

The End of the Spear

One will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die, but God shows His love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we have now been justified by His blood, much more shall we be saved by Him.
Romans 5:7-9 NIV

So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed. John 8:36

For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Romans 6:23 ESV

The End of the Spear is the true story of five missionaries who were willing to risk their lives to teach the Waodoni tribe in Ecuador of God's saving grace. They studied the tribe and prayed for them regularly. Their whole families wanted the Waodoni tribe to come to know Jesus as Savior.

Is there anyone that you would risk your life to save? Is there someone who would risk their life for you?

Nate Saint, the missionary pilot, told his son, Steve, that the Waodoni's violent ways were like a trap, a prison they couldn't escape from. There are many traps and prisons that keep people from living life to its full potential. Anger, fear and self-doubt keep us from becoming the people that God created us to be. The Bible tells us that God wants us to be free.

What are some things that keep you captive? Can you forgive those who have hurt you?

God uses us ordinary people in extraordinary ways when we let Him. When we think only of ourselves and the things we would like to have our world is very small. When we look outside of ourselves and seek to help others it brings us joy beyond measure.

What have you given up for someone else?

When the five missionaries were killed, some of their families continued to reach out to the tribe. Rachel, Nate's sister, devoted the rest of her life to helping the Waodoni people. While few of us will live in foreign lands helping strangers, each of us can devote our lives to goodness and kindness right where we are.

Ask God to show you what kindness you can do for someone else today.

When Steve Saint, Nate's son, was growing up he often spent time with his Aunt Rachel in the jungle. Because of his faith in Christ he was able to forgive those who murdered his father. He became good friends with the Waodoni. The website www.stevesaint.com shows how Steve is helping tribes today. One of the first projects he did was a portable dental lab. Instead of bringing natives out of the jungle to fix their teeth, Steve taught the people how to do it themselves with portable equipment designed to work in the jungle. His ministry has expanded into many projects. How can you help change someone's life?

The missionaries knew that if the Waodoni tribe continued their violent ways that the Ecuadorian government would send in troops to stop them by force. The missionaries prayed that God would change the Waodoni people's hearts before they had to face judgment. God wants to change our hearts, also. The Bible tells us that we will all stand before God when He comes to judge the earth. He will set us free from the prisons and traps that hold us captive if we ask Him. Ask God to set you free from the sins in your life.

Dear Lord we thank You for Your saving grace. Take away the fear and doubt and anger in our lives. Forgive us for all that is wrong and replace it with Your loving kindness. Help us to forgive others because of Your love for us. Set us free to live for You. Fill our lives with Your peace and joy. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.