



THE PRICE OF A MIRACLE

Dear CERT Family,

A little girl went to her bedroom and pulled a glass jelly jar from its hiding place in the closet. She poured the change out on the floor and counted it carefully, not once but three times. The total had to be exactly right...no room for mistakes.

She carefully put the coins back in the jar and tightened the lid. She then slipped out the back door and made her way six blocks to the Drug Store.

She went into the store and waited patiently for the pharmacist to give her some attention, but he was too busy at the moment. Tess twisted her feet to make a scuffing noise. Nothing happened.

She cleared her throat with the most disgusting sound she could make. Still, no good!

Finally she took a quarter from her jar and banged it on the glass counter. That did it!

The pharmacist asked in an annoyed tone of voice, "What do you want? I'm talking to my brother from Chicago whom I haven't seen in ages."

Tess answered "I want to talk to you about my brother" in the same annoyed tone the pharmacist had spoken to her. "He is really, really sick...and I want to buy a miracle."

"I beg your pardon?" said the pharmacist. Tess responded, "His name is Andrew and he has something bad growing inside his head. My daddy says only a miracle can save him. So how much does a miracle cost?"

The pharmacist, softening a little, said, "We don't sell miracles here, little girl. I'm sorry but I can't help you."

"But Mr." said Tess, "I have the money to pay for it. If it isn't enough, I will get the rest. Please just tell me how much it costs"

The pharmacist's brother was a well-dressed man. He stooped down and asked the little girl, "What kind of miracle does your brother need?"

"I don't know" Tess replied as her little eyes filled with tears. "I just know he's really sick and Mommy says he needs an operation. But my Daddy can't pay for it, so I want to use my money."

"How much do you have?" asked the man from Chicago.

"One dollar and eleven cents," Tess answered in a quiet voice. "And it's all the money I have, but I can get some more if I need to."

"Well, what a coincidence" smiled the man. "A dollar and eleven cents---the exact price of a miracle for little brothers."

He took her money in one hand and grasped her mitten and said, "Take me to where you live. I want to see your brother and meet your parents. Let's see if I have the miracle you need."

That well-dressed man was a neuro-surgeon. The operation was completed free of charge and it wasn't long until Andrew was home and doing well.

"That surgery", whispered Tess's mom "was a real miracle. I wonder how much it would have cost?"

Tess smiled. She knew exactly how much a miracle cost...one dollar and eleven cents...plus the faith of a little child.

Is this a true story? I don't know. It was sent to me by someone acquainted with the ministry of CERT.

I share it with you because it spoke to my heart. I have no idea how many lives may have been saved by CERT Medical/Dental Teams over these past twenty-eight plus years.

Your prayers and financial support have made it all possible. Ever thought that maybe your \$10.00, or \$25.00 or \$100...whatever amount might be instrumental in saving a child's life...or adult. It just might cover the cost of a miracle?

This little girl's story brought to my memory some vivid pictures of the past. **What is a miracle? Perhaps the miracle in many instances is God's timing.**

Amazon Jungle: A young man seriously ill had not urinated in nine days. Partial paralysis had set in. Our CERT team doctor, a Tropical Medicine Specialist from Spain, knew the young man's life was in jeopardy. He did what he could and we then put the young man in a dugout canoe, for a two day trip to a Shell Oil Base Camp. He was then flown to a hospital in Lima. **A Miracle?** It was God! **God's timing.**



Nepal, Burtibang: They had never seen an American. Had never seen a doctor. How I remember a little elderly man, having come a long distance, carrying his frail little wife in an old wooden wheelbarrow. **A miracle?** It was God! We were there at **God's timing.**



Romania: a young teenage girl, born with a deformity that had limited her from a normal life. It was a condition that could be remedied by surgery. CERT paid all the expenses to transport her to Bucharest, and for the required surgery. **A Miracle?** It was God! **With your help, God had CERT there for this young girl.**

Kurdistan: A mother came to us carrying her infant. This was her 15th child. It was obvious the baby was at death's door. She could not agree for us to take her and her baby to the hospital in Erbil. She said, "I cannot, I have to tend to sheep." Villagers located her husband and convinced him that his baby had to be taken to the hospital. **A Miracle?** God's timing in having us there, and to also help another mother with her infant.



Folks: I could go on and on: Infants born with club feet, or cleft lips, malnutrition, worm and parasite infestation or other conditions that CERT has brought out of the Amazon Jungle and provided the needed surgeries or medical treatment.

Your gift of \$10 or \$35 or \$50, \$100...whatever amount may be the equivalent of little Tess's \$1.11. Do we have her faith...the faith of a little child believing God can do the impossible...a Miracle in our finite thinking?

Be part of a miracle by giving your best gift possible at this time. See it as an investment in a miracle that may save the life of a little baby, a young child or adult.

Your prayers, gifts and faith helps to make possible what might be a miracle in someone's life. Your gift in whatever amount is deeply appreciated. **God bless you for caring and sharing.**

By His grace,

Ken Daugherty

Dr. Ken Daugherty,

P.S. If you have never given to the ministry of CERT, would you consider a first time Gift of even \$5.00, \$10.00? Together God can work "miracles" as He did with Tess's \$1.11 and her faith. God bless you.