



# A LEGACY of LOVE

HOW YOU  
CAN CHANGE  
THE WORLD  
With A Gift  
In Your Will

# LEAVING A FOOTPRINT OF LOVE ON THE WORLD

Bessie had bilateral cataracts and after surgery can again care for 7 orphaned grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

*"I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly."*

– John 10:10b (NKJV)



Most of us care deeply about our families and immediate loved ones. Many of us care about our neighbours and communities.

But there are a few – a very special few – who open their hearts the most to those who have the very least – to families struggling with poverty and disability. Through your loyal support of Christian Blind Mission (**cbm**), you have shown me that you are one of those special few.

Jesus showed us that it is our duty as Christians to love everyone – especially the lonely, the outcast and the forgotten. That's exactly what you and I do in our support of **cbm**. We reach out and embrace the loneliest, most vulnerable souls in the world.

We love them. We hold them. We heal them. We care for them because we value them as Jesus does.

I know that a big part of my life's legacy will be the many people whose hearts have been healed from the stigma of disability. They will be a part of the footprint I've made in the world.

I invite you to consider making a gift in your Will to **cbm** as a way to leave your own footprint. A gift in your Will is a wonderful way for you to spread God's love to those children and families who are caught in the cycle of poverty and disability, today and in the generations to come.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart for all you do for those who suffer so deeply. I am grateful for your expression of faith, and I honour your love and compassion for the poorest of the poor.

*Ed*

Ed Epp  
Executive Director, **cbm**

# MY LEGACY OF LOVE

Lynn Jeffs



## There are some images you can never erase from your mind...

People drinking from dirty puddles; hot hospital rooms clogged with parents and children; little babies whose brains have been permanently affected by malaria...

Not long ago, my husband Alan and I took a trip to Africa to see **cbm**'s work firsthand in Malawi and Swaziland. I've been a donor to **cbm** for many years and this would turn out to be a life-changing journey for me.

We travelled to very small towns knowing that **cbm** workers were riding their bikes for hours and hours to locate people who had no access to healthcare. These extraordinary workers searched for people who needed medical attention and would help to transport them to hospitals if it was necessary.





Many of the kids we met during our travels had been cast aside because they had disabilities. We talked to one girl at the school for the blind—she was 12 years old and this was the very first year she had been in school. Up until that point she'd been forgotten and abandoned, just because she couldn't see. There wasn't much hope for children like her until **cbm** came in to say: "We have a place for you, and we have something that will help you."

By the time we returned home, I had a brand new perspective. I work in a school and was immediately struck by the contrast between what we had witnessed in Africa and the lives we lead in Canada. The kids we met in Africa weren't getting any help at all.

Alan and I knew we wanted to continue the work we had started. We'd seen how **cbm** is able to give kids a chance to go to school or walk for the first time. That's why we decided to make gifts to **cbm** in our Wills. We want to continue to create change for people after we pass on. We want to leave a legacy where we change people's lives. We trust **cbm** to make this happen – and to spread our love and joy to those who are most in need.

**We have a place for you, and we have something that will help you.**

Alan and I have always felt that we were very blessed in our lives. God has provided us with a beautiful family and a good income. We know there are other people out there who, although they also have faith, do not have the resources that we do. It's remarkable to know that even a small amount of money can change people's lives by providing vision care, surgery or a wheelchair or walker.

As a **cbm** donor who has also travelled to Africa, I truly believe that **cbm** spends our money wisely. There isn't an infinite amount of funds available to them, so everything they receive, they ensure it benefits the people who need it.

I'm sharing my experiences today, because I want you to know that you can also be part of God's miracles around the world by choosing to leave a gift in your Will. I invite you to contact **cbm** to learn how easy it is to do. I hope you will have the chance to experience the feeling of joy and satisfaction that Alan and I have, should you also decide to make such a meaningful gift. ■



*"...you can also be part of God's miracles around the world by choosing to leave a gift in your Will."*

Ed Epp, Executive Director at **cbm**, recently visited us in our home. It was such a pleasure to have the chance to talk with him. During our visit, he mentioned to us that legacy giving accounts for 10% of the organization's total budget. It's clear that they rely on this money! By becoming legacy donors, Alan and I are making a commitment to provide our support to **cbm** over the long term. Our gift will leave a lasting legacy, not just in Africa, but in other parts of the world as well. It's almost like I'll be leaving a loving fingerprint on another part of the world after I'm gone. A little bit of me will continue on through this donation.

