

OUR MISSION

To provide Hope and Resources to help our neighbors in need find **FREEDOM** from all forms of poverty.

*“For freedom Christ has set us free”
Galatians 5:1a*

The Last Best Hope

During his time in a Communist prison, Richard Wurmbrand, founder of Voice of the Martyrs, recounted witnessing a Communist officer beating and taunting a Christian prisoner. “I am almighty,” the officer derided, “as you suppose your God can be. I can kill you.” The prisoner answered, “The power is all on my side. I can love you while you torture me to death.” What was this awesome power the prisoner so brazenly proclaimed? Love, certainly, and forgiveness, absolutely. More specifically, however, it was the *freedom* to love and *freedom* to forgive. True freedom is the power to live from a place of grace, and to choose to share that treasure regardless of circumstance.

Jesus lived from this power of freedom throughout the time He walked this earth. Having the choice to call down legions of angels to rescue Him from His own imprisonment and execution on the cross, He freely stayed true to what He had taught His disciples, “No one takes my life from me, I lay it down of my own accord (John 10:18).” Stephen exhibited this same freedom while being stoned to death, crying out “Lord, do not hold this sin against them (Acts 7:60).” In the face of harrowing circumstances, time and again believers are exhorted to tap into this incredible power - “love your enemies,” “forgive those who sin against you,” “care for the poor among you” - as exercises of this freedom.

Although not many of us may face such imprisonment or persecution, each day...

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A neighbor spontaneously praying with her grandson for God's will in heaven to be done on earth.

OUR VISION

We exist to share the Hope of Christ and see God glorified through our love and compassion for all.

...we have the same opportunity to live from a place of grace and glorify God in how we care for those less fortunate than ourselves. One of our organizational tenets is that we don't choose the situation in which to glorify God, we merely seek to glorify Him in whatever situation we find ourselves. When one of our neighbors tells us, "I'm walking in the miracle of freedom in the midst of some of the most painful experiences of my life," we believe God is glorified. When another neighbor remarks, "I'm learning and growing in what it means to live in freedom and grow in peace," our mission is successful.

Abraham Lincoln once called freedom "the last, best hope of earth." As this year marks the celebration of 250 years of American freedom, let us also remember freedom as the first, best gift of heaven. In doing so, let us not only proclaim the land of the free and home of the brave, but the Kingdom of the free and home of the faithful.

Speaking of Stars

"The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it (John 1:5)." A huge thank you goes out to all of our partners and friends who let their lights shine so brightly during our recent May Match Days Challenge! The dark backdrop of poverty was lit up by the generosity and kindness of so many who helped make this year's challenge a resounding success. While it is hard to understate the seriousness of a lack of food, the Lord knows a lack of hope can have even more devastating consequences. That is why with every loaf of bread for the table, we strive to match it with the Bread of Life for the soul. For every hungry stomach filled, our mission is only fulfilled when it is matched by a hurting heart healed. Thank you for continuing to fuel this ministry as a beacon of hope and light for so many families facing darkness.

"He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness." - 2 Corinthians 9:10

Strawberry Shortcake

2 cups flour
1/2 teaspoon salt
2 tablespoons sugar
4 teaspoons baking powder
3 tablespoons shortening
1 egg
1/2 cup milk



Sift dry ingredients, mix in shortening; add beaten egg to milk and add to dry ingredients to make soft dough. Smooth one half of dough out lightly. Put into greased deep layer tin; spread with butter; cover with other half of dough which has also been smoothed out to fit pan. Bake at 400 for 20 to 25 minutes. Split while hot and spread crushed and sweetened berries and whipped cream between layers; cover top with whipped cream and whole berries. Dust with powdered sugar and serve.

Source: New Royal Cookbook, 1920