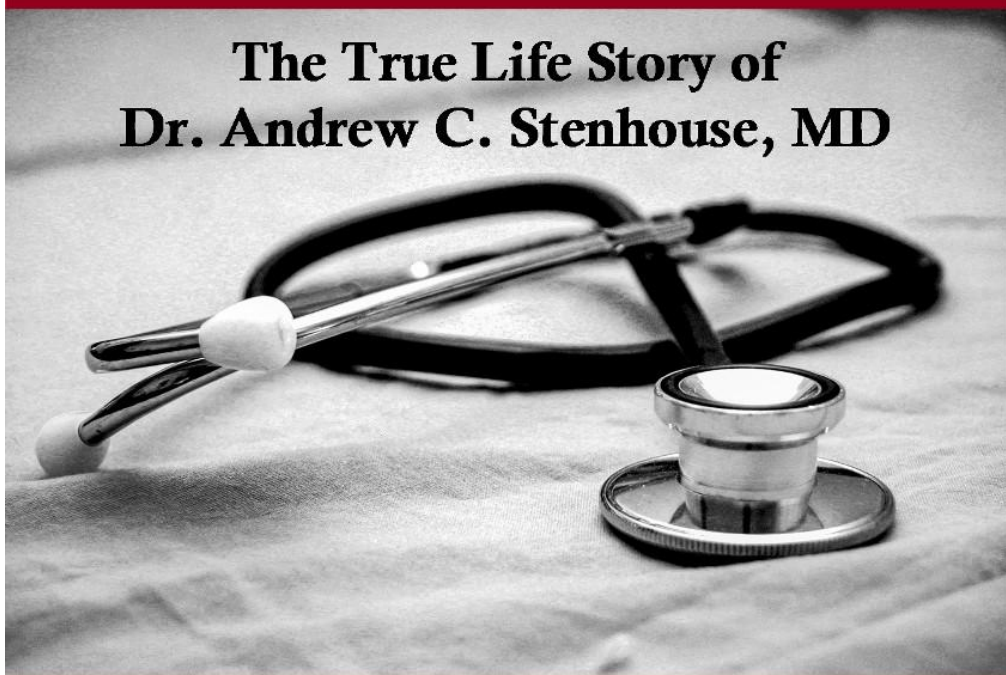


A WILLING HEART TO PLEASE THE FATHER

**The True Life Story of
Dr. Andrew C. Stenhouse, MD**



LEONARD M. LACROIX



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TO PLEASE THE
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PROLOGUE

I'm so glad you took the time to read this book. It contains the amazing true life story of my dear friend Dr. Andrew C. Stenhouse, MD, whom I have had the pleasure of knowing for around twenty-eight years. He began having supernatural encounters with God at a young age and received a very unique calling, when he heard God's audible voice to become a medical doctor.

Because of his willing heart to please the Father, he went on to serve as a physician on four continents over a period of fifty-five years, published several significant studies in various medical journals, and received numerous academic awards. He also experienced God's supernatural protection, guidance, and faithfulness, as well as unusual, divine results in the patients whom he cared for with a very special compassion that he had for people. His life is a living example of what it means to have a willing heart to please the Heavenly Father, which is something that's so important for all of us to have.

The audio recordings of the original interviews can be found at awillingheart.org along with the original transcripts. However, the manuscript of this book has been edited to correct factual and linguistic mistakes, as well as to make it easier and more enjoyable to read. Some liberty was taken, in consultation with Dr. Stenhouse and with his permission, to make such revisions to the text while ensuring accuracy. I believe this version is of a higher quality for reading, and I believe the Lord will use this story to speak to your heart.

— Leonard M. Lacroix



CHAPTER 1

Early Childhood: Carried on Angel's Wings

Len: Welcome to *A Willing Heart to Please the Father*! This is Len Lacroix, and I'm here tonight with Dr. Andrew Stenhouse. And we're going to begin our first segment of his autobiography, talking about his early childhood.

So, Andrew, I want to welcome you, and it's a pleasure to get this started tonight with you; so, welcome.

Dr. Stenhouse: Len, thank you so much! I do appreciate the opportunity to be with you on your program.

Len: Yeah!

Dr. Stenhouse: And you know, any time you have the opportunity to introduce anybody to the Lord Jesus is such a joy and such a pleasure.

Len: I know. Amen.

Dr. Stenhouse: And I think what I'll do is, because my early childhood was a little unusual, I'd like to just outline it for everybody so that

they'll understand where I'm sort of coming from, as the Lord works through me and on me.

Len: Yeah! Yeah, that would be great! And I thought it would be really interesting to begin with the time when you were seven years old, and then we can go back to the beginning.

But just to start with that story about what happened during the war when they were bombing London. Could you tell that to me again, please?

Dr. Stenhouse: Yes. When I was a boy, about seven years old, we were in the middle of the bombing from Germany. And, one evening, I woke up after I had been asleep, and there I was—I was being carried under the wings of an angel into the bombing zone. And the angel was talking to a partner angel on his left-hand side. And they were laughing and having such a good time dodging the bombs and staying out of the searchlights.

And I was able to take this for about ten, fifteen minutes, and then it got too much for a seven year old, and I started to cry.

The next thing I knew, I was back in my bed. And my father came in to me and asked me what was wrong, and I told him what had happened and he gave me a weird look. But, other than that, I went back to sleep, and he didn't say much more after that.

Len: Yeah. That would be pretty neat.

Dr. Stenhouse: The same situation happened again, where I found myself under the soft wings of an angel. It was really cozy and nice, and I was being carried under his right wings.

Len: Wow!

Dr. Stenhouse: And it was the same alternative angel, as far as I could tell. And they were taking me in another ride through London, through the lights, and just missing the bombs and so on.

Again, after about ten minutes, I cried, and they took me back, and I then woke up in my bed. And Dad came in again and asked if I was all right.

But most of the nights, we wouldn't be in our beds. We would be under the stairs to rest, in case the house was hit and shrapnel and stuff was coming round. So anyway that's the story of when I was about seven years old.

Len: Now we started off with you at age seven, but take us back to where you were born, and a little bit about your parents' nationality.

Dr. Stenhouse: Ok. Well I was born in Detroit, Michigan in 1934. And my mother and father had known each other in Scotland and came over to the United States.

My mother worked in a store as a buyer and always told me, "In case you want to be a buyer in a clothing store, the way you make money is by buying correctly and not selling." So it sells itself. And that's all I remember from my mother.

My dad worked for General Motors as a spring designer. Later in England, he worked for their European subsidiary Vauxhall Motors, but that was short-lived. At the beginning of the war, he was put in charge of all the British steel for the war effort and occasionally would take me on a ride up in his car. He didn't have his own car, but they had a chauffeur drive him in one. So I remember going several times up to the Midlands of England enjoying the time with my father.

Len: But you were initially growing up in Detroit, right?

Dr. Stenhouse: Yes. We went back to England just before the beginning of the war.

Len: Yeah, so when you were back in Detroit, he was with General Motors.

Dr. Stenhouse: Yes.

Len: Now what was your parents' nationality?

Dr. Stenhouse: My parents' nationality was Scottish...Great Britain.

Len: Ok. And what was their faith?

Dr. Stenhouse: Well, both of them were believers—strong believers and were members of a Plymouth Brethren collection of believers or church.

Len: Ok. So you said that you went back to England, where you lived north of London. How did you get over there from the U.S.?

Dr. Stenhouse: We went by boat. And the only thing I remember much about the boat is that it was really quite comfortable, and a whale ran into the side of the boat. But other than that, I remember very little about the boat trip up there.

Len: During that era, weren't there German u-boats that were known to attack even civilian liners like that?

Dr. Stenhouse: Yes that's right. And my parents took the risk, because they had to get back to Britain—my father for his work, and my mother to help take care of us two—my sister and I.

Len: And, you know, one of the things that you had talked to me about was our Heavenly Father's desire for us to have a willing heart. I think that was something that you had said was important.

Dr. Stenhouse: Oh, yes! I think as we go through the very things that happened in my life, that the important thing is to realize that we're not in a religion, really, we're in a relationship with our Heavenly Father.

Len: Absolutely!