To read more of Lynn's fascinating observations of **cbm's**

work, go to [www.cbmcanda.org/lynnjeffs](http://www.cbmcanda.org/lynnjeffs)

# IMAGINE WHAT A GIFT IN YOUR WILL CAN DO!

## **\$1,000 CAN GIVE 25 SIGHT-RESTORING CATARACT SURGERIES.**

That's 25 sighted breadwinners and caregivers who can lift their families out of poverty.

## **\$4,000 CAN PROVIDE AN ENTIRE COMMUNITY WITH CLEAN WATER,**

saving children and families from deadly diarrheal diseases and painful eye, ear and bone infections that lead to life-long disability.

## **\$12,000 CAN EQUIP 6 EYE SURGEONS**

with the tools to provide sight-restoring operations for thousands of people.

## **\$19,000 CAN TRAIN A LOCAL SURGEON**

to give sight-giving, ability-restoring medical care today and into the future for thousands of moms, dads and children.

## **\$37,500 CAN FINANCE AN ENTIRE MOBILE HOSPITAL OUTREACH CLINIC,**

delivering disability-preventing health services to 950 children, moms and dads.

## **\$125,000 CAN BUY A PATIENT TRANSPORT VEHICLE,**

enabling thousands of remote patients to finally access the care they desperately need.

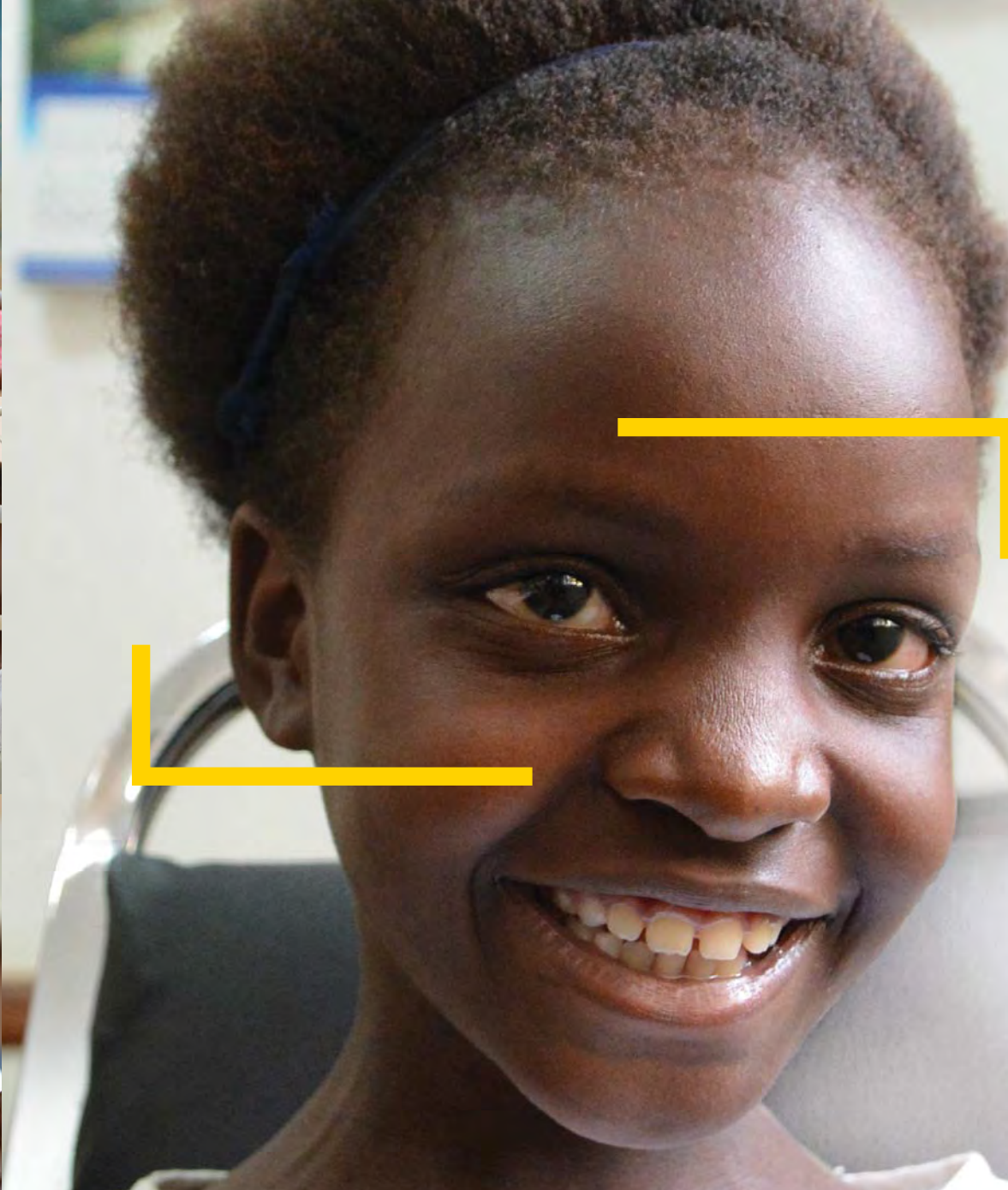
## WHAT TYPE OF GIFT IN YOUR WILL IS RIGHT FOR YOU?

