



willkommen
tavtai morilogtun

welcome
i mirëpritur

bienvenido
ترحيب

karşılama
добродошао

**“LEARN TO DO WHAT IS RIGHT! PROMOTE JUSTICE!
GIVE THE OPPRESSED REASON TO CELEBRATE!
TAKE UP THE CAUSE OF THE ORPHAN!
.....!”** (Isaiah 1:17 NET)

Dear Friends,

I felt prompted by the Lord to come up with a **theme verse** for Surge International.

Because my football hero had worn the number 17 it had become "my number" playing youth football and baseball in my hometown.

When I played my first soccer at Azusa Pacific College, yup, you guessed it - I proudly wore number 17 all four years.

Well, early in my search for a verse the Lord brought me to **Isaiah 1:17**. "Wow" I thought, could this be the verse? *But the ending just didn't make sense for a soccer ministry.* I searched and searched some more and through the process the Lord always brought me back to Isaiah 1:17.

Still with no resolve regarding the ending of the verse I knew that Isaiah 1:17 was to be our theme verse.

The more I shared the verse the more I liked it and I found others very receptive to the verse as well.

Still something nagged at me from time to time. Had I chosen the verse just because 17 was my favorite number? *Had God really led me to this "incomplete" verse for our theme?* What sense did that make, an "incomplete" verse?

Once again I arrived in Vienna for the second of my three annual visits. These trips are always a "whirlwind" with my goal to simply walk in the shoes of our Surge staff. Take them to coffee, take them out for some meals, and go to soccer training with them and their soccer games. Visit our ministry partners. Listen to our staff successes and challenges, try and encourage them if they need encouragement. Generally I am on the go from early morning to late at night for seven solid days.

And then as the Lord so often does he "zinged" me. He made it clear that He had steered me towards Isaiah 1:17 and that the choice of this verse was His.

It was about my third day in Vienna when I was asking one of our staff members about their recent trip to Kosovo, and he said "we served at the Widow's Center." "Zinged", I said "Can you say that again?" Our staff was playing with the children of women who had lost their husbands during the ethnic cleansing; so the widows could go to school and to work to try and support their children.

And God had "completed" our theme verse in His time and his way.

**“LEARN TO DO WHAT IS RIGHT! PROMOTE JUSTICE!
GIVE THE OPPRESSED REASON TO CELEBRATE!
TAKE UP THE CAUSE OF THE ORPHAN!
DEFEND THE RIGHTS OF THE WIDOW!”** (Isaiah 1:17 NET)

As you know soccer is simply a tool for us to go boldly forward in faith to serve our awesome loving Father. Whether its leadership training in Mongolia or the sbux Bible study program in Vienna. Serving for 19 years at the orphanage in Tecate, Mexico or serving at the Widow's Center in Kosovo. We are fortunate to lead a team that includes our frontline staff - and you - our faithful prayer partners and financial supporters.

The Lord has put some dynamic plans in front of us, but we can't complete those tasks without your partnership. As the year comes to a close we ask for your continued prayers to help us move boldly forward in service to our Austrian teammates, the Muslim youth in the parks in Vienna, the Christian leaders we are helping to train for church planting in Mongolia and to the orphans, and widows in distress.

Your prayers and donations are a key to our ability to stay in ministry. If you are prompted to help at this time please send a check to: Surge International, PO Box 2689, Salem, OR 97308-2689 or donate online at: www.surgeint.org

Bringing hope through soccer,

Dave

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CEO,

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