



The Harvest Times

A Publication of World Missions

Real and Lasting Value

By Jere Gowin

Geography and/or history buffs know that Ghana used to be called the Gold Coast. Logic tells us that there used to be much yellow gold in Ghana, and that logic is correct. In fact, there is still much gold here

It has been estimated that only 5% of the world's gold resources have been discovered. One of our pastors and many of our church folks have dug for gold. Some of their children still do. I meet gold company trucks practically every time I go to our remote villages. On dusty dirt roads they have very nearly run over me. ☺

Others referred to this land as the Gold Coast because of the valuable slave trade many years ago. Numerous old slave castles dot the landscape along the coastland. We have visited many of them.

Just recently our villages celebrated the annual holiday to commemorate their forefathers who were sold into slavery either to the whites or warring tribes. Many became rich, despite the fact that the lucrative business involved the captivity and bondage of innocent souls. Our people danced energetically that day, then cooked a great feast in the evening just to let it sit alone so that their dead ancestors might "eat." The next morning the people ate the "leftovers."

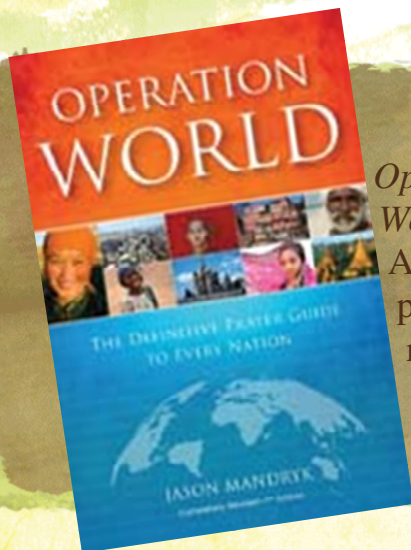
As valuable and tempting as gold is, the Scriptures teach that commodity is temporary and perishable. Real and lasting value involves the precious blood of Jesus Christ. Scripture says that "the love of money is the root of all evil." What is your focus of faith upon? If you believe this world is about gold and the next about Jesus, you have an impoverished soul. This world AND the next are both about Jesus.



Ruth Ann and Jere Gowin with Ghanaian villagers

- *Jere and Ruth Ann Gowin live in northern Ghana, where they minister in outlying villages.*
- *Since the Gowins moved to Ghana in 2008, they have seen churches started in five villages that had no church.*
- *The Gowins plan to return to the States in the summer of 2013. Ask for God's blessing as Jere trains church leaders to continue in his absence.*

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Operation World:
A great
prayer
resource



Children at Dos Palais benefit from the Foodbank.



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AROUND THE WORLD

A NEW YEAR, A NEW RESOLUTION

Maybe you did not make any New Year's resolutions, as such, this year, but have you ever thought that you should pray more for missions?

We would like to introduce you to a resource that can be an encouragement to increase your prayer for missions in 2013.

Operation World, available in book or CD-ROM, takes you through every country in the world, providing statistics, praise reports, and prayer requests. Did you know that 79% of Ghanaians live on less than \$2US/day? Did you know that Papua New Guinea is home to 20% of the world's languages? Did you know that COGH ministries are listed in this book in the countries of Bolivia, Cayman Islands, and the British Virgin Islands (although statistics vary)?

Consider adding *Operation World* to your personal library! Call the Herald and Banner Bookstore (800-315-0331), or go online to www.operationworld.org.

HAITI FOODBANK

Thanks to many faithful donors, the Haiti Foodbank continues to provide nutritious meals to some 400-500 students at three of our schools in Haiti. For some, this is the best meal they eat in a day.

Last year alone, over \$24,000.000 was raised. These funds help pay for shipping of meal packets primarily from Feed My Starving Children, as well as cover the cost of supplemental food and transporting the food to the schools.

It is our hope that a Christian education will do two things: provide a way out of poverty for the children and teach them a Christian world view. Thank you for giving!