Dr. Stenhouse: And He has called each one of us separately to be related to Him. And He sent His Son, the Lord Jesus, to die on the cross in order that He could take our sins in His body on the tree and make the way for us to have eternal life.

Len: Thank you very much! That was excellent! I really appreciate you sharing that about your birth and early childhood. And we're going to wrap this segment up right now, for today. So thank you very much, Andrew, for joining us! We really appreciate you sharing that today.

Dr. Stenhouse: Thank you, Len!



CHAPTER 2

Later Childhood: God's Protection during Bombing

Len: Welcome to *A Willing Heart to Please the Father*! This is Len Lacroix, and I'm here tonight with Dr. Andrew Stenhouse, and we're going to be talking about his later childhood experiences tonight. So I want to welcome you back, Andrew, to the program.

Dr. Stenhouse: Yes...

Len: So when you were back in England, being raised there, any other things that you want to talk about, regarding your Christian upbringing or about any of the wartime experiences?

Dr. Stenhouse: Wartime was a miserable time. Then we were evacuated next to Scotland, where my grandparents lived—my grandmothers. And with this going on, the train that we went on was being bombed. And I tried to reassure my mother and sister that it was going to be all right, that Jesus was going to take care of us. And sure enough, nothing happened to the carriage or to the engine or the train. We got through all right from London to Scotland.

And I was able to go up and down corridor of this long carriage and tell people, "It's going to be all right. Jesus is with us. He'll take care of us." That was the way we did in getting into Glasgow.

Len: Yeah, very interesting

Dr. Stenhouse: When we arrived in Scotland, where there were a lot of things going on over the water, there were planes crashing into each other—pushing and getting things taken care of in the air. Because across from where we were staying in Scotland, there was a loch (lake) called the Holy Loch. And the submarines were being produced in the Holy Loch, and Germany was anxious to get rid of them, and so that was a trauma for us.

When I went to school, we would see planes from Germany and planes from England and Scotland, fighting each other as we were going to school, over the waters of the west coast of Scotland. And so, it was quite interesting and not very nice to see ships being bombed and planes falling into the water.

And at the time, it was difficult for me to understand what was going on, in a way. But I was very close to the Lord; He was very close to me, and it was just a joy to do anything in regard to serving Him or in any way pleasing Him. And during this time, we were offered the opportunity to win a Bible by memorizing Psalm 1 and Psalm 145; and a wonderful Jewish gentleman said he would give us a Bible when we were able to do this. And so anyway, being a bit of a bad guy, in a way—no, not a bad guy, but a guy that wants to do things in a hurry, I went into the bathroom for the Sunday school class and started to learn Psalm 1. So, I can really remember Psalm 1 well. And so, Psalm 145 was a little more difficult and took me several weeks to learn that. And as a result of that, my mother got my Bible. I got a Bible and I gave it to her, and she used it as her favorite Bible for the rest of her life.

Len: Wow!

Can you share about how you came to know the Lord?

Dr. Stenhouse: Yes, I'd like to share that. To me, it was a very special thing when I came to know the Lord. It was really earlier in my life that I had a love for Him and a trust in Him and a faith in Him that couldn't be explained on a natural means. And so, when I came to know the Lord, I didn't get baptized until I was a little later, but then I realized the importance of being baptized, and that was what I did. And, I can still remember the details of my baptism. It seems to me that a baptism for some is a most important part of their salvation.

Len: Definitely.

Dr. Stenhouse: Not that you won't be saved if you don't get baptized, but if you are disobedient to the Lord about baptism, it seems to hold back your relationship with the Father.

Len: Yeah, it does. So, was it in a baptismal fount or outside in a lake or river that you were baptized?

Dr. Stenhouse: I was baptized inside the church. And I was totally immersed in the water, and came up and felt quite different. It was something very special.

Len: Yeah, and like you said, there's nothing more important than an individual having a relationship with the Lord.

Dr. Stenhouse: Yes, you know, today as you look around the world, the world is not in any way relating itself to the Heavenly Father or to our Creator or our Redeemer or the Holy Spirit.

Len: Right.

Dr. Stenhouse: And this is different than it was even fifty, sixty years ago, or even when I was baptized. And my concern today is for everybody to have a relationship, not with religion, but with the Heavenly Father and with His Son the Lord Jesus Christ and to come into a knowledge of the Holy Spirit through the Lord Jesus Christ.

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So this is the reason really why I would like to just explain a little bit about my life and about the way the Father takes care of us, Jesus takes care of us, and the Holy Spirit takes care of us all through our lives, no matter what we do. We're not perfect, but if we have a desire to please Him, then that's what He wants.

Len: That's right.

Perhaps you could tell us that story about your favorite hymn in Sunday school. Can you talk about that a little bit?

Dr. Stenhouse: Well, yes, I was asked during a Sunday school class that we had by a visiting preacher.

And he said, "Any of you kids got a favorite hymn?"

And of course, I put up my hand and said, "Yes, sir! Yes, sir, I do! 'There is a fountain filled with blood drawn from Emanuel's veins, and sinners plunged beneath that flood lose all their guilty stains.'" And so, we were able to sing that hymn; and I just felt so lovely about the Father and about Jesus shedding His blood for us all.

Len: Hallelujah. Well, that is excellent, and that's going to conclude our second segment on your later childhood. I want to thank you for sharing these things with me tonight and with our audience, and I look forward to our next talk together, when we talk about your teen years. So until then, thank you very much. And, have a good night, Andrew.

Dr. Stenhouse: You too, Len. Thank you.



CHAPTER 3

Teen Years: Choosing a Career Path

Len: Welcome to *A Willing Heart to Please the Father*! This is Len Lacroix, and I'm here tonight, joined by my guest, Dr. Andrew Stenhouse. And tonight we're going to be talking about his teen years, so you're in for a real treat tonight, as we talk about that segment of his life. So, Andrew, I want to welcome you back to the program.

Dr. Stenhouse: Thank you, Len. It is so lovely to be back with you this evening, again, and to bring the next introduction of what's been happening in my life. This covers the years from when I was thirteen through seventeen.

And, during this time, we made a transition as a family from Scotland to New Zealand. And the decisions I had to make—or challenges, really, that I had to make regarding my further schooling and further choice of a ministry, or rather a choice of what I would like to do for the rest of my life...

Len: Why don't we start with some experiences that you'd like to share that happened during that period, before we go into your move from Scotland to New Zealand. Are there any experiences that you

remember from that period that you want to talk about that happened before the move?

Dr. Stenhouse: I think the main thing that happened was my father was exhausted from his continual work for many years during World War II. And my parents had had relatives living in New Zealand, so it was a natural thing for them to consider going over there and to get some peace from the terrible time during World War II.

Len: Okay. So your father initially moved from Detroit, Michigan, USA to England to work for General Motors (GM) in London. However, when the war began, he was put in charge of the steel for all of Great Britain for the war effort. That included springs, planes, tanks, and everything else made of steel. That required him to travel to all the steel plants in the countryside and to London every day, which was exhausting.

Dr. Stenhouse: That's correct.

Len: So then you all moved from Scotland to New Zealand. Right?

Dr. Stenhouse: Yes, we went from England to Scotland, and from Scotland to New Zealand. And my father had relatives over there, which made it quite smooth to make that trip.

Len: Yeah, sure. Is there anything you want to talk about with respect to the actual move that you made?

Dr. Stenhouse: No, not really, except that it was a bit traumatic for me going from one college to another college with different programs and different outlines for students and, of course, different times.

But our trip from Scotland to New Zealand was very interesting. I did well in the Scotland school and actually got a medal in mathematics, which surprised everybody. And then we were moving over to New Zealand.

During the trip to New Zealand, the interesting thing on that trip was going through the Suez Canal. And going through the Suez Canal, my father had written a thesis for a master's degree at the University of London on "The Source of Water for Israel".

And so he had written this, and I had helped him with the mapping, and so on, of the charts. And he felt that I would be a natural to do this sort of thing in New Zealand. So this is what I started off on. I went to school there for a year or so and then went into university, in Wellington, New Zealand, and started in geological survey as a follow-up to my father's master's degree from University of London.

Len: Ok, so when you went to the university, how old were you?

