A Father's Gift

Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. -James 3:13

Dr. Cary Moorhead, an ENT surgeon, and his wife Julie, stepped off a plane in Guatemala on their first Faith In Practice mission trip fourteen years ago. At the time, their daughters Madeleine and Abigail were 7 and 2. All these years later, neither daughter can remember a time when their father and mother have not been serving others. Never a time when their parents did not return with pictures and stories to share. Showing their children the works of a good life, with gentleness born of wisdom. Opening the way for their children to begin to seek meaning in their own lives. Opening the way for their children to one day serve beside them, learning from and with them, as their faith as a family and as individuals deepened.

Across the years, the girls became involved in Faith In Practice events, with Madeleine even singing at the gala as a 14-year-old. When the time came, Madeleine served as a translator on the Moorhead team, returning on her own the following year to serve on the Boutros team. This past April, Abigail joined her parents in Guatemala. But the mission and the calling is not limited to Faith In...
Practice. As a family, the Moorheads support and serve through Show Hope in China and Family Legacy in Zambia. As Father’s Day approaches, both Madeleine and Abigail spoke of how deeply impacted they have been to see their father bring healing and compassion to those in need when they serve together in mission.

In reflecting upon being a father and the ways in which his family has become close through mission, Cary said, "The greatest thing you can do for your children is to help them find a meaningful life. For me, I have found that a meaningful life comes from a Christ-centered life."

Cary has shown his daughters the way toward a meaningful Christ-centered life by the way he has always lived. Showing them that by being authentically open to the Spirit, they will find their own unique way, hear their own unique calling, find their own place in the heart of God.

And, each of his unique and beautiful daughters is doing just that. Madeleine is currently working at St. Jude’s Children's Hospital saying, "My father has instilled in me a love of medicine and compassion for the sick." Abigail, still in high school, will once again hold a concert, "Voices for Zambia", to raise funds for Family Legacy. She shares, "My dad searches for ways to help other people."

Because Cary searches for ways to help other people, his daughters are finding their own way. The greatest gift he could possibly give them, the way to a meaningful, Christ-centered life.

On this Father’s Day, let us celebrate all the men who humbly and quietly serve, living a good life with gentle wisdom, showing us the way. And, let us celebrate Cary Moorhead, this extraordinary father who has just become a big brother with Big Brothers Big Sisters.

Please consider joining us at the Gala, “A Rich Harvest: Celebrating Families Who Serve Together” as we feature the Moorhead family and are joined by Guatemalan Claudia Alvarez, a patient of the Moorhead and Boutros teams, and her mother Miriam.

Please share with us your own stories of how the mission of Faith In Practice has impacted your family at gala@faithinpractice.org so we might include you in the Gala celebration.

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