and clean up slums that seem to blossom in every community. Scores of people have come to Christ and are being discipled **because these men are willing to become poor in order to make others rich.**

Of course you have probably heard of Jimmy, another GSSM graduate. He is the one who lost his job, was recently married and was informed by his wife that they were expecting their first child. They lived in a slum, had no savings, no social security, no help except some from his mentor, Barnabas Mwesiga, who frequently digs deep in his shallow pockets to help others in need.

Jimmy, the young man many said would not amount to anything has demonstrated what God can do with one who completely yields himself to the Lord. So far this unwanted, no-good young man has initiated work in 3 large slums, organized soccer leagues and developed a children's choir that goes about



The Ebenezer Team

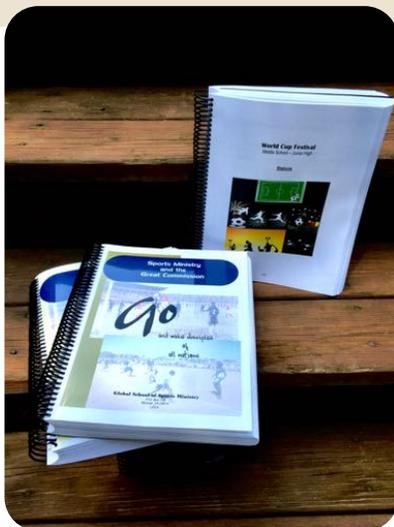
the slums and the neighborhoods singing about Jesus and sharing His love. He also hosts a Sunday school program where he disciples scores of new believers and helps care for the children of several single moms dying of AIDS. Jimmy has developed soccer teams who now love the Lord and go out playing school teams sharing Christ with those who are lost. Most recently, he is helping to develop a camp program where he and his colleagues are working on a way that will allow slum kids to get away for a week



and enjoy not one meal a day but three, participate in all kinds of activities, learn some life skills that will enable them to find a job, dig deeply into God's Word that will help them to grow into mature followers of Christ, train them to be able to share Christ with others and to just have fun! Oh, and did I tell you that he is also a member of the Ebenezer team? Of course, this does not include the farm he is developing with some big help from Barnabas, a wonderful church in Truckee, California (Larry and Sandie Leatherman's church) and a

few other GSSM Donors. At this farm they are now in the process of growing food for the children, will teach life skills and provide a basic education for many of the children who cannot attend school because they lack the funds to do so. And you thought you were busy!

IN OTHER NEWS



- ✓ **A recent graduate in Tanzania has submitted detailed plans to initiate sports ministry programs throughout his country and is asking GSSM to have our textbook translated into Swahili so he can train a large number of potential students who cannot understand English. GSSM is investigating this possibility that would open numerous doors in other countries where Swahili is the primary language.**

- ✓ **Recent GSSM graduates** in Zambia, Malawi, Kenya, Liberia and Uganda have also submitted different plans to reach their respective countries for Christ in addition to some of the countries bordering their homeland.
- ✓ **Sustainability programs** are gradually being developed as Barnabas’ “farm to mission” project is showing great promise. In addition, Dave Carr and his wife Barby have taken on the research and development of other means to sustain our graduates and their programs. Dave is a member of GSSM’s leadership team. He and his wife Barby, have been great supporters of GSSM.



Finally, on behalf of the scores of students currently enrolled in our training program, our staff, volunteer instructors and our wonderful partners, **thank you for your prayers, love and much-needed support** as we prepare a number of very courageous workers who have a passion to go into the harvest fields of a world greatly in need of our Lord. **We praise God for each of you and thank you again for praying for us and supporting GSSM as God would lead and enable you.**

Blessings!

Russ Carr & Alyssa Carr Mahone
 PRESIDENT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



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