Dr. Stenhouse: I was sixteen. I couldn't go earlier than sixteen. I was sixteen when I went to university, and you were able to go there, then.

Len: Wow! That's pretty young to be going into university! Was that unusual, in that era?

Dr. Stenhouse: Yes, it was a little unusual. And it allowed me to go during the day and work after hours as a helper in a restaurant. So that was what I did to help make some money for us all.

Len: Ok. Now because of the help you gave your dad on the map work for his thesis—did you spend any time working on mapping, such as any kind of studies in that area, at all, or any work in that area?

Dr. Stenhouse: Yes, when I was fifteen, I worked in a mapping department and lands and survey department and took exams on my mapping there and passed those. And then I moved over from the mapping section to the geology section.

Len: Ok. So, when you were on your trip through the Suez Canal, how did that tie in with his master's thesis on water supply for Israel?

Dr. Stenhouse: Well, my father did that for a master's degree in University of London and forwarded it over to there. But I told him, when we were on the trip to New Zealand, I said, "Dad, you need to get off this boat and go to Israel to see these things that we mapped out."

And Dad said to me, "No, I'm so sorry, I'm not able to do that. I'm not able to do that."

Len: Yeah. So now talk to me a little bit about your decision regarding which career you would pursue.

Dr. Stenhouse: I went home one holiday, just before I was sixteen, to northern New Zealand where my father was working (at this time, he was working as a teacher). And we spent about two weeks going through all of the various things I thought I could work in, and we never reached anything other than the possibility of being a geologist. And that was why I came back and entered geological survey, as a cartographer, and took it up as a career at the university by taking on geology as a major.

Len: I see. Because there was one point at which your father—you had said that he had artistic skills and thought that you would do well in the art field.

Dr. Stenhouse: Yes, well the reason for that was that I helped him out with his mapping, very well, and he thought it was a natural thing for me to do.

Len: Yeah! So you entered into geological studies at what school in New Zealand?

Dr. Stenhouse: At the Wellington University in Wellington, New Zealand.

Len: Yeah, interesting! Well, that brings us to the conclusion of this podcast, talking about your teen years. And it's very interesting to see how you made that decision on which career path to pursue. And it's also easy to see why you'd pick that, because of the natural talent that you had with the mapping—or cartography, as you called it.


But what we're going to see in the next segment is how God redirected you into the career path that *He* wanted you in. And it's going to be very interesting for our listeners to listen to that one, because it really shows how, in Proverbs 16:9, it tells us that, "In a man's heart he plans his course, but the Lord determines his steps." And so you had planned your course, but we're going to find out in the next segment how God redirected your steps.

Dr. Stenhouse: Ok, Len. That sounds good!

Len: So I want to thank you very much for sharing that today and for being on the program. And I look forward to our next chat together, Andrew.

Dr. Stenhouse: Thank you, Len! Thank you so much!

Len: You're welcome.



CHAPTER 4

Called to Be a Doctor: The Voice That Changed Everything

Len: Welcome to *A Willing Heart to Please the Father*! This is Len Lacroix, and I'm here tonight, joined by my guest, Dr. Andrew Stenhouse. And tonight we're going to be talking about his call to become a doctor. Welcome to the program, Andrew.

Dr. Stenhouse: Thank you, Len. It is so lovely to be back with you again this evening.

Len: I wanted to ask you, Andrew, if you could please tell me that part about when you first received your call. You had been a geology student, but then a female friend invited you to church, and while you were sitting there in church with her, you told me one time that you heard God speak to you in an audible voice and called you to be a doctor. So pick it up with the friend inviting you and go from there with that piece where you were in the church and how you heard from God.

Dr. Stenhouse: Well, this was a worship service. And I loved that and loved to go. And then during the preaching part, I heard the audible voice of God speak to me on the right side of my body. And I said to the young lady Ruth, "Did you hear somebody talk?"

She said, "Shush, Andrew. You don't talk in church."

I said, "I know."

And then the next thing that happened was it was the audible voice of God telling me I was going to be a doctor. And then nothing happened for a few minutes, and then suddenly, my whole body started to shake like a rag doll and it interfered with the service.

And I suddenly said, "This is my Creator doing this." And I started talking to God and telling Him how I hated the war in London during World War II and the bombs and blood and guts and people not coming back to school. And the one thing I didn't want to do was be a doctor.

So I kept on talking and the shaking got worse and worse. So I had to stop, thinking I might physically die. And so the next thing that happened was that I stopped talking, the shaking stopped, and then the voice spoke to me, not from my right side, but from the lower left side of my body.

And it's as though the Holy Spirit or God was surrounding me, and said, "You will be a doctor." It was a command.

And I said, "Yes, Lord, I will be a doctor."

And that was how I got in, and from then on nothing else mattered in my life. I immediately resigned from geology courses and also the geological survey where I was working. I was about seventeen at that time.

Len: Wow!

Dr. Stenhouse: And I changed islands, went to the South Island, and took up pre-med at that time. None of the courses had I taken in the past. I had taken languages and geology mainly, and mathematics.

And here I was doing courses that people have been trained for all their lives.

Len: Wow! Now you said the South Island...what country was that?

Dr. Stenhouse: That's New Zealand.

Len: Okay, so this all happened in New Zealand. And it was a sister in Christ named Ruth that invited you to church.

Dr. Stenhouse: Yes.

Len: Now when you were in that service—two things I want to know about it, if you can tell me. Do you remember when God first told you to be a doctor, how He said it to you? Not that it really matters, but do you remember what words He used when He said it the first time on your right side?

Dr. Stenhouse: Yes, as far as I remember, "You are to be a doctor." "You are going to be a doctor," or something like that.

Len: Yeah. Now the other thing I wanted to know was, when you say it disrupted the service, did you have pretty much a lot of people now with their attention focused on you?

Dr. Stenhouse: Yes, and everybody was moving away, as far as I know. And I left the service at that point after the whole thing was over. I didn't stay in the service, because I couldn't focus on anything else.

Len: Yeah, so people probably thought you were kind of strange.

Dr. Stenhouse: Yes, very strange. And I had actually been brought up very strictly and didn't realize that God would do that.

A WILLING HEART TO PLEASE THE FATHER

Len: Yeah, I mean, you would never have done anything like that on your own.

Dr. Stenhouse: Oh, no! Absolutely not! And everybody that I would tell it to thought I was nuts, you know.

Len: No doubt they did. Well, Andrew, I want to thank you very much for sharing that today and for being on the program, and I look forward to our next visit together.

Dr. Stenhouse: Thank you, Len!

Len: You're welcome.



CHAPTER 5

Medical Studies: Confirmations of God's Direction

Len: Welcome to *A Willing Heart to Please the Father*! This is Len Lacroix, and I'm back again with Dr. Andrew Stenhouse. And we're talking today about the next segment of his life, following his call to be a doctor that he received. So, Andrew, I want to welcome you back to the program.

Dr. Stenhouse: Thank you, Len, I love being with you all.

Len: Yeah! It's great to have you! And I'm looking forward to our talk tonight. I want to start by picking it up right where we left off, where you had received that call to be a doctor, and after you had been already in college studying to be a cartographer in the geology school. Then you entered into the study of medicine.

So can you talk to us about that step that you took to change your course of study and go into the study of medicine?

Dr. Stenhouse: Right, Len. When you get a call from the Lord, it's something that takes over your whole life. And I had never had really anything like that before, but my whole life changed instantly. And I

immediately went in on Monday after the Saturday when I received the call to be a doctor and heard the Lord's voice.

And I found that when I went in there, it was very easy for me to change from geology to medicine, because I found that I had done a very good map for the geology people. But they tore it up and told me I did it too quickly! So that was another confirmation from the Lord. And so I told them that I would be resigning and moving immediately to the South Island, to Dunedin where the medical school is—in New Zealand, at that time. And so that was the change that came quickly, and I did everything that I needed to do to get down there and to get started.

And one of the interesting things that happened down there that was kind of a confirmation to me was there were two of us left with the professor to be partners, because we didn't know anybody else—he didn't know anybody else, and I didn't know anybody else. So anyway the lady who was in charge of the physics department said to the other man, "What is your name?"

And he said, "David Stenhouse."

And I said, "What?!"

And she said, "What is your name?"

