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Who Gets Blessed More?

When you go on a short-term mission's trip, the expectation is that you are going to benefit the people you will see, both spiritually and physically with chiropractic care. This year in Montego Bay, Jamaica, I had what I call my "signature moments" in both categories at the smallest clinic we visit. It is at a place called CUMI -- *Committee for the Upliftment of the Mentally Ill* -- a day home where homeless mentally handicapped adults can be safe. I have always enjoyed this setting, and due to the small number of people treated, my wife, Janene, and I were the only two to go, while the rest of the team ministered at a different venue with more people.

One of my patients that day was a nurse who helped in this ministry caring for these people. On my examination, I noticed a significant neck subluxation/dysfunction; she could recall no trauma but said her neck had not been "right" as far back as she could remember. I adjusted that fixation in two different directions -- AP and RLF, and there were loud releases on both adjustments. On getting up, she immediately began to marvel at how her neck felt. She began to move it, saying, "I have not been able to move my neck for years; I can now move my neck!" She continued to show everyone for the remaining time we were there. She came back and said to me (and perhaps this should be the new definition to what an adjustment does), "It was like there was something in my neck that did not belong, and you removed it." Wow! I have often had people ask me (pertaining to our Jamaica STM trips), "What good can one adjustment do?" This nurse would have a ready answer for that!

After adjusting the 12 residents and staff there, we gave them a juice box and granola bar and fellowshipped. I ask them if they wanted to sing, and they sang choruses that related to God meeting their needs and going to heaven. Next came my second "moment" of the day.

I asked if anyone had a favorite Scripture verse. Each one of those people, some who had not said a word, quoted Scripture; and then it came to 81-year-old Mr. Brown -- two teeth on top and three on the bottom. He stood up and proclaimed:

*"John 1:29. The next day John seeth
Jesus coming unto him, and saith,
'Behold the Lamb of God, which
taketh away the sin of the world.'"*

I began to cry. God spoke through Mr. Brown into my soul. This old man, whose only worldly possessions were the clothes on his back, knew the "Lamb of God," the most priceless possession!! He spoke with such a passion, a reverence; it is almost hard for me to accurately describe it. I hope I never forget it. I asked him to say it once more, it was so powerful.

As we go into a new year, I encourage you to ask God if this is the year to go on an STM. The CCA has many opportunities; in fact, more than we have doctors and support staff. Now is the time to plan and make the commitment. Fulfill your role in the Great Commission, "Go ye..."



Dr. Theron Stallings adjusting "Mr. Brown" outside the CUMI residence home.