



# Point of View

Dear Marketplace Friend,

Today is a holiday; we've been asked to remember - and, to honor - an American who chose to stand *up*, and to stand *out*, based on his leadership. It's almost a mantra for us, in **The Master's Program**: leaders are people who bring a vision and an accompanying strategy to people who long to participate in something that matters. For Martin Luther King, Jr., his vision was clear; he communicated it in the most memorable of his addresses: *"I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up (and) live out the true meaning of its creed..."* We honor his leadership today...

I love coming alongside leaders and helping them in the movements that grow out of their unleashed vision; I enjoy watching the plans that bring those dreams one step closer to reality. A leader I've come to appreciate a lot over the last few years is Don Schoendorfer.

When Jesus went public with his ministry, during those three years that forever changed history, he met



people at the point of their pain. He would alleviate their most trying conditions, lift their view from the agony of their aching and refocus their attention on the spiritual issues that had eternal implications. One group whose sad members seemed to cross his path frequently were the folks who were just categorized as "lame" (*unable to walk normally due to an injury or illness affecting a leg or foot*). Before handicapped parking and motorized scooters, immobility condemned people to their culture's sidelines, and disallowed their participation in normal life and vibrant activity.

In 21st Century America, the lame among us are no longer "left out;" instead, their alternative means of mobility make them more curiosity

than cursed. Their handicap is a *hardship*, not a *dismissal*. Move outside the reach of the developed world, and it's another story: hidden in the village huts and modest neighborhoods are 100 million people who cannot walk, but the cost of a conventional wheelchair is equal to the family's annual income. Two thousand years ago, Jesus healed people like them. But, *what would he do, today?*

*Back to Don:* a sophisticated engineer whose education and career had distinguished his work inventing medical devices, he considered the cause of those 100 million "lame" souls and conceived a solution. Jesus' mission gave people miraculous physical restoration; Don's mission gives people practical mechanical mobility - the next best thing! At a cost of \$ 59.20 each, **Free Wheelchair Mission** has distributed 440,000 of these chairs since 2001, and their vision to meet the need propels them into the future. *Every wheelchair is delivered in Jesus' name, along with the Gospel...*

As one of our signature ministry partners for **The Master's Program** and **The Barnabas Groups**, **FWM** is a picture of what happens when leaders converge their Kingdom callings in a common vision. In support of this

great work, I've agreed to run in the Run for Mobility / Surf City Marathon on Super Bowl Sunday (February 7th), to raise money for wheelchairs. My personal target is funding for 1000 wheelchairs in my 26.2 mile run. That's \$59,200... from me and my friends.

*Here's my offer:* I'll run the race, if you'll help me raise the dough. This isn't for **The Master's Program**; it's for **Free Wheelchair Mission**, for the Kingdom. We love to partner; I know you do, too. *How about we all do it, together?*

Two "click here" buttons, next page. The first one takes you to a secure, online site where you can make a financial commitment. The second will download information about a team of **TMP** and **Barnabas** folks who are heading for Peru, May 7-15 - at their own expense - to distribute the wheelchairs. If you'd like to *give*, click Button #1. If you'd like to *go*, click Button #2. *Maybe you'd like to click 'em both...*

*"I have a dream..."* My dream is to see 1000 people *rolling*, as a result of me *running*, and a bunch of my friends *giving*. Care to partner with me to make this happen?

Bob Shank

*Bob Shank is Founder and Chief Mentoring Officer of The Master's Program (TMP).*

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