And I said, "Andrew Stenhouse."

And here we were; the only two people with Stenhouse's name that we knew in New Zealand were right next to each other there, so that was another confirmation from the Lord.

Len: Yeah!

Dr. Stenhouse: And from then on, we went into medical school and, really, everything was stable from year to year, and it was getting

easier and easier for me to do well in my studies, because the Lord was with me at every stage.

And, in addition to that, Len, I was very good about going to church on Sunday and not studying on Sunday. And I think the Lord honored that by what happens after all this.

Len: I would agree.

Dr. Stenhouse: So that was the next stage of my life, going through the next four years of medical school. And at the end of the fourth year, I was given a research year grant in experimental virology. I chose that because we had a new professor just come over from Cambridge who brought some cultures of different things with him—different plants and things. And we were able to start doing research on a project that he had in his mind. So that was the change that occurred at the end of the fourth year. And my fifth year was the research year, doing a research degree, which I did and got an extra degree from it—a Bachelor of Medical Science, which was a separate thing from the medical exams at the end of the sixth year.

Len: I see. Now as part of your fifth year, you went to the Cook Islands in the South Pacific—to an island called Rarotonga, where you conducted your required public-health investigation. And I just want to let our listeners know a little bit about that place. First of all, you want to picture a place where it's clear aqua-blue water, white-sand beaches, palm trees and coconut trees, huts and grass roofs, right? And it's hundreds of miles away from where you had been in New Zealand. So this is a little, tiny dot out in the South Pacific Ocean, hundreds of miles from New Zealand. Is that correct?

Dr. Stenhouse: Yes, that's correct. And, it was interesting—of course with my research knowledge that I had obtained in New Zealand—I was able to go with two professors (and be their go-to guy, I think) to do research with them in Rarotonga.

Len: I see.

Dr. Stenhouse: And so that was a very exciting time in my life. And when I went on a pier at the place I was to get on a ship, I couldn't see any ship there until I looked over the edge, and there was a tiny ship at the bottom of the pier. And I had to go down onto the ship, not up into it! And so, anyway, that was the beginning of my trip to Rarotonga

Len: That little ship had what kind of engine?

Dr. Stenhouse: It seemed almost like an outboard engine and went at about six knots or seven knots across the Pacific.

Len: Amazing!

Dr. Stenhouse: And we were in a mini typhoon, also, with huge waves coming on board the ship. But we managed to get from Auckland, New Zealand to Rarotonga.

Len: It's amazing that you made it on that little thing!

Dr. Stenhouse: Ha-ha-ha!

Len: So then, how long did you spend in Rarotonga?

Dr. Stenhouse: I was there for four or five months.

Len: And you were doing other things like...

Dr. Stenhouse: I delivered babies, and I did some suturing. And I learned a lot of the island's habits. And one of the islands called Mangia was a different type of island; it was kind of wild. And I would be sewing up people's ears, because the men would come in with their ears chewed off by the ladies in Mangia. So it was quite interesting doing surgical repairs on men who had their ears nearly taken off.

Len: Yeah, I've heard of that before in the South Pacific islands.

Dr. Stenhouse: Then I did the deliveries, as well, in the hospital. And it helped the surgeon out. There was a surgeon there who was a very nice man, and I felt good about helping him.

I did some work on diphtheria, because there was no evidence of diphtheria in Rarotonga, which is unusual for children not to have it. And we found out that on the reefs there were diphtheria organisms, which they got resistance to when they would go swimming and rubbing against the reefs in Rarotonga. So that was one of the things that we found out there.

Len: Yeah. So, while you were there did you have to learn some of the language they spoke there?

Dr. Stenhouse: Yes, I learned to speak Rarotongan on a small scale, but enough to get by, talking to people. It was quite a different language than I'd ever seen in my life before.

Len: Interesting. Now, when it came time for you to finish your work there and leave—tell me about your departure from Rarotonga.

Dr. Stenhouse: Oh, the departure from Rarotonga was most interesting. The people that were there in the hospital put on a meal for us—for the two professors and myself. And we had three nurses assigned to each one of us. And what they would do is they would keep our orange juice filled on the table; and then the other one would make sure we had enough to eat; and the third one would fan us with a big, huge fan to keep us cool, because there was a lot of warm air coming in from the ocean, so.

Len: That was quite a sending-away party!

Dr. Stenhouse: Yes! It was really interesting!

Len: And then you returned from Rarotonga. And, at that point, when you returned, where did you return to?

Dr. Stenhouse: Well, I returned initially from Rarotonga back to Hamilton, because I was assigned to Hamilton as the place where I would be completing my fifth year as a medical student.¹

Len: Ok.

Dr. Stenhouse: But it was very interesting getting to Hamilton, because I was assigned to this surgeon—it was quite interesting—the surgeon himself was a very interesting type of person. He had been in World War II during the bombing in London. So we got to know each other quite well.

But the interesting thing—and the thing that the Lord used to encourage me in what we were doing—was that the first patient we saw in the surgical ward was one that they couldn't make a diagnosis on. I had seen such a case in Rarotonga—and you don't see it very often anywhere else—and that was a huge mass in one of the groins down between the abdominal wall and the upper leg. And there was a huge mass there, and they couldn't work out the diagnosis.

And I spoke to the guy in Rarotongan, which blew them away; and he answered me in Rarotongan. So I told the surgeon what was wrong with him, because I'd seen a case of this while I was in Rarotonga. And it was a diagnosis of a huge lymph node mass due to an organism that was floating around at that time.

And so anyway, I told him what the diagnosis was and what the treatment was. And so he was literally upset that a student knew more than what he did. So, anyway, he didn't talk to me again until Monday afternoon. And we were operating together, Monday morning, and eventually he calmed down.

And we went into the afternoon after we'd had lunch, and the first patient that we saw was a lady. And I didn't say anything, of course, but he was talking to her. And then he said something to me, and I answered him the question. And the lady said, "Andrew!"

And I looked at her, and I said, "Ruth!"

And here was Ruth, the lady that had taken me to the church that one Saturday night a few years earlier to the student service at Church in Wellington, New Zealand, hundreds of miles away, when I had been a geology student. That was the service in which I had heard the audible call of God to be a doctor, which changed my whole life.

Len: Yeah. Amazing!

Dr. Stenhouse: And so, anyway we got to know each other. And, knowing her, I stepped out of the room, because I didn't want to be involved in any medical stuff with her.

And she took me home to where she was living with her husband, and they had two children. And the husband and the two children were real nervous around me, and didn't come near me, because of what she had told them, and about the past.

So that was the Lord's really confirming to me. It's amazing, when you do what the Lord says, He confirms things all along the way that may not mean to anybody else anything, but to me they were very important things that we were on the right track.

Len: Yeah. God revealed His faithfulness to you, didn't He? Well, praise God! That brings us to the end of our segment for today. So thank you very much for sharing that! And we're going to close here, and we'll pick it up next time with the next phase that comes after that. So thanks a lot, Andrew.

Dr. Stenhouse: Thank you, all!

Len: You're welcome! Have a good night!

Dr. Stenhouse: Blessings!

Len: God bless you too.

¹ Footnote: Dr. Stenhouse later completed his sixth year of medical studies in Christchurch, NZ, followed by his first resident house surgeon's year back in Hamilton, and his second resident house surgeon's year in Murupara, NZ.



CHAPTER 6

Residency: Delivering Island Babies

Len: Welcome to *A Willing Heart to Please the Father*. This is Len Lacroix, and I'm here tonight with my guest, Dr. Andrew Stenhouse. And we are here for another chapter of his life. And, Andrew, I want to welcome you back to the program.

Dr. Stenhouse: Thank you, Len, I appreciate it. And I enjoy these sessions, because they, I hope, glorify the Lord and don't in any way glorify me, because without the Lord I would have been down a hole.

Len: Yes. Well they have. And I think it's going to bless a lot of people.

And we finished the last chapter talking about your medical studies and your return from Rarotonga to Hamilton, which is on the North Island of New Zealand.

And, tonight, we're going to pick it up right there, where we ended the last one, and we're going to talk about your residency.

Dr. Stenhouse: Well, I'd like to first make a few clarifications.

