

We have a dream.

A dream to see 1,000 smiling faces in 30 cities.

A dream to claim the children of our urban communities, to break the cycle of dependency in their generation. To change the trajectory of their families and their communities to make an eternal impact.

A dream to engage our children and their generation on healthy platforms so they will thrive spiritually in this dark, twisted, increasingly sinful world. To experience the fulfilling life and rewards of investing in eternity.

A dream to model functional family as God intended it to be at a time when the family unit is being mocked and minimized. When gender is a choice, and a child can be pressured to make that decision with no knowledge of the consequences.

A dream to see blazing beacons of hope in towns and cities across America, a nation known as the #1 consumer in the world for trafficked children, the most vulnerable of all children. A “Christian” nation, indeed.

We may not be able to create movies that make millions at the box office and create overnight awareness, but we can be a powerful influence in cities across America. While we are very grateful for those who risk their lives to save children and women trapped in the noose of demon-possessed men and women, we too have work to do. We can model the real solution to the darkness—Jesus—to bring real sustainable results that will make 1,000 faces smile in 30 cities!

So how can we stand by and wring our hands? Will we simply continue to chant our conservative values of separation to validate our lack of involvement? What are we called to do? Have we allowed ourselves to be sucked into the vortex of disengagement? Have we spiritualized wealth accumulation as our contribution to minimize our role as in-the-trenches contributors to the suffering? Are we willing to give up our self-serving lifestyles for the souls of these children?

Our children and their generation are being drawn back to the cities and the masses. Will we get behind them and cheer them on? Will we run with them and cover them with prayer in the battle for souls? They will have a bullseye on their backs. Or are we consumed with our isolated retreats away from the cries of the suffering children?

Maybe we should reflect on history and the plight of God’s people when the scale tipped to wealth accumulation over the Great Commission. Did God allow them to be stripped of their wealth? C.S. Lewis said it well, “Aim at heaven and you will get earth thrown in. Aim at earth and you get neither.”

Let’s leverage what we have been given to mobilize a generation and save our children from the self-serving lifestyles of the past. The tide is going out. This is our moment.

As our cities fill with refugees from around the world, we have opportunities to penetrate nations like no other generation in history. We have a window of opportunity to go into all the world.

For Jesus' sake, let's steward our resources and light up our cities!

Together we will do more.

Together we can bring healing and create safe places.

Together we can make God smile.

Lyndon Risser

*The inspiration for this came from the many currently serving in conservative Anabaptist urban schools across America. I applaud you. I am committed to support you in any way I can. I commit to raising awareness for resources to steward as you invest during a time of massive opportunity. I believe in you and your generation. May your reward be out of this world.*