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Janice Brooks
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Fay Inman
Advocate

Aaron Hart
Communications / Editor

Katie Keller
Operations Assistant



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(1/400 sec @ f/5.6, ISO 100, 55mm)

Situation: Esther D. admires Karina as
she models her new dress. Kente dresses in
West Africa are symbols of social prestige,
nobility, and cultural sophistication.

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888-823-8772

globalservants.org

office@globalservants.org

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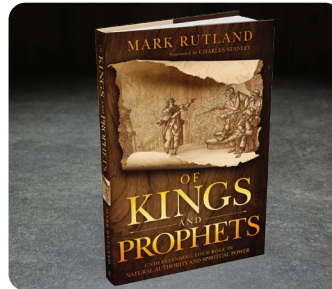
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Home Of Grace

A feeling of safety, destiny, and love

BY TRAVIS RUTLAND

Recently, I was thinking about the difference between a house and a home. Generally, a house refers to a building made for people to live in, and a home refers to the people living in the building. So, a house is essentially a place, but a home is more of a feeling.

We started House of Grace-Thailand in 1988 and House of Grace-Ghana in 2011. So, the culture of House of Grace-Thailand began more than 30 years ago. The first generation of girls showing the next generation what is expected and how it all works. That culture of House of Grace-Thailand started way before I ever worked at Global Servants. However, over the last ten years, I had the opportunity to see the culture built in Ghana.

House of Grace-Ghana had a challenging start. We began with an older renovated building and a handful of girls. When the original girls arrived at

House of Grace-Ghana, they only spoke their tribal language. They did not speak English or Twi (the language of the Ashanti people). So, communication with our Ashanti staff was almost impossible. Also, all of the girls were years behind where they should have been academically. During that difficult beginning, it was not immediately clear if the concept of House of Grace was transferable from Thailand to Ghana.

However, I watched those girls learn, work, and dedicate themselves to their studies. They now speak their tribal language, Twi and English. They caught up and surpassed their classmates academically. Those original girls have also built the culture at House of Grace-Ghana. They have made that house their home. In doing so, they have become sisters with shared dreams and destinies.

We recently finished building a brand-new dormitory on the House of Grace-Ghana property.



We were able to move the original group of girls into that building, and we were also able to bring in our second group of new girls. It was so gratifying to see the pictures of the older girls welcoming their new little sisters to House of Grace-Ghana. To see the girls embrace each other and to watch the older girls teach the new girls how it all works was truly inspirational. Global Servants may have built the dormitory, but those girls have made it a home.

I am so excited to see what all our current and future girls will do in their life and what they will become.

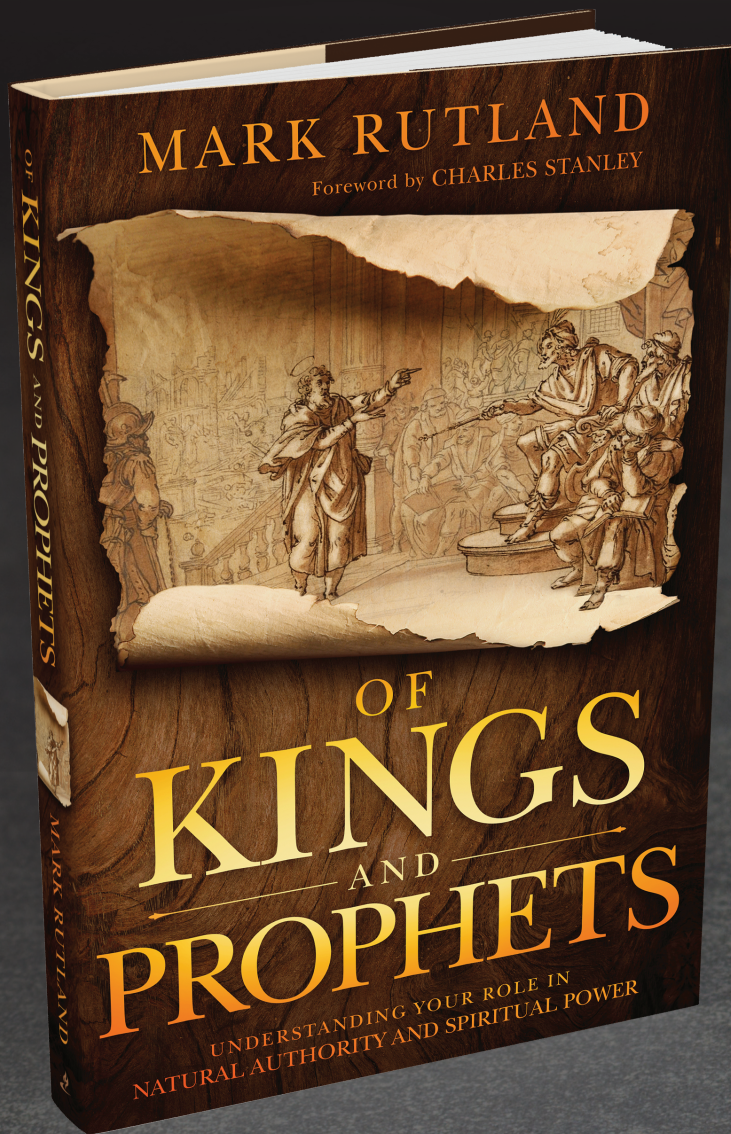
I am also overjoyed to know that the culture and influence of House of