After a person graduates from medical school, you get a cap and a gown, and you go through a formal session of being capped as a doctor—an M.D.

And so, the first two years after that are called a “doctor’s residency”. We are doctors, but we are in a resident for two years—the first two years after graduation. And then, the third and fourth years after graduation, we are in a registrar position, which is a supervisory plus medical treatments assessment, where we take care, not only of patients, but we supervise the residents who are on the team that we are working with.

Len: Right.

Dr. Stenhouse: So I hope that that may clarify, because it is difficult to understand.

Len: Yeah, so thank you for clarifying that. So, when we talk about your residency, at this point, you had actually already done your first year of residency in Hamilton, after you finished that several months in Rarotonga, where you did a special assignment. Now you were moving to where, for your second-year residency?

Dr. Stenhouse: To Murupara.

Len: Ok.

Dr. Stenhouse: Well, in the second-year residency, I felt called, because they didn’t have a doctor associated with it; they have a medical hospital there strictly for obstetrics.

I needed to go there; I felt the Lord was calling me there to help them out, with regard to having a doctor and, at the same time, fulfilling my second year as a resident.

Len: So was this like you had a choice, where you could have taken the assignment or chosen not to go to Murupara?

Dr. Stenhouse: Yes, I had a choice whether to stay in Hamilton or to go to Murupara...

Len: Ok. So you accepted that.

Dr. Stenhouse: ...for the second year of being a resident.

Len: Ok.

Dr. Stenhouse: And there was one of us that went, and that was me. And so, anyway, it was a very interesting year. And a lot of things occurred during that year that were very interesting.

For example, I was the dentist in the area, as well. Although I'd never taken a tooth out, I had to take care of bad teeth. And they did, indeed, in spite of my not knowing it, have one set of pliers for extracting teeth. Because that's what they are—they're sort of super-pliers. But this one was found in the doctor's office there and apparently came from Germany; it was left there by a German missionary. And so I was glad to have that!

Len: Yeah! What era were they from?

Dr. Stenhouse: They were from the late 1800s—this one pair of pliers.

Len: Wow! One old pair of pliers, from a missionary, from way back in the 1800s.

Dr. Stenhouse: Yes.

Len: And you were using that to pull teeth out. Now that wasn't even something that was part of your medical training; so you kind of got thrown into that, right?

Dr. Stenhouse: I had never taken a tooth out, except my own. No. That was one of the things that was interesting.

The other thing was being by myself, delivering babies; the nearest obstetrical hospital is fifty-five miles away.

And most of the patients were Maoris, because they were the group of people that lived out in the bush in Murupara.

Len: Ok. I see.

Dr. Stenhouse: And I always had people in the delivery room that I had never seen before, come in, ready to deliver. So this could happen day or night.

Len: Wow! Think about that! That's pretty serious, because, normally, a doctor would have been seeing an obstetrics patient during her pregnancy, but these people would just show up when they're ready to deliver. So you had no history on them; you don't know anything about the risk factors involved or anything like that, or even the patient. They're just presenting to you—they need you to deliver their baby.

Dr. Stenhouse: That's correct, yes.

Len: Were they coming from places that were farther away, or mainly right there?

Dr. Stenhouse: They were from the area. It was called a bush area in medical terminology; and they were really from within, say, twenty miles of the hospital.

Len: Ok.

Dr. Stenhouse: So anyway—thank you, Lord, for taking care of me during that time, because He was the one that did all of the work. I

listened, and I did what I heard to do. And one of the easiest ways I found to get a tooth out that's bad is to find the thinnest side of the bone and to make a little crack, or fracture, in that inside part of the jaw; and the tooth falls out when you try and help it. Otherwise, you're in quite a mess.

Len: Yeah.

Dr. Stenhouse: So, the Lord showed me to do that.

Len: Wow! But with the deliveries, did you have much training in that type of thing? Because you weren't an obstetrician—or an OBGYN. So did you really have very much training in delivering babies?

Dr. Stenhouse: Yes, we all had to do about ten to twelve deliveries on our own—supervised, of course; and we did that as part of our training. But if there had been any complications that were severe, I would not have seen them before, you know.

Len: Did you have any that got complicated?

Dr. Stenhouse: Oh, yes. I had some complicated patients. But the Lord showed me what to do and guided me; and we got through everything. I didn't lose any babies.

Len: Wow! Praise God!

Dr. Stenhouse: And the mothers were pleased. And I gave them lots of anesthetic, as I did with the dentist part. They called me "the painless doctor." So, anyway, I gave the ladies the local anesthetic, and we got every baby out healthy.

Len: Wow!

Dr. Stenhouse: And I'll give you a story about one of the babies that came out—a beautiful child—and the mother started to cry. And I said, "What's wrong, dear?"

And she said, "Oh, he's done it again!"

And I said, "What did he do again?"

And she said, "He's given my baby away."

Len: What?!

Dr. Stenhouse: And the husband would be betting on his child.

Len: Oh, no.

Dr. Stenhouse: Because the hospitals and government gave them about seven dollars or ten dollars a month for every child they have. And he was using the future child's money for betting.

Len: Wow!

Dr. Stenhouse: So, she was crying because of that—I mean, he cried because of it, too. But I didn't say anything to him because they were bigger than me.

Len: Yeah. So when you did these deliveries, did they have at least a nurse there to assist you?

Dr. Stenhouse: Yes, they had a nurse, a nurse who specialized in it. And they were very helpful, and they knew what to do. I'd tell them what the next thing to do was, and they would do it. And they were very helpful.

Len: Yeah. So, you did these deliveries, and by the grace of God you didn't lose a single baby?

Dr. Stenhouse: No, no.

Len: That's amazing! Did you ever have a patient name the child after you?

Dr. Stenhouse: Oh yes! They would say, "Doctor, can we call this patient 'Andrew'?"

And I would say, "Because you asked, you can."

Len: So now, if you go back to Murupara today, there are probably these babies from that era—a bunch of Andrews living around there.

Dr. Stenhouse: Yes, there will be a bunch of Andrews running around over there.

Len: So, any other experiences that you want to tell us about in Murupara?

Dr. Stenhouse: Not really. It was a most exciting time for me because I also had to do surgical work—sewing up everything. And then, I was also the doctor for another little town called Kaingaroa and would have a practice there. Every week I'd have to drive up there in my car. And the only other interesting thing was that great lorries filled with trees would follow me down the road and try and run me off the road at night when I'd go home.

Len: Wow!

Dr. Stenhouse: Yes, they would follow me at great speeds down the road.

Len: Wow! These big trucks carrying trees—like logging trucks, right?

Dr. Stenhouse: Yes, logging trucks. And I'd ask the Lord, "Lord, you got me here. Get me out of this."

Len: And He was faithful to protect you in spite of all those dangers. So, when you finished your time there—your residency in Murupara, out in the bush—then, where did you return to afterwards?

Dr. Stenhouse: Murupara in the bush was my second year of residency. And the next thing we had was my first year of registrar in Dunedin. After you graduate from medical school, you have two years of residency, and then two years as a registrar.

Len: Okay.

Dr. Stenhouse: I got called back there. They asked if I would come there, and I said, "Yes, I'd love to come back to Dunedin." So, that's sort of another chapter in my life—the beginning of the registrar period of time, in which I completed both years in Dunedin.

Len: Yeah. So, the place you went to in Dunedin was a teaching hospital. Correct?

Dr. Stenhouse: Correct. Yes.

Len: What position did you get assigned to there?

Dr. Stenhouse: Well, it was really interesting. I applied for a position in the Department of Medicine, and also that came with the position as a registrar at the hospital. And the Lord arranged things.

It's really funny, Len, when you are obedient, the Lord arranges everything; and if you don't struggle over everything, Father takes care of everything and takes care of you.

But what happened was that I applied for a position as a registrar. And usually, in the first year you were a junior registrar, and in the second year you were a senior registrar. But when I got down there, they had positioned me as the senior registrar doing the second year

work for the professor of medicine, who was also a doctor at the hospital.

Len: He was the chief professor of medicine, right?

Dr. Stenhouse: Yes.

