

## "I AM" FOUNDATION INTENSIFIES CARE FOR POOR WIDOWS IN WEST AFRICA

Report from Roy Wanta

The trip was great; unfortunately, we weren't able to get a lot of building done. We had more planning to do for the street children and widows' facility in order to convert an old church into a school and living quarters for the children and living quarters for the widows. We purchased two grinding machines to help the widows sustain themselves by grinding various staple foods to sell in the market places.

The funds for the grinding machine on the right were given by a family in memory of their deceased mother.

While we were there – thanks to our supporters – we were able to start on a building that will become living quarters for the homeless widows and their children.







Several gatherings were arranged where we distributed food to the widows.







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Our mission is to reach the world for God and point them to Jesus

As we start out the new year, I would like people to read Pastor Isaac's article and comments from Kumasi, West Africa. I am hoping that his article will stir and soften many hearts and seriously help these widows.

## MAKING THE NEW TESTAMENT GOSPEL MATTER

Report from Pastor Isaac Agyapong in Ghana, West Africa

It's an ancient story that still plays out today, especially in Sub-Saharan Africa where in 2010, 20.9 million widows struggled for survival, according to research from the UK-based Loomba Foundation. Western Christians seeking to help the poor in Africa give enormous attention to AIDS and the plight of orphans. But mission and aid workers are discovering that one of the biggest problems is "survival rights" for widows. Increasingly more widows are dying without societal support. In seeking to carry out the "mercy" mandate of Christ to the poor, "I Am" has stepped up its support for poor widows in West Africa. In October 2014, for instance, the Project Africa initiative of "I Am" Foundation gave out numerous supports to very economically challenged widows of Ghana, in local collaboration with Gospel Results Chapel at the Ejisu-Juaben municipal area, and also at New Legon in Adenta municipality in Accra.

Many widows battle with survival. The FAO regional report for the horn of Africa has shown that hunger is killing more people than arms conflict. In Ghana, "I Am" is partnering with local groups to identify sustainable income-generating activities for some of the poor widows. The project involves setting up corn and vegetable mills for widows to operate, generating self-supporting incomes for livelihood empowerment.

A comprehensive plan for an orphans' education system is also being implemented. We call for your partnership in this direction. This project, successfully being piloted in Ghana, will be extended to other poor Sub-Saharan African (SSA) countries. It detours from earlier approaches to alleviate poverty by donors simply pumping monies to the poor without empowering them with successful economic ventures. Under this new Project Africa strategy, local organizations are identified, pre-selected, and screened with local inputs mapping out pressing needs. The local women's groups present their business venture prospects. Our international team of experts rigorously assess the viability of their proposals, make budgetary commitments and draw up a timetable for implementation. The approved project is manned, executed, and monitored by local hands. We only require strict proof of accountability and financial discipline. In this way, poor groups benefit directly, eliminating the role of a middleman. We invite you to join hands with us to help more widows.



"When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats. And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left. Then the King will say to those on His right hand, 'Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.'

"Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink? When did we see You a stranger and take You in or naked and clothe You? Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?'

And the King will answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.'

"Then He will also say to those on the left hand, 'Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels: for I was hungry and you gave Me no food; I was thirsty and you gave Me no drink; I was a stranger and you did not take Me in, naked and you did not clothe Me, sick and in prison and you did not visit Me.'

"Then they also will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to You?'

"Then He will answer them, saying, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me.' And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life." (Matthew 25:31-46 NKJV)