Grace-Ghana will be passed down from girl to girl. I have always loved the name House of Grace, but honestly, it probably should have been called Home of Grace. While it is true that both the properties have numerous buildings, our Houses of Grace have never been about buildings. Instead, it is about a feeling of safety, destiny, and love. It is much, much more than a house. It is home. ◀

TRAVIS RUTLAND has worked for Global Servants since 1997. He currently serves as the President of Global Servants. In addition to his role at Global Servants, Travis is the Lead Pastor at Restoration Church in Bethlehem, Georgia. A native of Georgia, Travis holds a Bachelor's degree and a Master's degree from Southeastern University. Travis has been married to his wife, Courtney, since 1997 and they reside in Loganville, Georgia. They have three sons, Mark, Owen and Liam.



POWER IS ONLY AS STRONG AS THE AUTHORITY THAT SUSTAINS IT.



GOD POSITIONS HIS MESSENGERS to confront and advise those who lead in the natural realm. Likewise, Satan is also working to position his own servants near the world's leaders, hoping to steer them away from the things and plans of God. To whom those leaders listen will determine, to a large extent, the fate of nations.

GOD OFTEN POSITIONS HIS SERVANTS at the right elbow of leaders in a wide range of disciplines, from business to education to entertainment to politics. Every believer should be open to being "God's prophetic voice" in someone else's life, whether that person is a child, boss, or town councilman.

"It is my prayer that you will embrace the journey Mark is about to take you on—that you'll allow the prophets to speak to you as they spoke to kings. Get closer to these great Old Testament men of God, learn from them, glean from their wisdom, and let them shape you."