Len: So that was quite amazing there. You skipped over being a junior registrar and went right, straight to being a senior registrar. That was unusual. But I think that when you stand back and look at it, you know, the Bible says, "Humble yourself in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up in due time." And you took that humble position out in the bush, which was not typical for someone to do that, and God gave you this senior registrar position.

And also there's another verse in Psalm 75 that says, "No one from the east or the west or from the desert can exalt a man, but it is God who judges."

Dr. Stenhouse: That's right.

Len: "He brings one down; he exalts another." So He gave you this position that you weren't really even seeking after, right?—the senior registrar position.

Dr. Stenhouse: No, it surprised me.

Len: So, was there any push-back from anybody there about you getting that position?

Dr. Stenhouse: Oh, yes. There was a lot of talk about my getting the position that people had been waiting for two or three years to get this position. And they were very upset with me. And in their own way they tried to take it out of me; but it didn't bother me much, because I knew it wasn't me that did it, but the Lord did it for me.

Len: What kinds of things did they do to kind of try to get you?

Dr. Stenhouse: Well, what they would do is they would call in sick — when they weren't sick — when they were on-call. And so this was the main thing, where they would increase my load of work by calling in sick that day.

Or a lady doctor had rheumatoid arthritis, and she'd always get a flare up, she said, when she was on-call. So she could never be on-call.

Len: Wow!

Dr. Stenhouse: There were lots of instances like that.

Len: Yeah.

Dr. Stenhouse: But, you know, you just take them, and the Lord goes before you. And you just smile and go on.

Len: Now, tell me, just briefly, a little bit about the role of a registrar; and then after that, tell me the role of a senior registrar, because most of us lay people are not really familiar with this term, except maybe in an academic institution. But in a medical hospital — teaching hospital — what role does a registrar play?

Dr. Stenhouse: A registrar is above both of the residents. And so, first of all, he takes care of the residents and makes sure that what they do is appropriate. And then the junior registrar is being checked by the senior registrar and has to go over all of the work that he has done on the admissions that were admitted.

And then, in addition to that, the senior registrar is in charge of all of the doctors that send patients to the emergency room. So you have to go and check all of the patients in the emergency room to make sure that they are appropriate admissions and make sure that the medicines they were given were correct and the treatments and so on.

Len: Right.

Dr. Stenhouse: And in addition to that, in the teaching hospital, the senior registrar was responsible for teaching not only the residents, which are the junior doctors, but also the medical students.

So the work was quite exhausting, in a way, because I would work many times through the night and then have to just keep going the next day.

Len: Wow! So a registrar—they have to practice medicine on their floor—

Dr. Stenhouse: Yeah.

Len: —in their department. In addition to seeing patients, they're also overseeing junior doctors—the residents on their floor.

So, for example, when a resident goes to see a patient that has been admitted onto the floor, the registrar follows up, right, to go and see that patient? And then they talk with the resident to see what his plan is for caring for that patient?

Dr. Stenhouse: That's correct, Len. And then in a teaching hospital, when you've got over you a professor, you teach the doctors coming in—both the residents and the junior registrars. So I was responsible for teaching people that actually had been doctors longer than myself.

Len: Ok. So these registrars—you would have one on each floor, right?

Dr. Stenhouse: Well, at least one.

Len: Yeah, at least one per floor—they were overseeing the residents on their floor. And then you, as the senior registrar, had your

responsibilities with patients, plus the emergency room; and you also had your oversight, as a supervisory role over the other registrars.

Dr. Stenhouse: Right. And then I had to do the majority of the teaching to the students.

Len: Ok. Very interesting. Well, that was a lot of responsibility that you were given; and you skipped over some things that other people had to go through. But, you can definitely see the Lord's hand in that. And, despite the fact that people were jealous and tried to get that from you, what ended up happening? I mean, with the chief professor, did he just change his mind after all the push-back he got from other doctors?

Dr. Stenhouse: No. No, they never changed their mind, and they were very grateful for what I did.

Len: Yeah, that's wonderful!

Now, what influenced the chief professor's decision when you came in from Murupara to Dunedin? Was it basically your past reputation with the other doctors in Hamilton?

Dr. Stenhouse: Yes, that was the reason that I got the position. Unbeknownst to me, the chief of the hospital, who was different from the chief of medicine, had called the chief doctor at Hamilton and found out about me and was told, "Don't put anyone else but Stenhouse in that position."

Len: Wow! Praise God! Well, the Lord is good. And that's a wonderful testimony about the faithfulness of God again, and your willingness to serve him in the bush, which is all part of the theme of *A Willing Heart to Please the Father*.

Dr. Stenhouse: Yes, but I just wanted to make sure that everybody listening realizes that it wasn't Andrew that was doing all this; it was

my Heavenly Father. And all I had to do was be obedient to Him in every instance.

Len: That's right.

Well, Andrew, I want to thank you very much for being with us tonight and sharing your life experiences with us back there during your residency. And we're going to close this out and finish our chapter for tonight. And I look forward to our next talk together.

Dr. Stenhouse: Well, I look forward to it, too.

Len: Absolutely. God bless you.

Dr. Stenhouse: Thank you, Len.

Len: Have a good night.

Dr. Stenhouse: You too; good night.



CHAPTER 7

Postgraduate Experiences: Sailing with Half a Million Sheep

Len: Welcome to *A Willing Heart to Please the Father*! This is Len Lacroix, and I'm here tonight on the program with my guest, Dr Andrew Stenhouse, and we're continuing to talk about his life story.

Tonight we're discussing his postgraduate experiences of God's faithfulness. So, Andrew, I want to welcome you to the program, once again.

Dr. Stenhouse: Len, thank you for introducing me! And I would just like to thank everybody that's listening and bring glory to God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit.

Len: Amen. So beginning with the postgraduate exam, can you talk about that?

Dr. Stenhouse: Yes, I can. The final year after graduation from medical school is the senior registrar year. And during this in New Zealand, you're able to take an exam in the Royal College of Australasian

Physicians. And this is a prestigious exam and only has a very few people that ever graduate from this.

When I took it at the beginning of that year, I was the senior registrar to the dean of the medical school. And, as part of my duty, I took this exam at that time.

The exam itself consisted of several portions of exam papers, followed by a long patient case and then multiple small, short, questions, and substances that we had to discuss.

In this exam, twenty people were being examined from both New Zealand and Australia. And at the end of the sessions, only two of us passed, out of the twenty. So it only had a ten-percent pass rate. So you could see that it was very, severely judged, and persons had to make no mistakes at all! But then you had to go over and above that, with what you said.

I was the only one from New Zealand to pass, but there was a doctor from Australia that had come over to take the exam, because it was from the Australasian College of Physicians, which is both Australia and New Zealand.

During the exam, the long patient that I had was a patient of some rarity. The Lord had me, during the year, take and read and put into my memory the new, long, difficult cases that were coming up across the world (e.g., in the New England Journal of Medicine).

And it so happened that the patient I had was one of those cases; he was about number fourteen out of twenty cases that I had memorized and taken into account.

The doctor that examined me did not believe that I had not seen the patient before, and he asked me, several hours later, I must have seen the patient before.

I said, "No, sir, I haven't."

Then he went, saw the patient; the patient said, "No," he hadn't seen me before, although he indicated to the examiner he wished he had.

And it turned out to be an obedience that I had on going through these long cases; one of them was this very same type of case that I diagnosed correctly. And I give all glory to the Lord...

Len: Wow! That's amazing!

Dr. Stenhouse: ...because if He had not given me that instruction, then I would never have done that on my own accord.

Len: Yeah! So the exam, now—just so that I understand it—was mainly written, right? So you had the written account of this patient's long case. Is that correct so far?

Dr. Stenhouse: Well, we had a series of different things. We had long cases that we had to see and examine and short cases that we had to see and examine. And then we had papers to write on subjects we didn't know ahead of time what they were to be.

Len: Okay.

Dr. Stenhouse: And then we had pathological specimens that we had to identify correctly. It was a long and involved examination over several days.

Len: So this patient that had the long case, which was already written up in one of the medical journals that you had been reading each month; they had that person there at the hospital for you to see?

Dr. Stenhouse: Yes, that was my long-case exam that I had to go in the room with—he and I only—, and I had to examine him, and so forth, and then look at the x-rays that were provided for me.

