

Dear Friends:

February, 2017

We've Changed A Lot and Wanted You to Know We Miss You

In the past you supported SCA International. And for that I and the entire mission personnel (staff and board) are most appreciative.

Over the past number of years SCA has been greatly buffeted by winds of challenge, sometimes in the form of opposition. One of the outcomes was a recognition by the SCA board that God was leading us out of direct camp ministry. Our hearts and actions (as evidenced by one of our growing programs) remain with children that need an opportunity to meet Jesus Christ while experiencing the wonder of camp. Last summer SCA supporters paid the full cost of sending 28 children to Christian camp for a whole week – children that otherwise could not have gone due to the costs involved. This year we plan to send more children to camp with the help of our donors.

SCA was founded in 1906 to reach difficult-to-access people in Canada. Today's remote or isolated individuals might be next door but untouched by the Gospel. SCA remains committed to reaching the remote and we believe God has once-again seen to it that SCA carries out its ministry where the enemy so vehemently fights to maintain control. Will you consider praying for us? Will you consider joining us again? We are asking for your prayers and your support. . . and below we share just three new reasons as to why we need them:

1st New Isolated Group for SCA Ministry: Women (and Men) Needing Post-Abortion Healing

Imagine yourself engaging suddenly in self-destructive behaviours that have no apparent motivation behind them. As you trudge along, you go to Christian and secular counselors and psychiatrists looking for a solution for symptoms such as horrific nightmares with images of death, substance abuse, refusal of marital intimacy, avoidance of loving affection for your own children, risky-crazy behavior like driving far too fast or engaging in extreme sports well beyond your ability.

But the professionals can give you no hope because they are not trained for the world's latest, most pervasive, deep problem. They are neither trained, nor predisposed, to dealing with a type of post-traumatic stress disorder associated with the remorse one has from having, or encouraging, an elective abortion that a woman has had, even as far back as 50 years earlier.

This group of people could well number into the 1/2 billion range. No one knows because records are not kept in many nations or because, at a woman's request, an abortion can be documented as something else, like a "D and C". Furthermore, no one knows how many women are devastated emotionally by the procedure as compared to those women who can compartmentalize it and "move on". (Those who compartmentalize it are impacted later; it never goes away on its own.) But leading post-abortion researcher, professor Priscilla Coleman, PhD., says, "Many women have multiple risk factors operating at the same time, but the point is that when you put them together it's likely to be a large number, like 70 or 80 percent, who walk into a facility have a number of risk factors operative in their lives. So when we talk about counseling women who are at risk, we are not talking about a small number of women. The majority of women who walked into an

abortion provider are at risk for having adverse reactions."

Why is SCA working in this area when others are already doing the same thing?

Because other's aren't. The producer of "Wounded and Abandoned" (a two-part documentary series on the Emotional & Physical Risks of Abortion – see www.gracestream.ca) asked several well-known evangelical ministries and/or large churches to help address this great need. So far they have all said 'no'. No organization accept www.abortionchangesyou.com in the United States is working in this area as a key focus, and we are sharing information and resources with them. They recently asked SCA to help with the French translation of some of their excellent material which we can use with French-speaking Canadians. Later, we will also try to help with translations into Russian and Chinese to serve Canada's growing population of these two language-speaking people groups, who also happen to have a history of widespread abortions world-wide.

Why aren't crisis pregnancy centres sufficient?

Our Canadian Government, through the Canada Revenue Agency, has, rightly or wrongly, been quite influential in somehow silencing the large majority of these centres on the educational aspects of health risks. In addition, many believe that adding the fear of real potential future health risks is not what will help a woman chose life for her baby when deciding whether to have an abortion or to give birth to the baby. Thirdly, their resources are already stretched too thin working with the young pregnant women. They certainly don't have the resources to be seeking out the older women who had abortions many years earlier.