-Dr. Charles Stanley

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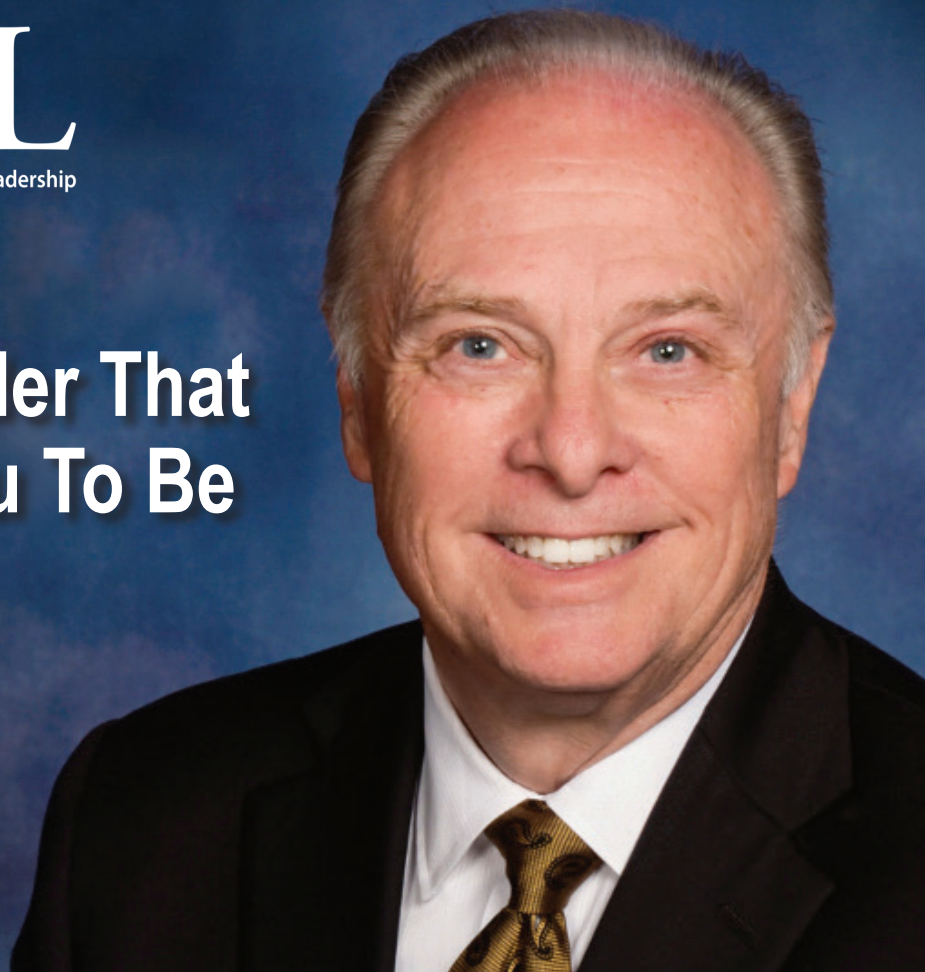


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A Doorway Into A New Kind Of Home

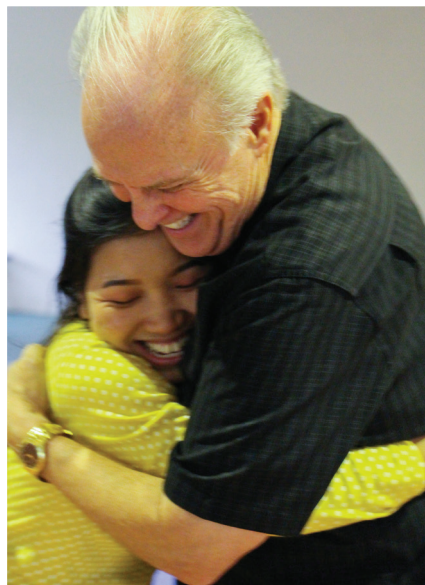
A home of love, and grace, and true friendships

BY DR. MARK RUTLAND

Someone once said, “Home is one of the most positive words in any language.” Maybe, but what if your “home,” such as it is, is a dangerous place? What if you are a little girl in a remote village? What if the adults in your “home” are predatory and willing to use you sexually or sell you for profit? What if your “home” is poverty-stricken in the daylight and terrifying at night? To such a little girl, “home,” as she has known it, is not the most positive word in her language.

Now suppose, God, a God whom that child does not even know, opens a doorway out of ignorance, squalor, and victimization. Imagine that doorway out of what she has called home is also a doorway into a whole new kind of home,

one she could never have imagined in her wildest dreams. Another famous quote, an English proverb to be precise, says, “A house is not a home.” That is not true at one house, House of Grace. That house, our house, Global Servants’ house, becomes her house and finally, at long last, her home.



Alison and I pastored country churches in Georgia early in our ministry. Among my fondest memories from those days was the annual homecoming dinner. Oceanic outdoor tables were overspread by vast islands of fabulous Southern cooking. Huge bowls of ‘nanner puddin’ and deep-dish cobblers were eyed greedily by children wanting to skip the “regular food” and get straight down to the serious business of dessert.

“This House
of Grace, this is
my home.”



Yet despite the feasts, and they were titanic feasts, the real delight was the folks who saw friends and relatives and former members whom they had not seen in years. The food, the music, and the preaching were just props in a play about love and the ingathering of family. Those wonderful reunions were called homecoming for a reason. They were actually less about food, more about HOME, love, and grace, and true friendships.

