

KORE FOUNDATION – Beyond Relief

Summarized Script For Slide Presentation

1. KORE Foundation – Beyond Relief

A ministry initiative to offer sustainable alternatives to chronic poverty within Christian communities in developing nations.

2. Kore was a “businessman” mentioned in II Chronicles 31:14. After Ahaz, worst king in Judah’s history, died, Hezekiah his son became king. He was one of the best kings Judah had. Ahaz closed the temple and raised pagan altars throughout the land. Hezekiah reopened the temple, reestablished the Passover celebration and began a spiritual revival throughout the land. People began to tithe and bring their offerings to God, so much so, it took five months to collect, count and record all that was given. Kore was the man assigned the task of collecting and distributing those funds. He was to assist old and young alike, with special attention given to “the little ones”.

KORE Foundation is named after the man in II Chronicles 31.

3. There are nearly 7 billion people in the world. 4 billion make less than \$4 per day. 1 billion people make less than \$1 per day, old, young and many “little ones”. It is this category of chronic poverty, Christians making less than \$1 per day, where KORE focuses its ministry. We work with like minded Christian missionaries who focus on evangelism and discipleship. KORE offers a “tool” for missionaries – an economic foothold away from chronic poverty for Christians.

4. 2003 Dennis & Brenda Bratton traveled to Damoh, India. It was there they experienced for the first time the devastating effects of chronic poverty. After just a day or two, one begins to “look past” the human misery all around you. It is so pervasive, you simply cannot imagine doing anything about it, so you ignore it.

5. Then God showed them three “throw-away” children in India. Seema, Suraj and Chanda abandoned by their family. Three children with handicaps who were left to fend for themselves. The Bratton’s discovered this is not uncommon. In more than a few developing nations, due to a combination of poverty and religious superstition concerning physical handicaps, children are often severed from family and left on their own.

The Brattons acknowledged they could not help them all, but they could help these three, and have.

6. Everywhere one looks in India poverty is visible. Begging and scavaging is the daily routine. Struggling to figure a way to stay alive another day consumes their time and energy. It’s a difficult task to survive on \$1 a day.

6. But millions do. And KORE believes there needs to be a different “possibility” for those people, particularly for women and children, specifically for Christians.

7. The same poverty exists in Haiti. It was there before the earthquake in January, 2010. It is tragically worse since the earthquake. Millions in relief have flowed into Haiti, and their immediate needs are severe.

But what happens long term? How does our relief play out in the longer view? Does our immediate help fade as quickly as donations are exhausted? Is it possible we do more harm than good when our “relief” consistent of continual handouts? KORE is a ministry beyond relief, searching for sustainable options that impact the economic standing of people’s lives. KORE is not about feeding people, but enabling people to feed themselves.

8. 9 million people live in Haiti, the poorest nation in the western hemisphere. The majority live in chronic poverty, less than \$1 per day.

9. The poverty along the Amazon River is as severe. However, the river provides plenty of fresh water and food. The rain forest grows edible vegetation. But the opportunities to move out of economic poverty are nearly non-existent.

10. In Kenya, 800,000 people live around and on the Nairobi city dump in a place called Kosovo. Imagine the difficulty of living there, to say nothing of finding any pathway that leads away from there.

11. In Romania there are people who live in chronic poverty. According to published demographic studies, many in the Gypsy community live on \$1 or less per day. The opportunities to step away from that poverty without some kind of intervention is difficult, if not impossible.

12. KORE is working to assist three orphanages in Viet Nam where residents are handicapped or “throw-away” children. Due to capacity limitations each unit must ask their oldest residents to move out when babies are received. Those who leave are without resources or skill sets necessary for true independence.

13. KORE Foundation is a Christian response to chronic poverty. The plan is simple. Work with like minded missionaries to help chronically poor Christians, young and old alike, with particular attention given to “the little ones”. KORE believes in evangelism and discipleship. We also believe there should be a practical benefit to the Gospel in the life of Christians. The church has the best distribution capability in the world. A coordinated effort can reach the poorest of the poor with a helping hand.

14. K stands for Kindness – the touch of Jesus Christ in practical ways. Kindness motivates the efforts of KORE. Christian compassion is more than a hand out...more than just relief. It is the step beyond relief.

15. O stands for Opportunities – not a hand out but a hand up. We're not about feeding people but about enabling people to feed themselves. How does a person trapped in chronic poverty get out? They need capital. How do they get it? Will a bank loan it to them? Can they save it up themselves? Neither question is easily answered.

KORE is organized to offer opportunities that most people in chronic poverty don't have time to think about. KORE is continually searching for creative micro-enterprise opportunities that can provide that "step away from poverty." KORE is raising funding to be focused on offering these opportunities to worthy recipients.

16. R stands for Resources – micro-loans/micro-finance to enable people to benefit from their own work, to learn the dignity of self-reliance, to change the economic circumstances of their lives, to one day be able to fund their own churches and ministries, to one day be able to assist someone else who needs a helping hand.

17. E stands for Enterprise – sustainable alternatives to chronic poverty. Currently, small holder poultry enterprise is the best answer to \$1 a day poverty that Kore has found. With the help of the International Agriculture Department at University of Florida, we have a simple "chicken coop" plan, with a scientifically designed feeding program, that seems to be working very well. A micro-loan is offered for first year start up expenditures. The loan is paid back in the first 12 - 18 months and the "business owner" realizes an increase in his average annual income of 5 to 6 times in the first year.