While we like to think that this problem is only "out there" in the world, the truth is it is also "right here" within the church. About 1 in 4 women in the evangelical church community have had an abortion. (We have trouble believing that statistic too, but two different studies plus anecdotal evidence, supports it. Women in the church suffer even more greatly from the shame associated with having taken their baby's life. But unfortunately, they have no one to talk to. It's a rare pastor that wants to even refer to this issue from the pulpit. One church board chair told one of us that this topic was as appealing as talking about incest in the church. Avoidance of either issue is not going to make things better.

Recently SCA paid for a mass email blast for 130,000 people. The distributor's mailing list has over 4 million individuals on it but SCA could only afford the smallest size of mailing. Our results were most satisfactory when you consider the norms in this kind of mass marketing: 12,000 recipients opened the email. We know the need is there for us to continue our work of showing people how their true and complete healing from these pains can only come through Jesus Christ.

We respect the decisions made by those running pregnancy care centres, but we also believe the word needs to get out to the public. The broadcasters and the internet search engines do not help with the message. But we can pay to get the message out through the internet in accordance to what God enables us to do financially. The producer of 'Wounded and Abandoned' has contributed his videos (which took eight years to develop and produce and have been endorsed by several leading authorities in the field) for free.

2nd New Isolated Group for SCA Ministry: Urbanites Untouched by the Gospel

Canadians living in mid- to large-sized cities know that chances are most of their neighbours have no concept of the Gospel whatsoever. The world has changed that much compared to 1906 when SCA was formed. To address this great calamity, SCA is ramping up to undertake mass distribution of scripture portions (written in a reader-friendly style, of the gospel of John and possibly the book of Romans) to thousands of Canadian residents. In that publication, we will suggest what steps both Christians and non-Christians can take next – the former being encouraged to partner with us in furthering the spread of the Gospel and the latter in getting in touch with us, or with a Bible-believing church in their area. Tied in with that, we are investigating how to encourage them to download the whole Bible on a phone app, with questions and answers and a host of other

helps, for free. But before they are motivated to download that free app they need a taste of the power of God's Word in their hands in a tangible way and thus our introduction to the printed scripture portions we are distributing. We need your prayers for wisdom and your support.

3rd New Isolated Group for SCA Ministry: Christians Who Want To Be Significant For God

Many Christians today want to serve God but somehow are not able to take the necessary steps to do so effectively. Some of them may be very successful at their work, or life in general, but somehow they feel they are not being "significant" for God. They feel no one can help them. While churches want to, they don't seem to have the time to find the right spot for these people. SCA, through its www.scainternational/gps.com program, and also working with local churches, is changing that. Participants engage with others (groups range from 6 to 10 individuals, some of which may be couples) for 16 hours over an agreed-to schedule to help each other develop their own 15-point Life Journey Roadmap. [This Map includes GPS Road Map TEMPLATE.doc] SCA has had good success with this program as can be testified by those taking it. You can help bring this program to your group or church, or help send it to others.

<u>So, there you have it.</u> Three new "isolated" groups that SCA is involved with. Will you come back and join us in this ministry? Some of you may want to ask some questions or discuss matters with me and I'd welcome that. But we'd love to hear from you. If you're willing to rekindle our relationship with you, I'd be delighted if you did one of the following:

- Contact me directly by email: ken@scainternational.org.
- Call me toll-free at 1.877.474.2689. (If I'm not there, mention this letter and ask our staff to give you my cell number, or just leave a message and I'll get back to you as soon as possible.)
- Write to me at the address found at the top of our letterhead *(on page one)* or use the enclosed envelope and form to tell us so.
- Contact Devika in our office at the same number and tell her of your intentions.

We believe God connected us in the past for a reason, not just a season. We have valued your past partnership with us. But we also believe it's possible that this reason has a future. If so, and if God is laying that on your heart as He has ours, let's work together for the Kingdom.

I look forward to reconnecting and I wish you and yours God's blessings in 2017.

In His Grip,

Ken Godevenos, President

P.S. Encl. below is a form you may use. Thank you.



Mailing Address: