

## THE STARFISH STORY

LOREN EISELEY (1907 - 1977)

Once upon a time, there was a wise man who used to go to the ocean to do his writing. He had a habit of walking on the beach before he began his work.

One day, as he was walking along the shore, he looked down the beach and saw a human figure moving like a dancer. He smiled to himself at the thought of someone who would dance to the day, and so, he walked faster to catch up.

As he got closer, he noticed that the figure was that of a young man, and that what he was doing was not dancing at all. The young man was reaching down to the shore, picking up small objects, and throwing them into the ocean.

He came closer still and called out "Good morning! May I ask what it is that you are doing?"

The young man paused, looked up, and replied "Throwing starfish into the ocean."

"I must ask, then, why are you throwing starfish into the ocean?" asked the somewhat startled wise man.

To this, the young man replied, "The sun is up and the tide is going out. If I don't throw them in, they'll die."

Upon hearing this, the wise man commented, "But, young man, do you not realize that there are miles and miles of beach and there are starfish all along every mile? You can't possibly make a difference!"

At this, the young man bent down, picked up yet another starfish, and threw it into the ocean. As it met the water, he said, "I made a difference to that one!"

## HEAR THEIR CRIES & CHANGE THEIR LIVES

### James 1:27

"Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world."

### Matthew 19:14

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."

## BIRTH OF STARFISH The Principle of **ONE**

2004- Vision

October 2006 – Incorporated as a Non-profit organization in Hong Kong

4 August 2011 - Starfish Charitable Trust was officially renamed to Starfish Charitable Foundation Limited

## FOOTPRINTS OF STARFISH



### STARFISH VISION

**Holistic care** : medical treatments, a clean environment, adequately equipped facilities coupled with trained workers to deliver proper and expedient healing to orphans and the poor children in China.

### STARFISH MISSION

To serve by appropriating medical treatments that could ease or even alleviate the sufferings of orphans with diverse medical conditions (eg club feet, cerebral palsy, spina bifida, cleft lips & palates, congenital heart disease, etc ...)

**STARFISH OBJECTIVES**

To increase the chances of adoption of these children.

To enhance the children to live a normal and healthy life

**HEALTH – WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION**

**Health** is a state of complete physical, mental and social (+spiritual) well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity.

### STARFISH MINISTRY

1. Medical – Operations of orphans with congenital diseases or disabilities
2. Social worker training
3. Management training
4. Feeding home
5. Youth program

### MEDICAL TREATMENT

1. Arrange operations in China Hospital by local doctors
2. Arrange operations in China Hospital by doctors from Hong Kong

## COMPASSION

Wisdom, **compassion**, and courage are the three universally recognized moral qualities of men.

*Confucius*

I have just three things to teach: simplicity, patience, **compassion**. These three are your greatest treasures.

*Lao Tzu*

## SOCIAL WORKER TRAINING

Training of the care givers in the orphanage in order to transform their mindset to provide holistic care including physical, emotional, psychological, social and spiritual needs of the orphans with **compassion** and love

### MANAGEMENT TRAINING - 5S

Excellent management of the orphanage in order to provide better living condition for the kids

1. Sorting
2. Systematize
3. Sanitize
4. Standardize
5. Self-discipline

### FEEDING HOME

Feeding of under-nourished children to equip them with a better pre-operative condition

## WHAT DO THESE CHILDREN HAVE IN COMMON



## FACTS ABOUT UNDERNOURISHED CHILDREN

- ❖ Close to over 30% of the children in the orphanages are underweight
- ❖ Over 80% of these undernourished children are born with cleft lips and cleft palates
- ❖ Difficulties for these children to ingest food due to their birth defects
- ❖ Orphanages are short of skilled workers who know how to feed such babies.

**STARFISH FEEDING HOME IN SHANGHAI**



**FEEDING HOME**



## YOUTH PROGRAM

To equip the orphans with self care and vocational training before they leave orphanages so that they can live an independent life

## GROWTH OF STARFISH

Unified vision

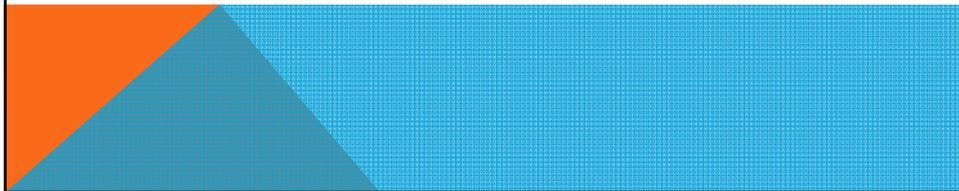
Faith based

# FAITH

Faith is taking the first step even when you do not see the whole staircase.

Take the first step in faith. You do not have to see the whole staircase, just take the first step.”