When supporters talk to us about leaving gifts in their Wills to **cbm**, they're often concerned about the uncertainty surrounding the size of their estates when they pass on. After all, none of us knows how much longer we'll live – or what the value of our estates will be.

People are usually happy to find out that they don't have to leave a fixed amount of money. There are two other ways to make gifts in your Will that ease the worry about estate size and the gift amount.

- Many people choose to make what are known as "residual gifts." This type of donation is in fact the "leftovers" after all of a person's fixed obligations are met. So, for example, someone could leave a certain amount of money to each child and grandchild – and then leave the remainder or residue to **cbm**.
- Others prefer to leave a percentage of their estate to **cbm**. For example, someone with three children and four grandchildren might divide his or her estate into several portions. Each child and grandchild will receive a portion – and a final portion might be split between that person's local church and **cbm**.

**You'll have peace of mind knowing your affairs are in order in your Will. Once your loved ones are cared for, giving a portion of your estate will help future generations of children, moms and dads to thrive with health, hope and joy.**



# A LIFE CHANGED FOREVER

## Whitney's Story

At just eight years of age, Whitney's future was bleak. Although she could see some degrees of grey, she was for all intents and purposes blind. In her little village in Uganda, Whitney had become an outcast and a subject of bullying and scorn.

On different occasions, Whitney's mother, Sarah, was able to find enough money to close her vegetable stand for the day and take the bus to the hospital in Kampala to see if anyone could help Whitney. Each and every time, the answer was no. Then, about a year ago, Sarah tried once more – and this time she got a different answer. The Mengo Eye Hospital – funded by **cbm** – told Sarah that they could perform surgery on Whitney and remove her cataracts. Whitney and Sarah were elated at the renewal of hope they'd all but lost.

Sarah told us that she knows God loves Whitney and that He would provide an answer. Little did she imagine that her miracle would come from a caring donor.

And the amazing thing about all this is the cost. Whitney's cataract surgery cost only about \$200. For the price of a few tanks of gas, a little girl has been given a second chance at living a productive and independent life. She can go back to school – and perhaps take over her mother's vegetable stand business when she gets older.

Whitney's recovery will be slow – and no one knows yet exactly how much of her vision will be restored. But Whitney is already thriving in her new visual surroundings – and is now able to do all the little household things, like helping her mom prepare supper.