Len: Okay. And, with the case that was written up in the medical journals, had they yet figured out in the medical journals what the diagnosis was?

Dr. Stenhouse: In the diagnosis part, this had been diagnosed correctly by the doctor that wrote up the patient in the journal.

Len: So you had read that story, and then when you got this case—you said that the doctor that was overseeing the exam asked the patient if he had seen you before, and he said, “No”; and you hadn’t seen him. But then you did eventually have to see him for the exam piece, right?

Dr. Stenhouse: Yes. They asked me to see him, and I correctly made the diagnosis, because it fit exactly the patient that I had seen in the medical journal, several months previously.

Len: Was it actually the same person or just the same kind of case?

Dr. Stenhouse: The same case, not the same person.

Len: Okay. Well, that's amazing!

Now the next thing I would like to ask you to talk about—because a moment ago you mentioned being the senior registrar to the dean, but actually I think that was the title when you were at the teaching hospital—you were the senior registrar to the chief professor of medicine.

But this next piece here, you became the chief resident of the dean of the medical school; that was something different, right, from the senior registrar?

Dr. Stenhouse: Being the senior registrar to the dean of the medical school was even higher than being registrar of the chief of medicine. And so it was a promotion, as well, for my final registrar year.

Len: Ok. Was it chief resident or senior resident? What did they call it?

Dr. Stenhouse: Yes, chief resident or senior resident would be fine — either way.

Len: Yeah, so are there any experiences that you had in that role that you wanted to share?

Dr. Stenhouse: Well one of the things that came up was that the dean's daughter was sick, and I was asked to see her. And I made up a diagnosis, and the dean did not agree with me that this was the correct diagnosis of his daughter.

So we got the professor of surgery to come in, because I said the patient required surgery. And the chief of surgery, who was an older doctor, agreed with me and agreed with the findings on x-ray, that surgery was needed. And so that the dean agreed that we should go ahead with the surgery, and the surgery proved us to be correct.

Really, it points out the fact that the doctor shouldn't really examine or take a history of his children.

Len: Yeah.

Dr. Stenhouse: Get them to a doctor that does that.

Len: Yeah. Now what about the Wellcome Research scholarship that you ended up receiving? Do you want to tell us about that?

Dr. Stenhouse: Yes, one of the things that I was approached to do was to apply for the first New Zealand recipient of a Wellcome Research Fellowship and to do it in experimental virology with the professor in Sheffield, England—the professor of medicine at Sheffield England who was a virologist also.

So this was what we applied for, and what we, by God's sovereignty, went into. And so this was an interesting time, as well, to do

postgraduate degree, to do postgraduate research and to also take the London School of Medicine exam—similar to the Australasian one, only it's a little more difficult.

Len: Okay, so tell us about the sea voyage to England to go to Sheffield for that research fellowship.

Dr. Stenhouse: Yes, well it was very interesting on the sea voyage going to England. I was able to go there for two shillings and six pennies if I would be acting as the doctor onboard for the ship's crew and the ten passengers.

Len: Okay. So you were agreeing to be the doctor for everyone on the ship.

Dr. Stenhouse: That's right.

Len: Okay. And so that's pretty interesting! And was the trip kind of uneventful, or did you have any interesting experiences?

Dr. Stenhouse: No, it wasn't uneventful. Every day I would have an appointment with patients that needed to see me. And on this one particular day, what happened was that one of the sailors went to work. And when he was at work, they emptied the swimming pool, and he didn't know that. And so, when he got off work, he got his swim-gear on and then dived into the pool that was empty and broke his neck and injured his spinal cord. So I had to manage him medically with a fractured neck and pressure on his spinal cord, which was kind of tricky and difficult.

And then I had a patient with acute appendicitis, that I had to manage medically, and another patient with a fracture.

And the man who was the captain of the ship told me that he didn't think he could wait for me in Curaçao, which is a port where we stopped to fuel the ship.

Dr. Stenhouse: And I said, "Well we've got to get these in the hospital." I said, "They can't wait."

So we got ambulances lined up, and I took them to the hospital at Curaçao, where they had—this was a Dutch island—a resort thing in the northern part of the South America Peninsula near Aruba.

Len: Oh!

Dr. Stenhouse: So I got them all safely tucked in over there and then just got back in time to the ship, where they were fueling the ship. And we took off within the hour of my getting back...

Len: That's cutting it close.

Dr. Stenhouse: ...because he was wanting to break the record of the time to get half-a-million sheep from New Zealand to England.

Len: So the ship was carrying sheep?

Dr. Stenhouse: Yes.

Len: Half-a-million sheep?!

Dr. Stenhouse: Yes, dead sheep.

Len: Oh. Okay. Wow, that's quite a bit of cargo there! So how long did it take to get from New Zealand to England?

Dr. Stenhouse: About thirty days.

Len: Okay. That is pretty fast to go from that part of the world all the way around to England.

Dr. Stenhouse: Yes.

Len: So did you end up arriving on time?

Dr. Stenhouse: Yes, we arrived on time, and he was quite happy about it.

And there were one or two days I would be seasick and having to see somebody; and I would be lying down, and the patient would be standing up.

Len: Interesting!

Dr. Stenhouse: You just have to run with whatever comes.

Len: Yeah. So when you got to England, tell us about the phone call that you made to whoever your contact was over there for the fellowship.

Dr. Stenhouse: Yes, I made contact with them. And the doctor—that was the manager of that particular job he had, which was identifying people for jobs in London or near London from people who came from overseas—he called me, and he said, “Dr. Stenhouse, I know you have a fellowship to do two years with the professor in Sheffield,” but he says, “I’ve got a letter here that I’ve never seen so much good things said about one person. And I could get you any job in London you wanted to have.”

Len: That’s amazing!

Dr. Stenhouse: So I said, “Well I’d love to meet you.” And so I went and met him, and I told him I wasn’t going to change what had been arranged.

Len: Good.

Dr. Stenhouse: And so that was the end of that; I didn’t see him again.

Len: So did you publish any papers for any journals during that time?

Dr. Stenhouse: Well, yes, at the end of the time I was working there, I did patient studies, I did lab studies, and I did isolation studies on new organ cultures of different animals.

And so I isolated different viruses and was able to publish two separate papers by myself in the *British Medical Journal*, which is very unusual to do that. And, as a result of this, things opened up all over the place if I had wanted them, but I didn't pursue them.

I would just like to reiterate that this may sound like me, but it really is the Father and the Son being so faithful to me and faithful to everybody that opens up their hearts to Him.

Len: Yeah. Amen.

Well that's a great testimony, Andrew. I think we're going to conclude there for tonight, with your postgraduate experiences. And we can definitely see the hand of the Lord—how he got you through your postgraduate exam and all the way through to the point where you had written those two papers by yourself there, in the *British Medical Journal*.

So thank you very much for sharing all that on tonight's program!

Dr. Stenhouse: You're so welcome!

Len: Have a good night!

Dr. Stenhouse: You too, Len! Thank you so much!



CHAPTER 8

Experiences with the Lord in England: Divinely Appointed Birthplace

Len: Welcome to *A Willing Heart to Please the Father*. This is Len Lacroix, and I'm back again tonight with my guest, Dr. Andrew Stenhouse; and we're continuing the series of his life story.

So, Andrew, I want to welcome you back to the program.

Dr. Stenhouse: Thank you, Len. I so appreciate it, and I love being with you on this program.

Len: And we love having you. Last session we spoke about the postgraduate experiences of God's faithfulness and your sea voyage to England. So we want to pick it up there and talk about your postgraduate exam in England.

Dr. Stenhouse: Okay, Len. Well, thank you so much. And one of the things that people who want to proceed in medicine do is to obtain postgraduate diplomas and certificates and memberships in different societies. And the one in London is very prestigious throughout the world. It's called the Royal College of Physicians. And we had a high standard in Australia and New Zealand, but they even have a higher standard in London, I think.

And the first thing I'd like to say is that I went down to London and took the exam; and there were fifty people who were going to pass the exam, and there were over a thousand taking it. And so, it is very competitive.

Len: Yes.

Dr. Stenhouse: And there was a doctor from Oxford who was going around introducing himself from Oxford, and all the people from all over the world were supposed to be impressed by this. And he was trying to get them all on edge before the exam started, on the day that I was taking it. And he came to me, and he said, "What's your name?"

