

FROM THE MANGER TO THE CROSS

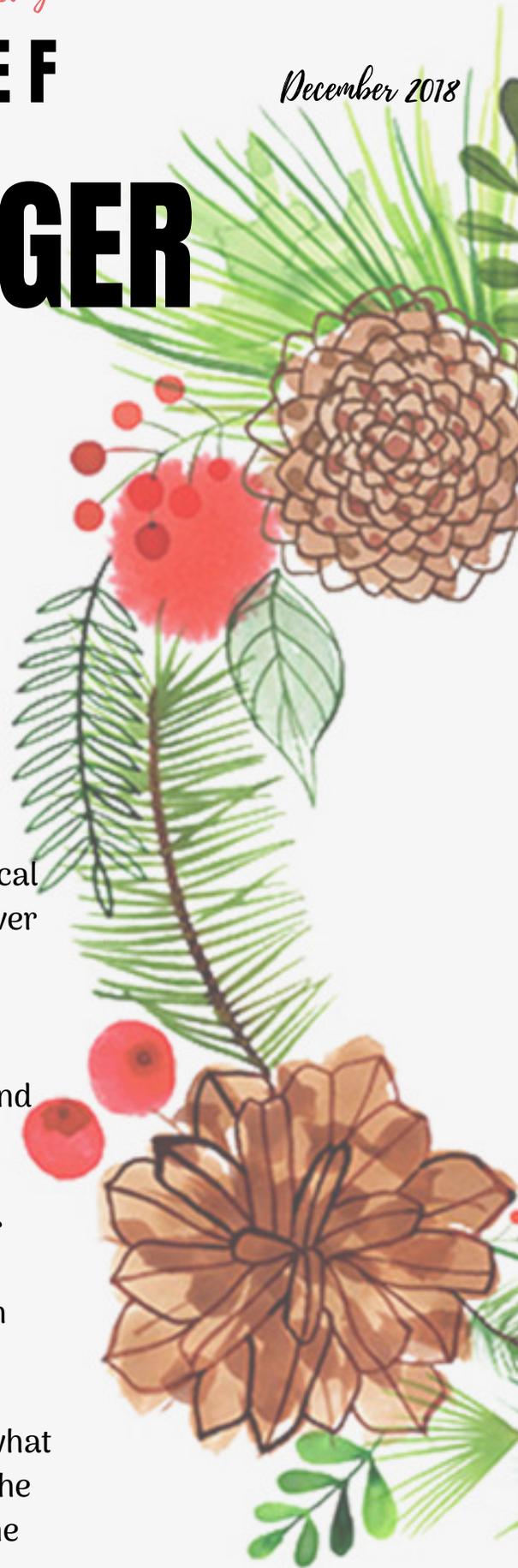
*And onto His
Heavenly Throne*

Jesus continues to mend broken lives as He applies the healing salve of a special kind of love that no pharmaceutical company nor scientist nor highly regarded doctor could ever create.

Then, as baffling as it might be, the Lord uses His people to apply this unique potion to those who are deeply hurting and locked in a cage of despair.

Take Samuel for example (not his real name). His encounter with this incredible healing salve happened during one of GSSM's Christmas outreaches to a forgotten village hidden in the hills near the heart of Uganda.

Samuel arrived at GSSM's Christmas dinner not knowing what to expect. After all, he was a Muslim and he was told that the group that had marched into his village and was hosting the dinner were Christians. Don't Christians despise Muslims? Aren't Muslims supposed to hate Christians?





Deeply puzzled, he wasn't sure what would happen. Would he and his family be turned away?

Suddenly his wife came running up to Samuel and told him about the family food pack that some of the visitors brought by their simple home, a hut in the bush. This Muslim man was stunned.



Why in the world would these Christ followers want to help him and his family? Why?

Interestingly Samuel and his family were just about out of food and they had no idea where they were going to find this important necessity. Nothing made any sense to Samuel. He had never experienced anything like this before. Then he did something he thought he would never do. He went up to Barnabas, GSSM's African Director, and thanked him for including him and his family even though he was a Muslim. Barnabas smiled and embraced him.

