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The Power Prayer Over Global Poverty

Deepening Your Compassion for Six Countries in Need

Colorado Springs, CO - Countries around the world are facing devastating challenges—including famine, human trafficking, poverty and government corruption. According to humanitarian advocates **Amber and Michael Van Schooneveld**, "One of the greatest ways God exhorts us to act and to care for those in need is through prayer. Prayer is a powerful weapon that God has given us to help a world in need."



In their book ***Passport to Prayer*** (Group Publishing), the Van Schoonevels have created an eight-week Bible study to give women a deeper compassion for and understanding of global poverty through insightful action and prayer. ***Passport to Prayer*** includes statistics on six countries' deepest needs, discussion questions, Biblical encouragement and moving photos of the countries' citizens. The eight-week sessions include the following:

- Prayer for the World: 1.2 billion people live on less than \$1 a day
- Uganda: 65 million cases of malaria and 2.6 million cases of AIDS reported in a country of 28 million people.
- India: There is a deficit of 35 million women, partly due to female infanticide and abortion.
- Haiti: This is the poorest and least developed nation in the Western Hemisphere and plagued by poor infrastructure and government corruption.
- Thailand: A high rate of violence, drug dependence, government corruption and sex trafficking keep many in Thailand oppressed and in need.
- Bolivia: Some children are forced to work and endure extreme poverty, torture, corporal punishment, sexual abuse and human trafficking.
- Afghanistan: This country has suffered through devastating war, droughts, earthquakes, flash floods and persecution of women.
- Prayer for Vision: In this session women seek God's direction and how they can pray for, reach out to, and act in response to the needs they've learned about.

Passport to Prayer is an easy-to-follow Bible study for small groups, prayer groups or women's ministry. Also included are ideas for together time, food recipes from each country, in addition to short Bible lessons, ideas for taking action, and daily prayer cards. The Van Schooneveld's hope is that this journey will transform readers' thoughts and perspectives on urgent global issues into prayer and action.

Amber and Michael Van Schooneveld live in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Mike is a freelance author and editor. Amber is the author of *Hope Lives* and is an editorial manager at Compassion International.

About *Passport to Prayer: A Journey of Compassion*

Author: Amber and Michael Van Schooneveld. Published by Group Publishing. August 2009. Paperback, 120 pages. \$12.99 ISBN: 978-0764438400.

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Facts/Stats about Global Issues

Adapted from *Passport to Prayer*

- There are 1.2 billion people in the world living in extreme poverty on less than a dollar a day.
- There are 38.6 million people diagnosed with HIV worldwide.
- There are approximately 25,000 children under the age of 5 dying each day of hunger and preventable diseases.
- 1.2 million children are trafficked each year as slaves.
- A lack of clean water is killing almost 2 million people a year.
- 15.2 million children have lost one or both parents to AIDS.
- Malaria kills 1 million children each year, even though a bed net treated with insecticide that costs just \$10 could save them.
- Each year, over 5 million children die from illnesses and other conditions caused by their environments.

Interview Topics: *Passport to Prayer*

- **The Power of Prayer and Alleviating Poverty:** How people around the world can come together and pray for those in need.
- **The Nature of Poverty:** What are the causes and effects of poverty? How bad is poverty and other plagues around the world?
- **What We Can Do:** What are some ideas that people can do to respond to the crises around the world?