

# “Can you buy me a book?”



Children  
are a disposable  
commodity here...

# "Listen to the Agony of Asia, I who am fed..."

...who never yet went hungry for want of bread; I see and try to pray." <sup>1</sup>

Friends of Still Small Voice:

I am grateful to have you, my readers and supporters to share some of our recent experiences. While visiting Bhaktapur, the ancient capital of Nepal badly destroyed in the April 2015 earthquake, I met Surina. While filming the damaged buildings, a small voice behind me said in perfect English, "*Can you buy me a book?*"

Turning around I looked down upon a young girl, perhaps, 14 who continued: "*I don't ask for money, I am sponsored in school by a person in Mexico. But I am in desperate need of an English/Nepali dictionary. Can you help me?*" You see her photo on the cover page. We gave her the desire of her heart; an expensive, dictionary for the advanced study of English/Nepali grammar.

Later another little voice dared to speak up as Daniel continued filming. "*I am hungry, give me money!*" Turning I encountered three children, older sister 8, carrying her young brother, 2 on her back and little sister 6. They needed a good bath; their shoeless feet were filthy, calloused and **cold** this winter day. Through our guide we discovered, they were Dalit children, known as 'Untouchables'. These people are 'outcasts' in the eyes of the higher castes. We discovered the bag they carried was to hold the useable and resellable garbage that they scavenge. They are relegated to lives as 'garbage pickers' just as their parents are and their grandparents were before them.

We hurried them down the dusty street to a local 'hole in the wall' restaurant and bought them curry and 'momo's,' (vegetable dumplings) and hot milk tea at their request. The haughty owner served us, **but** his eyes burned with resentment, because I dared to bring **these** children into his shop. I took him aside and planted the thought: "The Most High God said, '**the most important people in the Kingdom are little children.**'" Sadly, not so in the Hindu kingdom. Then down in the market we looked for shoes and socks. These

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<sup>1</sup>Dr Tom Dooley

children have little or no choices in life, and so... I insisted they each "choose" a pair of socks. The little boy thrilled me, for immediately he chose for himself a bright turquoise pair and his dead pan expression turned into a wordless smile! Next stop was a stall built over the sewer, there they each chose a pair of locally made shoes. The photos tell the story better than I can. The suffering of this nation is seen and felt at every turn.

We ask you to help us as Jay, Daniel and I continue to film, interview, write, research and document the enormous problem of sex-trafficked victims of Nepal. The country is being bled to death! We promise to keep you up dated on our progress. Please never underestimate the value of your prayers or your gifts. Any gift, and any amount will be gratefully received and put to work here in Nepal as we are registering "C.A.N."

C.A.N. or "CHANGE, ACTION, NEPAL" is an NGO being created for the rescue of trafficked and sexually exploited children. 100,000 a year are illegally exported out of Nepal and locally 50,000 serve in cabin restaurants/prostitution bars in Kathmandu alone. In these evil places very young girls are served up as the sexual delight of the evening. We fight so this disease of preying upon young people is wiped out. Please help us at *Still Small Voice* and *Israel Vision* to keep working to see local heroes on location right here in Nepal ESTABLISHED.

***The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor, to proclaim freedom for the prisoners, and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed... Luke 4:18,***

With our love....Namaste! (A greeting or farewell in Nepali & Hindi, which means,

*"I recognize the 'light' in you."* Meridel, Jay and Daniel Rawlings