That is actually what House of Grace is. A homecoming. It is incredibly moving to watch frightened little girls arrive at House of Grace from places, “homes” you might say, where they have lived in fear and want, and then to watch them blossom, to open like lovely little flowers. I wish you could watch it

happen. They arrive at a new and strange place where they are told they will live with people they do not know, and yet, almost immediately, you can see it in their eyes. This, they say to themselves, this House of Grace, this is my home. ◀

DR. MARK RUTLAND is the Founder of Global Servants. He is a New York Times Best Selling author, educator, charismatic leader, businessman and a nationally recognized figure in Christian higher education. Dr. Rutland has been married to his wife Alison for more than 50 years now. They reside in the greater Atlanta area. For more information about Dr. Rutland please visit (drmarkrutland.com) and follow him on Twitter (@[drmarkrutland](https://twitter.com/drmarkrutland)).





A Culture Of Hope, Ambition, And Promise

Inspired to dream

By Fay Inman

The world has spent more time in its homes in the past 18 months than some of us ever have. Some of us have learned a new skill, read more books, spent more time in prayer and Bible study, or found more time to devote to worship. The relationships in our homes have become more intense, the value of togetherness and being alone have gained importance.

During this global time of self-reflection and personal development, imagine you are the first person to leave your extended family and live with strangers. Your religion is different; the language is foreign; school is rigorous and mandatory. Your only job is to attend school and excel in your education. You have tutors in all subjects and pride in your school uniform. You have hope, the promise of a future, and encouragement to be what God has designed you to be. You have examples of older girls that are smart, caring, and making a career out of doing something they love.

Now imagine that everything at your new home is different than what you have witnessed for generations. From the smallest of things, water is now available in your home, not miles away. You have a stove to cook your meals and not an open flame. You can eat plenty, and food is abundant. You have pets to love and take care of; you play sports, participate

in Girl Scouts and play games. You sleep in a bed and not on the floor. You have access to books, computers, a sewing lab, and musical instruments.



There is a playground with swings and a slide. The day you were born is celebrated with a party, cake, and gifts! You feel safe, loved, wanted, and valued by people that know your name and pray for you daily. You hear about Jesus and how He loves you and has a purpose and destiny for your life.



So much of what we learn is by example from the people closest to us. There have been 30 years of girls setting the example of how life can be at the House of Grace-Thailand. You see lawyers, entrepreneurs, chefs, missionaries, nurses, pastors' wives, schoolteachers, accountants, au pairs, bakers, international translators, the list goes on and on. When you are surrounded by strong, courageous, independent godly women making a difference globally, you

are inspired to dream big and have a vision for your future. Success is contagious.

We are happy to say that the same inspiration is now happening at the House of Grace-Ghana. For the past ten years, everyone on campus in Ghana has been within three years of each other's age. The new dorm brought new girls, fresh faces, and younger girls to see the difference God can make in your life.

At both Houses of Grace, the girls drive the culture, and the culture is one of hope, ambition, and promise.

As we look to the future, the past is not forgotten. Tribal nationals of the respecting countries manage both homes: respect and honor are paid to traditions. Our girls are proud of their tribal heritage and looking forward to the big destiny God has in store for them. Your financial support, love, and prayers make their dreams a reality. Thank you. ◀



FAY INMAN is the Advocate at Global Servants. With over 20 years of experience as an advocate nationally for girls. Fay has been married to Kenny for over thirty years, and they have two daughters: Kennedy, Gussy and grand-baby Ophelia Fay.



A Girl From A Village Out Of A Valley

How my life was changed through God's love and grace

By Mayuree

I came from a family of five siblings. I am the fourth child. I have three older sisters and one little brother. I was also born into a poor family. When I was a little child, we were so poor that my parents could not support every one of us to go to school due to poverty. Although, my older sisters had an opportunity to go to school and went through grade 9. They had to stop going to school since then.

For myself, I am thankful to God. One of my neighbor girls who had already been rescued by House of Grace introduced

me to apply for a scholarship there. So, I applied and I got accepted then I moved into House of Grace. With the help of House of Grace, I was able to continue my education to high school. Without God's grace and mercy through House of Grace, I could not have accomplished this much. Because of HIS grace I was able to pursue my studies as my heart desired through the university.

