



Family Circus Children's Ministry Update
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 by Darrell Blatchley - Missionary to Asia's Little Ones
"You Wouldn't Sit There!"

Hello again, friends,



The sun was blazing hot. We were in the circus tent. The numbers attending Family Circus that day were around 2,500. As you can imagine in a tent on a tropical island near the equator, it can get hot and humid. The fans were doing their best to move the air, and yet we were dripping. Sandy came over and said, "We have to buy more fans!" Pointing to the middle area of the tent

where the kids were packed tight in row after row on short wooden benches with no padding, she said, "You wouldn't sit there!" I thought to myself, "Wanna bet!

This isn't just about clowns and juggling as some people think of a circus. This is similar to the last days of war. For example, at the end of the Vietnam war, there were airplanes taking off, packed far tighter with people than they should have been, many with orphaned children as they made their flight for life. I find it difficult to imagine the desperate people complaining of the cramped conditions. I think they were simply grateful to be on board. The alternatives for many would have been death.

Those rescue flights and this circus tent is all about the same thing, "It's a *Life-flight*." Hell is a lot hotter than being near the equator in a circus tent on Saturday or Sunday. I'd sit there with the kids, 'Yes' right there in the middle hottest spot if necessary to rescue them from the fire that never goes out. As usual, my shirt was so wet there was no dry spot remaining. The kids? They keep coming, because it's the most important, exciting, joy-filled time of their week. The alternative is...?

Did we buy more fans? Yes, four more. Do we need more? ***Chuckle***, sure. Did I go sit in the middle? No. Like Sandy and the rest of the team, our task as shepherds isn't normally sitting down. We are on our feet doing what it takes to meet the needs of sheep, both little and big ones. That includes providing hot food before the service and meals for the malnourished and

widows for them to prepare at home. During the service, volunteer dentists provide dental care, and volunteers **hand out** cold filtered water, popcorn, and peanuts



appropriate for a circus tent. Afterwards, there are lines for First-Aid, prayer, **distribution** of vegetables from the garden, school supplies, clothing, and whatever we have to share.

I did stop long enough to take in a drink of Gatorade thanks to a kind friend who left some packages behind after his visit.

The question is: "*Would you be willing to sit there?*"

For the King & His kids,
 Darrell & Sandy Blatchley

It's not completed yet but you can get a 'sneak preview' of a new Family Circus video that will be available soon.
<http://www.youtube.com/user/jaymccutchen#play/all/uploads-all/0/>

While watching it our tears flow... our heart...



Darrell & Sandy Blatchley

Family Circus Children's Ministries

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Click on the following link if you can help us financially in ministering to the King's Kids:

<http://www.familycircus.org/html/donations.html>

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