You can be part of many miracles like Whitney's by making a gift in your Will. Your gift will create a legacy of hope and healing to the many people you'll touch with your faith and love. ■

*"Every evening before sleeping, I send my prayers requesting the Almighty to enable my daughter to gain her sight again. My prayer wish is to get support from anyone in order for Whitney to be able to see again."*

- Sarah (Whitney's mother) before her daughter's surgery

To learn about how Whitney is healing since

her surgery, visit [www.cbmcanada.org/whitney](http://www.cbmcanada.org/whitney)

# MY BROTHER'S GREATEST GIFT

## Glen Jackson

I was raised in a Christian family with parents who were very compassionate. As kids, my older brother Bob and I were taught early in life how blessed we were to be Canadians. My parents also reinforced the idea that many people in the world didn't enjoy our good fortune – and that we have a duty to help those who have less.

My brother Bob was very financially savvy. He was always researching companies, investments and purchases. He was very careful and thoughtful with his money. I remember telling him in passing one day that I had become a donor to **cbm**, and he didn't say much in response. But, a few days later, he called me up to tell me that, as usual, he'd done his research. What a great charity **cbm** was, he told me, and how much they can do with a dollar! He was very impressed, and so was I.

Bob was diagnosed with terminal cancer much too young. Once he knew that his life was near its end, he made a gift in his Will to **cbm**. After he passed away, his gift was used to purchase an ophthalmic microscope that allows eye surgeons who are part of a mobile cataract clinic in Swaziland, to do cataract and other surgeries more quickly, safely and effectively.



*Glen Jackson visited an eye clinic in Swaziland to see his late brother's gift in action. The gift in Bob's Will was used to purchase an ophthalmic microscope.*

*“My most memorable moments were watching patients remove their bandages the morning after their surgeries – and see for the first time in years.”*

Not long ago, I visited that clinic myself. I wanted to see for myself how Bob's gift had been used – and to witness its impact firsthand.

What I saw astounded me. People who had been blind and incapacitated for years were getting the operations they'd dreamed of. My most memorable moments were watching patients remove their bandages the morning after their surgeries – and see for the first time in years. Many of them began to dance and sing and shout praises to the Lord.

It was a magnificent experience to be among them in their moment of extraordinary joy. I know that Bob would have felt so incredibly blessed to have been able to see the incredible impact that his legacy gift had made.

My brother planned the gift in his Will because he knew that his cancer was terminal. Most of us won't have advanced warning, so I think it's important that if we want to make such a gift, we do it now. ■



You can see Glen witness his brother Bob's legacy

gift in action at [www.cbmcanada.org/glenjackson](http://www.cbmcanada.org/glenjackson)



# WHY SHOULD I LEAVE A GIFT IN MY WILL?

For anyone making the gift of a lifetime to **cbm**, this is surely the most important question. You may want to consider some of the reasons that our other legacy donors have chosen to leave a gift.

## HERE ARE THE TOP FOUR POWERFUL REASONS THAT OUR SUPPORTERS LEAVE GIFTS IN THEIR WILLS:

1

**They feel that they've been called to do so by their faith in God.** In their hearts, they feel a desire to share God's love in a very real, meaningful way with children and families who've been affected by disability and shunned and cast off by people in their communities. In short, they want to change lives forever.

2

**These gifts give our most loyal supporters a deeper sense of meaning and purpose in their lives.** They say that once they've made a gift in their Wills, they feel great satisfaction because their gift has such a deep purpose. They feel more complete and whole, knowing God calls us to care for the most vulnerable people.

3

Some of our legacy donors tell us that they made gifts in their Wills – at least in part – **to set an example to their children or grandchildren.** Anyone who's been a parent knows that our children follow our actions much more than our words. Especially in this action of generosity and caring, we hope they'll follow in our footsteps.

4

Certainly, there are **financial considerations and tax benefits.** We strongly encourage you to consult with your financial or legal advisors about this. Although your gift in your Will is first and foremost a gesture of your love and an expression of your faith, it's good to know you're being financially savvy too.