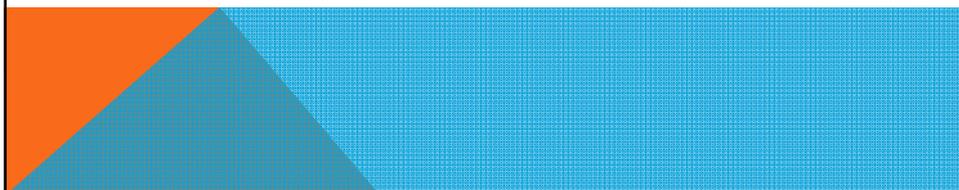
*Martin Luther King Jr.*



# HUMILITY

“There are two ways to live: you can live as if nothing is a miracle; you can live as if everything is a miracle.”

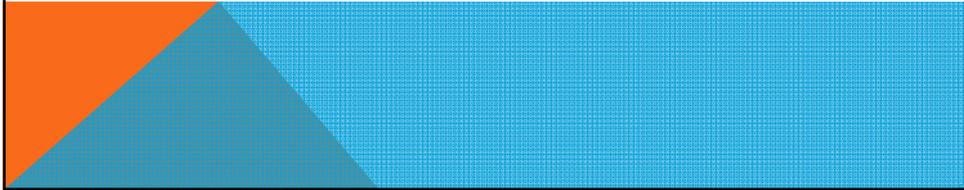
*Albert Einstein*



## COURAGE

“The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy.”

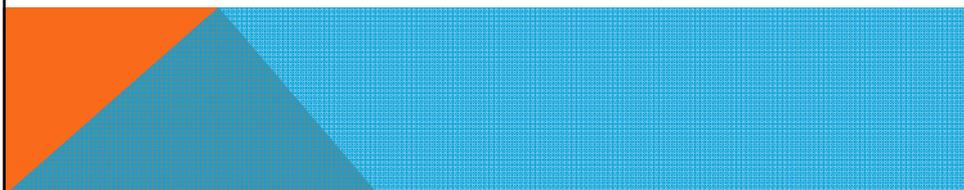
*Martin Luther King Jr.*



## PERSEVERANCE

“A person who never made a mistake never tried anything new.”

*Albert Einstein*



## **PARTNERSHIP – TEAM SPIRIT**

Do not walk behind me; I may not lead.  
Do not walk in front of me; I may not follow.  
Just walk beside me and be my friend.”

*Albert Camus*

## **ACTION**

By three methods we may learn wisdom:  
First, by reflection, which is noblest;  
Second, by imitation, which is easiest;  
and third by experience, which is the  
bitterest.

*Confucius*

# COMMITMENT

We live, not as we wish to, but  
as we can.

*Mencius*

## A BLIND BEGGAR ENCOUNTER JESUS

Then they came to Jericho. As Jesus and his disciples, together with a large crowd, were leaving the city, a **blind** man, Bartimaeus (which means "son of Timaeus"), was sitting by the roadside **begging**. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout, "Jesus, Son of David, have **mercy** on me!"

Many rebuked him and told him to be quiet, but he shouted all the more, "Son of David, have **mercy** on me!"

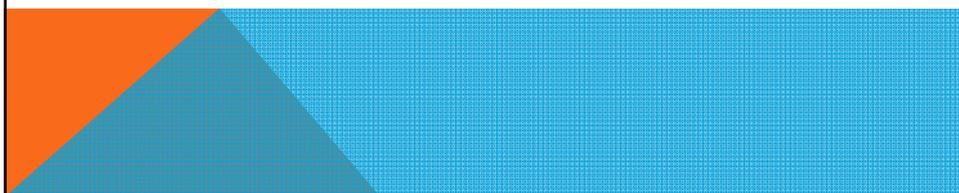
Jesus stopped and said, "Call him."

So they called to the blind man, "Cheer up! On your feet! He is calling you." Throwing his cloak aside, he jumped to his feet and came to Jesus.

"What do you want me to do for you?" Jesus asked him.

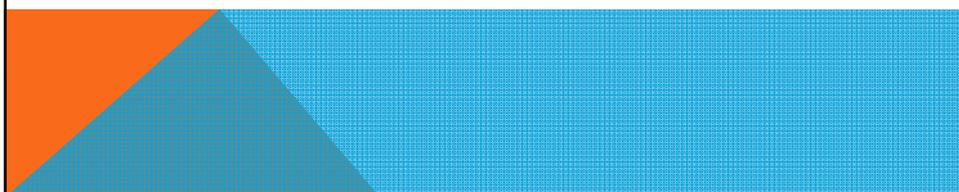
A BLIND BEGGAR ENCOUNTER JESUS

The blind man said,  
“Rabbi, I want to **see.**”



A BLIND BEGGAR ENCOUNTER JESUS

“Go,” said Jesus,  
“your **faith** has healed **you**”



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# SUSTAINABLE MINISTRY

**Leadership**  
with  
**Vision**

Robert Banks and Bernice Ledbetter (2004)

Managers achieve their goals by  
organizing and staffing

**Robert Banks and Bernice Ledbetter (2004)**

Leadership activity is aligning people by translating **vision** and **values** into **understandable** and **attainable acts**

Characteristics of leadership in terms of **vision** setting **direction**, **monitoring** trends, and **motivating** and **inspiring** people to **follow**

**Thank you**