While I was living at House of Grace, I was happy, even though I missed being home sometimes at the very beginning. I

had so much fun with friends and life there. There are a lot of activities that I enjoyed. I learned how to live with other people, how to share my life with them and how to help one another. I also learned how to handle my responsibilities on assignments such as chores etc. The most important thing I learned was "Who is God to my very life," and it is so clear to me that HE loves me very much. I was touched by HIS love through missionaries who took care of us with love, care and patience. We were loved by Christians through our beloved



church who welcomed hill-tribe girls like us. The experience I had made my heart want to believe in HIM more and follow HIS love which is different from my family belief. They believe in animism where they must make offerings to please the spirits as they fear them.

While a year in my university, I had decided to follow HIM with all my whole life. HE came into my life to change my heart inside out. I used to be a selfish person. I did not have a clear purpose of life before and I was jealous of other people. Jesus has come into my life and taught me how to love others as the way HE loves me. I have determined to live my life with a purpose for HIS glory. I have a burden in my heart that one day I would see my parents turn their life to know God even though they are not believers yet, but they are not against our belief, or what we are doing. I will keep praying, asking HIS

mercy pour upon my parents' life that they would believe in HIM on HIS time.

I am thankful that God has sought and chosen me to know HIM. A girl from a village out of a valley has come to live under HIS grace and love, and HE is using me to be in HIS great plan, to enlarge HIS kingdom around the world. ◀

MAYUREE serves alongside her husband, Simon, with YWAM (Youth with A Mission) in Southeast Asia. Mayuree received a Bachelor of Political Science degree (Politics and Government) from: Chiang Mai University, Thailand in 1999, and has been in ministry ever since.





© Supplied by Ronny Brannen

Home Away From Home

A home that is welcoming and loving

By Rev. Ronny Brannen

Homecoming carries with it special meaning for me, as I have encountered it in several different ways. When I pastored a church, we had “Homecoming.” We would invite a former pastor to preach and invite former members and families to come together as a special Sunday to remember. We would always have “dinner on the grounds,” and it was like a reunion celebration.

There is also the homecoming from a long trip overseas. When my girls were little, I would return home, and they would run and jump into my arms and give me the biggest hugs. There is nothing else like it. As I am writing this, just last night, Darlene and I got to see some of our grandchildren, and when they spotted us across the field and realized it was us, they came running and jumped into our arms.

Then there is the homecoming of visiting that “home away from home.” I have had the opportunity to visit Thailand 15 times and Ghana 4 times over the years. When I return to either House of Grace, I am always greeted as Uncle Ronny in Thailand and Papa Ronny in Ghana and welcomed with open arms and celebration.

On so many occasions, as we drive onto the campus in Thailand, the driveway is lined with cheering girls welcoming me home. When I get out of the van, I’m mobbed with hugs, laughter, and excitement. It is always a thrill to arrive home. It is so wonderful to be remembered and welcomed back. It also makes leaving difficult with the hugs and tears and the little voices that say, “please remember me,” or “please don’t forget me.” So, when I return, it is like, he didn’t forget me, he came back, etc. It empowers the relationship and lets us all know we are both loved.

Because of you, we have developed a home, not just a house or building but a home that is welcoming and loving. A place of encouragement and grace. As the girls return from their villages, as the churches meet again in person, they greet one another with hugs, joy, and the excitement of being together again, but most importantly, being home. What a wonderful “homecoming.” Then there will be a day in which we are welcomed home by our Heavenly Father, and we will be together in one place. What a “Homecoming” that will be. ◀

REV. RONNY BRANNEN is the Chief of Staff at Global Servants. He is a retired Methodist Pastor of 39 years, and the past Chair on the Board of Directors for Global Servants. Ronny holds an Associate of Arts degree from Reinhardt College, Bachelor’s degree from Georgia State University, and a Master’s of Divinity degree from Emory University. He has been married to his wife, Darlene, for 43 years, and they have two daughters and four grandchildren.



How you can help make a house A SAFE HOME

In 1988, Global Servants opened House of Grace in Thailand, a rescue home for girls in danger of being bought and sold into prostitution. Through House of Grace-Thailand, hundreds of little girls have found the opportunity to study and know Jesus and grow into skilled, educated women of God. In 2011, the second House of Grace was opened in Ghana. In its 30+ years of operation, the mission of House of Grace has remained the same: “Saving little girls for big destinies.”

We have also served in many remote villages across West Africa by improving schools, digging wells, creating village hygiene stations, and building clinics and churches.

For more information about how you can help create a safe home visit:

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