*Some of our donors keep their gifts in their Wills private because that feels appropriate to them. And that's okay. We do appreciate when people tell us they are leaving a gift, because we would really like to thank them. This choice is, of course, yours to make.*



For more than 25 years, Grace Soukup has been building relationships with **cbm** donors through her work as Manager of Planned Giving. Grace is extremely passionate about the difference that **cbm** makes in the world. She loves nothing more than to hear from donors like you. If you would like to discuss the idea of making a gift to **cbm** in your Will, please feel free to contact Grace directly at any time you wish. She can be reached by phone at 1-800-567-2264 ext. 288 or by email at [plannedgiving@cbmcanada.org](mailto:plannedgiving@cbmcanada.org)

# A LOVE THAT CARRIES ON

## Grace Biehn

Young Grace Biehn grew up in Ontario surrounded by the church. Her father was a pastor, and Grace's family moved often. Later, Grace studied at Kitchener Bible College where she met and fell in love with a young man named Maynard Biehn. They married in 1956 and began their lives together.

Many years ago, Grace and Maynard began supporting **cbm** with annual donations. Later, when Grace's nephew lost his sight to glaucoma, Grace and Maynard became even more committed to **cbm**'s emphasis on helping those with disabilities.

Later still, Maynard told Grace that he wanted them to include **cbm** in their Wills. He very much wanted to continue bringing hope and healing to children and families in need well into the future.

In 2012, after 56 years of marriage, Maynard passed away. But Grace knows that Maynard's legacy of love lives on. She's made a legacy gift in her Will to **cbm** – just as her husband asked - that will transform the lives of people with disabilities in the developing world. ■



*"I feel supporting **cbm** is something that helps an awful lot of people. I wanted to continue on after Maynard died. I feel they are very dedicated to putting the money where it helps the most people."*

For more of Grace's story, go to [www.cbmcanada.org/gracebiehn](http://www.cbmcanada.org/gracebiehn)



# HELPFUL TIPS FOR LEAVING A GIFT IN YOUR WILL

## SAMPLE WORDING FOR A GIFT IN YOUR WILL



Leaving a gift in your Will is easy when you can just fill in the blanks. Here is some lawyer-approved sample wording you can use:

*I give and bequeath to Christian Blind Mission International, 3844 Stouffville Road, PO Box 800, Stouffville, Ontario, L4A 7Z9, 7% \_\_\_\_\_ of the residue of my estate (or the sum of \$ \_\_\_\_\_) for its general purposes. I direct that the receipt of the Treasurer for the time being of Christian Blind Mission International shall be a sufficient discharge to my Executor(s) for the payment of the said gift in my Will.*

### IS YOUR WILL UP TO DATE?

Many of us have Wills that are out of date. We might have made our Wills when our children were born – and then left them untouched for many years. As we get older, our circumstances change. It's a good idea to review your Will every three to four years to make sure it's up to date.

### DO YOU NEED ADVICE?

We firmly encourage you to seek professional advice when preparing your Will. Estate planning may be a straightforward process for some – while it could be quite complex for others. Your financial advisor or lawyer can help you navigate this process with ease. There are also tax considerations when making a Will, so it's always a good idea to take full advantage of expert advice.

*"His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!'"*

-Matthew 25:23 (NIV)

*Cataract surgery gives 4 year old Annuary a clear, joy-filled future.*



## **DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT LEAVING A GIFT IN YOUR WILL?**

Please fill out the reply form, call **1-800-567-2264 ext. 288** or email [plannedgiving@cbmcanada.org](mailto:plannedgiving@cbmcanada.org) and speak with Grace, our Manager of Planned Giving.

***We're always here to help you!***

**OUR VISION** A world in which all people living with or affected by disability are: VALUED as Jesus values them...ACCEPTED as equals...ABLE to achieve their God-given potential.

Christian Blind Mission International,  
3844 Stouffville Road, P.O. Box 800, Stouffville, ON L4A 7Z9  
Please use this name and address exactly if you're including a gift to  
Christian Blind Mission in your Will.

Charitable registration number: 10691 8329 RR0001

**cbm** is a Christian, international development organization that has been bringing hope and healing to children and their families trapped in poverty by disability for more than 100 years – because Jesus values everyone.