The Apostle Paul puts all of this in perspective when he writes in Romans, Chapter 12:

“Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil, cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with God's people who are in need. Practice hospitality. Bless those who persecute you, bless and do not curse. Rejoice with those who rejoice, mourn with those who mourn.

Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited. Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everybody.”



As Paul concludes Romans 12, he makes a final statement that truly sets a follower of Christ apart:

“If your enemy is hungry, feed him, if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this you will heap burning coals on his head. Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.”



As you receive this latest update, GSSM's outreach team in Uganda will be on their way to another forgotten village some 40 kilometers off a main road going into the hills and bush of Southwest Uganda.

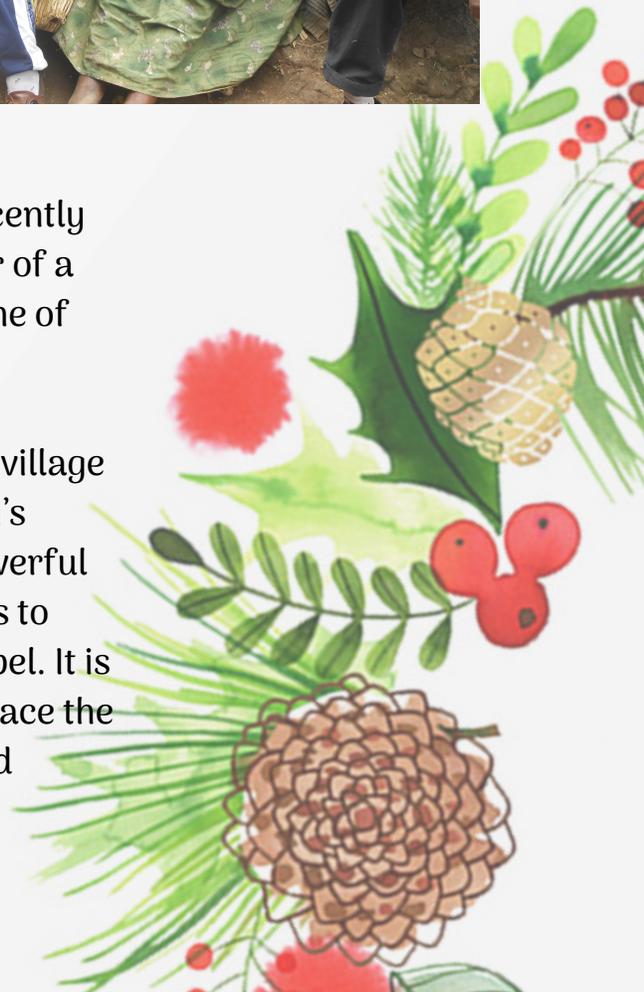


Our small army of GSSM students, staff and a handful of graduates will be heading into an area unfamiliar to most people.



All of this is happening because a Ugandan student who recently completed his coursework with GSSM along with his pastor of a small village church asked to be considered for a visit by one of Global's outreach teams.

The student was initiating a sports ministry program in his village and surrounding area. He was convinced that having GSSM's special Christmas outreach in his village would ignite a powerful interest and build momentum for the program. His desire is to reach the entire village and surrounding area with the Gospel. It is his prayer and ours that dozens, if not hundreds, will embrace the Lord this Christmas and who knows, a Gospel wildfire could spread throughout the area as a result!



Global School of Sports Ministry

Question: Would you and your family be willing to join us in praying for this village and the region?

I am confident that hundreds of desperate people will come to know the Lord and receive the greatest Christmas gift ever if we would only pray. So please consider being part of our prayer team, we would deeply appreciate your involvement.

In past outreaches we have seen leaders emerge and become part of the church. Even the choir grew and was invigorated. The sports ministry program became a popular event for the youth and adults alike. Then to top it off, the community changed. Love replaced fear and sadness. Hope emerged as Christ filled their lives and gave them a new vision for the future.



Thank you for making all of this possible. Your prayers and support as God leads and enables you is greatly appreciated.

May you and your family have a blessed Christmas!

Sincerely,

[Signature]
President

[Signature]
Executive Director

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