

Donating to a GREATER cause

Leaving a legacy and making donations to worthwhile causes is something that most of us would like to achieve in this life. Regardless of the path our lives take, we all desire to live, create and leave a legacy of meaning and purpose.



Lord McColl preparing a patient for oesophageal surgery with his wife Dr Jean McColl

One hundred years from now, it will not matter what my bank account was, or how big my house was, or what kind of car I drove, but the world may be a better place because I was important in the life of another. **Forrest Whitcraft**

So, what is a legacy? It's making a real and lasting difference to hundreds of people for years to come. It's the sum of your life so far. It's your financial and personal assets, your stories, gifts and life experiences. It's an extension of your values, beliefs and philosophies. It's the influence you have or the impressions you make in the life of someone else.

A living legacy can start today and may continue many years into the future. It's something that's established by you and meaningful to you and others. Experience the satisfaction that comes with establishing your living legacy now. Make it meaningful and ensure a part of you survives beyond your own lifetime. Your family or others become the beneficiaries of your living legacy.

It's important that you are confident your donation is going to a bona fide charity. You need to validate the financial and legal status of charities and missions, particularly overseas, to help you give safely and securely to causes worldwide.

One of the great ways to leave a legacy is to donate to Christian missions, or to leave a legacy in your will so missions can keep moving forward to spread the Gospel.

The objective of these missionaries is to give an understandable presentation of their beliefs with the hope that people will choose to follow the teaching of Jesus Christ and live their lives as his disciples. This all takes money of course and you can be part of giving into God's kingdom by donating or leaving a legacy.

The majority of churches strongly emphasise the need for committed giv-

ing; very few talk to their congregations about the importance of leaving a legacy to a Christian charity. Thousands of Christians die each year, yet many churches are not encouraging them to leave a legacy, according to Christian Legacy a consortium of six charities. "What do you want your Christian legacy to be?"

Leaving a gift to charity or missions in your will is an amazing way for your generosity to last beyond your own lifetime. The same generosity applies for donations you can now make to your favourite mission or organisation. Apart from your family, what greater gift can you give than to Christian missions so the Great Commission can be carried out throughout the world.

Creating a living legacy according to what is important to you, means that your values will continue to live well past your time in this world.

Bob Pierce, World Vision founder said, "Let my heart be broken with the things that break God's heart."

"One of my greatest passions is volunteering onboard a Mercy Ship, performing surgery that literally gives new life. Seeing the joy of a patient who has received a long awaited operation on a cleft lip or facial tumour never ceases to give me immense personal satisfaction.

This gift of new life is only possible because of caring, generous people who can continue transforming lives long into the future by remembering (organisations such as) Mercy Ships in your Will.

Your legacy could enable people to see or walk or smile for the first time through life-transforming surgeries that in many cases, you could even save lives!

Your legacy could even transform the lives of whole communities through development projects. Imagine funding a health care clinic, safe water supply, or an agriculture project for an entire village.

Without legacies, we could not carry out this level of work, let alone reach the increasing number of people in need into the future. That's the life-changing difference a legacy can make.

Anything you give takes us one step closer to a world where no one is left to suffer simply because they have no access to health care and other basic necessities. This has to be a future worth investing in!

**"Let my heart be broken
with the things that
break God's heart"**

Professor the Lord McColl; Emeritus Professor of Surgery at Guy's Hospital in London. Lord McColl was the personal secretary for Sir John Major while he was Prime Minister 1994-97; Deputy Speaker 1994-97, 1998-2002; Deputy Chairman of Committees 1994-97, 1998-2002; Opposition Spokesperson for Health 1997-2010. Lord McColl is the vice-chairman of Mercy Ships International, and has been performing surgeries onboard since 1996. He is a passionate and deeply committed Christian

Now is the **PERFECT** time
to study God's Word...

- Study at your pace in your own place
- No time frame
- Flexible options
- No classroom attendance
- Internet support
- Accredited courses also available



DISTANCE BIBLE COLLEGE EDUCATION

www.visioncolleges.net