Kore is also offering vocational training modules, along with an openness to missionaries' requests for specific micro-enterprise options that work best in their locale.

Bottom line is this, KORE offers another tool missionaries can use to help people in their ministries. Individual poultry business offers an economic opportunity with potential to grow exponentially within individual ministries. As loans are repaid, they are rolled forward to fund new start ups. Take a long view of this potential. If ten new businesses are begun each year for the next decade, along with the new business that are rolled forward each year, in ten years 550 families will be providing an improved food source for their community and income to support themselves and the ministries of their churches.

18. The first effort at this concept was in India at a farm named *Ashram*. This Hindi word means "refuge". "*Ashram*" is designed to be a refuge for orphaned and "throw-away" children in mid-India.

19. Several initiatives have already begun. Six churches worked together to purchase 100 acres and build a ten acre lake and dam in poverty laden Damoh, India. With the help of two universities a comprehensive agri, horti and aqua-culture plan was designed for the property. 5000 fruit trees were planted and individually drip irrigated. The plan is for the farm to fully fund operation of a 600 - 800 resident facility, offering work opportunities matched up with disabilities, enabling every resident the thrill of making their own paycheck and being a contributing member of their community.

20. Currently arrangements have been agreed to with the University of Florida to put two graduate student interns on the property in six month shifts, two at a time, overlapping each new pair by two months to assure continuity. KORE has funded this agreement. Interns will operate the farm to reach full income potential. They will train Christian men to be future farm managers. And they will institute a Vocational Agriculture curriculum for disabled children.

21. The lake has changed the water-shed management of the entire area. Wells in the area have consistently gone dry during the hot India summers, but have been fully hydrated the past three years since the construction of the lake. There is now a year-round water source for the farm, allowing irrigation and fish production.

22. The three children who inspired the *Ashram* Project are all teenagers now, active in their schools and the mission ministry. Two little brothers were dropped off at the mission recently making Seema's family number five now. The change in these kids' lives is the change KORE wants to pursue in the lives of thousands.

23. *Ashram* is a step away from poverty toward sustainable alternatives of economic change. *Ashram* also provides a safe place for Seema and others like her, to learn about God's love, while experiencing the dignity of self-reliance.

24. In Haiti Edsel Redden, University of Florida faculty member, operates F.I.S.H. Ministries where he feeds thousands of kids every week. His feeding program provides the protein they need in their diets. Edsel's Aquiculture ministry has expanded now to include goats and with KORE's partnership the small holder poultry enterprise

25. Individual owners receive micro-loans that allow them to build their own "chicken coop" They raise chicks in six week cycles, repaying their loans and increasing their economic standing five and six fold the first year. As loans are repaid, many then expand their own businesses. The repaid loans are continually reinvested in other Christian men or women to begin their "business". This single "tool" has great potential to change the landscape of Christian ministries in developing countries.

26. In Brazil Kore partners with Earl Haubner who leads Central Brazil Mission. Kore funded the purchase of the diesel engine for the new medical boat that will allow expansion of their Amazon River ministry. From their home base on the Amazon, Sao Sabastio, they travel to villages to provide medical care and establish churches. CBM has instituted both vocational and micro-enterprise initiatives to their Amazon efforts.

27. The new boat will allow this ministry to get to many villages requesting them to come, but who were beyond the reach of the older boat originally used to begin this ministry. Kore is proud to be connected with CBM already providing Christians of the Amazon sustainable alternatives to their poverty.

28. In Romania Kore works with Kevin Hoy of Smiles Foundation. Their work focuses on the Gypsy people of Romania, many of whom live in chronic poverty. Agreement has been reached

to begin the small holder poultry enterprise there. The level of poverty among Gypsies matches that of the Haitian population. According to Director Hoy, the “chicken coop” opportunity will elevate income levels six to seven times the average annual income in the first year alone.

29. Kore has contracted with Erik Kasper of Good Ministries to utilize refitted shipping containers for a variety of missions usages. The first 8' x 20' container went to Haiti for F.I.S.H. Ministries. It carried materials for ten chicken coops. It was insulated and will be used as a grain and feed depot for fish, chicken and goat “businesses”, allowing those enterprises to expand.

30. These containers can be custom designed in the states and shipped any place in the world. Missionaries can use them as clinics, housing, commerce centers, vocational training units housing a variety of training modules, grain depots, secure storage, etc. A model container will be displayed in the exhibit areas of both the North American Christian Convention and the National Missionary Convention in 2010.

31. The most cost effective models combine 8' x 40' units. Containers are completely fitted in Florida with all parts shipped in side, along with any additional materials requested by the missionary. This model contains 2700 sq. ft. of usable space including dorm rooms, examination rooms and open classroom space.

32. When the unit is assembled it provides a solid facility with multiple uses at a reasonable price. It is fully self-contained if necessary, including its own generator.

33. KORE Foundation - taking steps beyond relief...offering sustainable solutions to chronic poverty for Christians in developing nations. KORE is riding on a prevailing wind of change in the philosophy of many Christian individuals and ministries. There is a place for relief. But there is a an urgent need to step beyond relief, enabling Christians stuck in chronic poverty a foothold toward a better life.

KORE is looking for partners who resonate with this approach, not a hand out, but a helping hand offering sustainable alternatives to the poor.