Dear Friends of CERT,

It is already February, a reminder as the scriptures say:

“Life is like a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away.” -James 4:14

I thank God for each of you. You are a blessing. By your prayers and financial support you made it possible to cover unexpected expenses. We provided Christmas for children in the Amazon Jungle. I don’t have all the stats at present, but several villages and settlements.

We were able to purchase the new motor for our boat required by the Peruvian government. A CERT team leaves February 24 for the Amazon. There are numerous examples I could share.

I thank God for you and for what you enabled us to do this past year in sharing Christ with many who had never heard. But now we must focus on this current year. What is our vision for 2017.

In Proverb 29:18 we read: “without a vision the people perish.” I have been asked many times, “How do you decide where to go; where to help?” Several factors enter into that decision.

What is the vision of those requesting CERT’s help?
What are they doing to help themselves?
What specifically are they asking of you, our CERT family?
Has this request been saturated in prayer, and our response also?

There is one thing for certain; we can’t do it without you. God has blessed us that we may be a blessing to others. If we want a blessing; be a blessing!

Meet Ryan Keating, founder of “Jamaicans Against Poverty.” Ryan is a man who puts his money where his mouth is. Other than the bare essentials on which to live, he puts his money in the Ryan Keating Foundation. He lives to help his people.

His Vision? Feed the hungry, provide shelter, clothe and educate the poor, care for the sick and break the cycle of poverty.

Thirty-Nine percent of the people in the Trelawny Parish where Ryan lives are living, “existing” below the poverty line. The few jobs available are in the agricultural sector.

Folks, study the pictures in this letter. Ryan has purchased this property. Perhaps you will respond as I did when I first saw the property. “You have to be kidding! Ryan, your vision is an impossible dream.” Just the thought of clearing the land and repairing the buildings is overwhelming to me. But not to Ryan; he is going to get his people involved doing it.

Ryan wants to clear the land and restore the buildings to make it a working chicken farm. He will then use the chickens to feed the people in the Trelawny parish at least once a month. After he gets that up and working he wants to incorporate other animals as well as local crops. He will have the local people helping at the farm. The very people benefiting from the feeding program are the ones who will be doing the work.

February 20, 2017

Saving Lives & Healing Hearts Since 1974
Impossible? Ryan’s response: “Nothing is impossible for God.” Jesus said “With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.” (Matthew 19:26).

You know folks! With God’s help, I believe Ryan will see his vision become a reality. I would like to see us, our CERT family be a part of it. I hope you will want to be a part of Ryan’s vision. Ryan, has not asked much of us. In 2016, we had two teams go to Trelawny, Jamaica and we just had a team return this week. I believe every team member will attest to Ryan being a man of his word…that he has a heart to help his people…and a heart after God. He is for real.

God gave Habakkuk a vision and told him, “Write the vision and make it plain that he may run who reads it.” God has given Ryan a vision as expressed earlier. He has prepared a detailed budget for Phase One which is to clear the land, repair the building and start a chicken farm with 500 broiler chicks.

**Ryan has asked if CERT might help with a gift of $4,000**

**SHOULD WE?** Folks, because we have already had three teams to work with Ryan; because we believe his heart truly is to help his people; because he is sacrificially giving of his means to help; and because every penny donated can make a huge difference in the lives of young children and their families, may I challenge you by saying, “Let’s Do It.”

There may be someone readying this who can say, “Yes, I will do it.” Let’s all help. Whatever God puts on your heart. Let’s all be spectators to a miracle watching God’s hand at work.

**You can’t give? I understand. God understands. But we can all pray.** Pray that Ryan’s vision which he believes is from the Lord will become funded by believers like you and me. This is all about God, not about CERT per se, but about all of us.

Your gift in whatever amount designated to the Trelawny project will be greatly appreciated and every cent will go for that project. Let us all pray and give as you can or feel led. Ask God to guard our hearts that we do not rob Him of His glory for the great things He does.

God bless you as you prayerfully consider what He would have you do.

Yours in His Service,

**Ken Daugherty**

President

P.S. Your gift in whatever amount is considered “as unto the Lord.” May I encourage you to send your most generous gift today?

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