

"The raging waves lifted themselves over and over, high above the ocean's depths, letting out their mighty roar! Yet at the sound of your voice they were all stilled by your might. What a majestic King, filled with power!"

-Psalm 93:4 TPT



John and Bev Cooper
Ministry Representatives
for
Northern California/Nevada

SEPTEMBER
2025

Image courtesy of Johnny Cache Images

More is caught
than taught.



FamilyLife Mission Trips invite families into a transformative journey of serving together, growing in spiritual oneness, and sharing the gospel across cultures. Whether in Guatemala, the Dominican Republic, Costa Rica, or even Ocean City, NJ, each trip blends practical outreach—like distributing clean water—with intentional discipleship and family bonding. Through devotions, training, and real-world ministry experiences, families gain confidence in sharing their faith and develop a lasting vision for God's global work. These trips are tailored to various life stages and designed to equip families for lifelong impact, both abroad and back home.

Not all mission trips make sense for all ages. It's best to look up our trips based on your family's current life stage.

Every mission trip makes an impact. Give your family a vision for walking with and serving Christ by doing ministry together with FamilyLife global missions.

Interested? Just go to [FAMILYLIFE.COM/MISSIONS](https://www.familylife.com/missions) check out upcoming mission locations, suggested ages, and costs.

Weekend to Remember
by FamilyLife

"This was exactly what we needed."

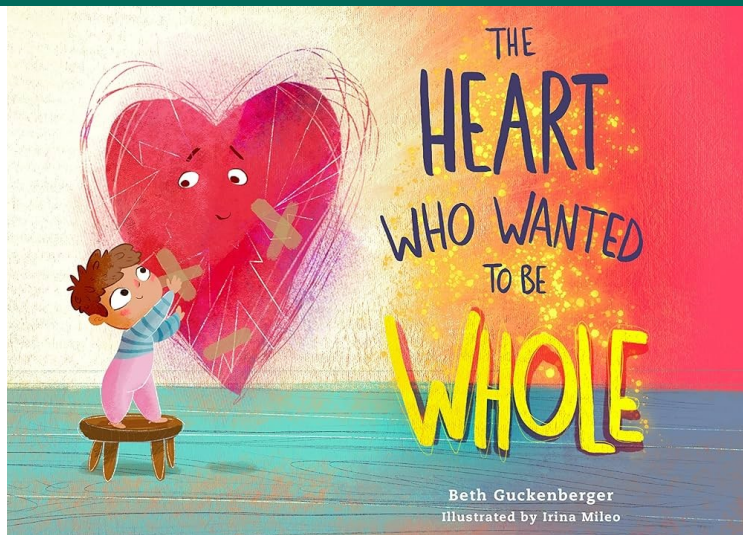
- 5 YEARS MARRIED.

Your marriage called...
it wants a weekend off.

Remember your *Weekend to Remember*? The laughter, the late-night talks, the "aha" moments that made you wonder why you didn't do this sooner? As a Ministry Partner, you're invited to enjoy another getaway—or send someone else—with a special rate of just \$60 per person. You can choose any U.S. location, and yes, your discount is transferable. That means your married kids, your in-laws, or that couple from church who still thinks "quality time" means assembling IKEA furniture together—they're all welcome.

Whether it's a gift, a gentle nudge, or a chance to reconnect yourself, this offer makes it easy to say yes. You'll be surprised how a few intentional hours can rekindle joy, deepen understanding, and remind couples why they started this journey together. Find your getaway location at [WEEKENDTOREMEMBER.COM](https://www.weekendtoremember.com).

To register, just reach out to me by email or phone (listed in the newsletter footer), and I'll take care of the details. It's a simple way to invest in a marriage, and maybe spark a few more "aha" moments along the way—moments that ripple far beyond the weekend.



One of the most memorable moments from our Cru training in Milwaukee was hearing Beth Guckenberger speak. A familiar voice at conferences, youth gatherings, and churches, Beth brings both passion and depth wherever she goes. She's the author of twelve books, serves with an international orphan care ministry, and sits on the Board of Directors for Cru. Together with her husband, Todd, they've raised eleven children—a beautiful blend of biological, foster, and adopted—reflecting the heart of their calling.

In Milwaukee, Beth Guckenberger introduced us to one of her many children's books. She shared her deep commitment to engaging the next generation with the truth of who God is. One of the most frequent questions she's asked is, "When is it too early to talk to children about evil? We don't want to scare them." Her response is both honest and disarming: "Disney has already taught them about evil!" She reminded us that children are the low-hanging fruit on the tree—ready and eager to learn. We must begin early, teaching them how to stand strong in their faith.

Beth went on to read her latest book, *The Heart Who Wanted to Be Whole*. Written for ages 4 to 8, the story follows a heart that's been hurt and longs to be healed. After trying to fix itself and listening to the wrong voices, the heart finally turns to the One who speaks truth—the Maker of heaven and earth. Through vibrant illustrations and Scripture, the book gently teaches children that God's words bring healing, light, and strength, even when emotions feel overwhelming. It's a powerful tool for helping kids understand how to guard their hearts and trust the One who makes them whole.

Scan the QR Code to hear Beth's inspiring message, "Presence Matters," shared at a missions conference.



Reel Impact:

Brian's Jesus Film Mission Trip in Ghana



This summary is adapted from a reflection originally written by Brian.

My ten days in Ghana were deeply eye-opening, marked by warm welcomes, sobering realities, and unforgettable faith. From Tamale to villages like Yendi, Navrongo, and Chiana, we visited churches that my home church partnered with, hearing stories of persecution—crops destroyed, families disowned, and believers banished to places like the "witch camp." Yet amid hardship, I witnessed profound joy and generosity, like the woman who said, "How could I not follow Christ when He has provided for all my needs?" Seeing churches unite to host a vibrant youth camp was inspiring, and most moving of all, 19 adults and many children made the decision to follow Jesus. Visiting Cape Coast Castle confronted me with the horrors of slavery and the urgent call for Christians to stand against such evil. I've come home with new friendships, lasting memories, and a renewed sense of conviction.



PRAYER NEEDS



Pray for our planning and implementing of the Hispanic **One Day to Remember** marriage conference. We need the word to go out to all the Bay area churches that have Hispanic services.



Pray for the volunteer leaders we are training that they would be able to understand all that they are being asked to do and have the band width to do it.

John & Bev