And I said, "It doesn't matter, because I'm the one that's going to pass." And sure enough, I didn't see him again after that.

But the exam was very strict, very difficult, yet somehow the Lord made it easy for me. When He wants me do something, He always shows up and shows me what to do.

And so anyway, this was an exam similar to that which I took in New Zealand.

Len: And how long did it take you?

Dr. Stenhouse: They take the whole day. And the first thing is you do exam papers, and then they present you with short cases of patients similar to the ones in New Zealand. And you are given an EKG and so on—or a photograph of a cardiogram or a photograph of a radiology picture—and asked to comment on that.

And then after the short cases and those things, you go into a room with a patient who has got a complicated problem. And so, there are two professors from all different parts of Britain that come over there and examine you on your interview with the person.

Len. Okay.

Dr Stenhouse: And I went in the room, and I saw this gentleman there; and as soon as I saw him, I knew what was wrong with him — the Lord showed me what was wrong with him. And so, it was fairly easy-going after that, and I managed to pass the exam.

Len: So, that's wonderful! Now you actually have a live patient, that they have you see — with a real case.

Dr. Stenhouse: Yes. All of them I've never seen before, but the Lord showed me what was wrong with this man. And it was very amazing to me.

Len: Yeah, it is amazing!

Dr. Stenhouse: So anyway, that was that exam, and I passed that.

Len: And you said that only fifty people passed the exam out of one thousand? Is that correct?

Dr. Stenhouse: Over a thousand from different parts of the world. I don't know how many there were.

Len: So that would be only a five percent pass rate.

Now I'd like to have us talk next about your research that you did at the Tropical Medicine School in England.

Dr. Stenhouse: Okay, well the Tropical Medicine School was known throughout the world for excellence and all diseases of the tropics.

And there was a professor there, and we both wanted to work with each other. And so, we started off doing virus experiments. And well, I talked to him about the Lord. And, I'm not sure, I told him I knew one

day I was going to be a missionary again for the Lord. And it was this time in London, also, that I felt led to go to Afghanistan.

Len: Right; and we'll be talking about that in our next segment. Now, tell me about that time when you got the direction from the Lord about your U.S. citizenship.

Dr. Stenhouse: Yes, that's interesting. I was coming back from lunch, one day, and walking through a large, public park in London, on my way back to the Tropical Medicine School. And I was just minding my own business, walking after lunch, and I heard the voice of the Lord say to me, "Look to your right."

And so I looked to the right, and there was the U.S. Embassy; and I had never noticed it before.

And the Lord said to me, "Where you were born is important to me."

And so I said, "Lord, you want me to go there?"

And I saw him nod as it were and, "Yes."

So I did a quick ninety-degrees to the right and walked into the Embassy and talked to a lady there who was very helpful.

And she said, "All I need, Dr. Stenhouse, is your birth certificate."

So I called up to my mom and dad, and they sent a copy of it down to me. And I gave it to the lady in London, in the Embassy.

And it so happened that the day I was there, they were having an introduction of many people into the U.S. citizenship. And so she said, "Dr. Stenhouse, just get on the end of the line, and it'll save you coming back."

And there I was at the end of the line, taking the oath of allegiance to the United States of America.

Len: Wow!

Dr. Stenhouse: On the very day that I happened to be there, they were doing that. So, the Lord just looks out for you when you just do what He says.

Len: He does. And you were born in Detroit, Michigan here in the U.S. and spent the first few years of your life in Detroit, before your family moved back to England.

So, they always give a child who's born in the U.S —or any country—I think, when you turn eighteen, typically, then you have the opportunity, if you want to become a citizen of that country. So, how old do you think you were at that point?

Dr. Stenhouse: At that point I was probably around twenty-six; I'm not sure.

Len: Okay. Good. Well, I think that's an excellent testimony. And we're going to wrap this session up today on your experiences in England. So, I want to thank you very much for joining us tonight, Andrew.

Dr. Stenhouse: Well, it's been a great pleasure to be able to be with you. Even as short a time as we have together, it's wonderful because the Lord just goes ahead of me.

Len: Yeah, amen. And, we'll look forward to our next talk together, Andrew. And until then, have a good night.

Dr. Stenhouse: You too, Len and thank you; and blessings to you all and to everybody that listens.

Len: Thank you. God bless you, too.

Dr. Stenhouse: Thank you.



CHAPTER 9

Experiences with the Lord in Afghanistan: God's Angelic Protection

Len: Welcome to *A Willing Heart to Please The Father*. This is Len Lacroix, and I'm here tonight with Dr. Andrew Stenhouse, my guest, and we're continuing the story of his life, picking it up tonight with his experience in Afghanistan. So, welcome, Andrew, to the program.

Dr. Stenhouse: Thank you, Len. It's lovely to be with you again and give you some more interesting things that happened during my life and under the direction of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Len: Yes. Let's pick it up with the beginning, where you were on assignment to open a medical school there in Afghanistan near the Pakistani border.

Dr. Stenhouse: Well, the way it happened was that while I was living in Hawaii, I was away from church one day, when they had a visitor from California come in. And this doctor said how they had been looking for an intern to come and take up the position as professor of medicine at the new medical school in Afghanistan, bordering near the Pakistani border, because there was not one in that area.

And the gentleman himself said that I came to his mind, that I would be just perfect for this. So anyway, when I heard this, I visited with the leader of the group, and they felt that this was an answer to their prayer. And so that was how I got introduced to the whole idea and decision from the Lord to go there.

Len: Ok, so this was a church's venture, correct?

Dr. Stenhouse: Well, it originated in the church, yes.

Len: Yeah, ok. So, then you end up finding yourself in Afghanistan, someplace near the border of Pakistan, and you're there to open up a medical school, right?

Dr. Stenhouse: Yes, that's right. If I could just say, on the way over there I was in the plane, and we were about to land in Kabul, the capital of Afghanistan, when they made an announcement that everybody that was visiting would have to pay a fee of five hundred dollars.

Len: Wow!

Dr. Stenhouse: So I said to the Lord, "Father," I said, "I don't have five hundred dollars."

And He said, "Don't worry; no worry."

So, when he came to me to get the five hundred dollars, he said, "Oh, Dr. Stenhouse, are you coming to help our people?"

And I said, "Yes, sir."

And he says, "Well, there will be no charge for you."

Len: Wow, praise God!

Dr. Stenhouse: I was on the plane, and I was the only one that did not have to pay the five hundred dollars

Len: That is amazing! Praise God! So, you made it there; you opened up the school and began the training; and you had some interesting experiences conducting the training in the school. Tell me what that was like.

Dr. Stenhouse: Yes. Well, it was interesting because I had to sort of keep control of the class, which had many different groups in it from Pakistan, from Afghanistan, and also from Iran. I had to keep control of the class which had over a hundred people in it. And so every morning I would get up early and outline my teaching, because I wouldn't be using any notes or anything—I had to memorize it. So I memorized the three or four hours of teaching every morning, during the week. And so that was the beginning of each day.

It was interesting because I had to make a decision on who would translate and to what language, and it would depend on the mood that was present in the classroom when I went in there. So, this was a decision I had to make.

And then, every day that I was teaching, a mullah, which is a Muslim religious leader, would come and sit in the back of the classroom and make sure that I didn't mention anything about my Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. And he had a sword that he took out of his sheath and was holding in front of him all the time I was teaching.

Len: Ok.

Dr. Stenhouse: Just to remind me.

Len: Yeah, just as a reminder. Okay, so that was very interesting. And then, at some point, there was an exam that you gave to the students; and, tell me about that and what ended up happening with their scores.

Dr. Stenhouse: Well, what happened was that all students had to pass; they had this unwritten rule that nobody, especially a Christian, could fail any student. But what they had done was, on the first two exams, there were two or three people that had failed both of the exams—one that I gave and one that another teacher gave, who came over with the group. And so, they were basically the same students. And so, they boycotted my second exam, which was in dermatology. And I had taken quite a bit of time with them, because the skin is the largest organ in the body and also gets approximately more illnesses than any other organ.

So, anyway, they made it known that I was not to fail anybody for this. So they were boycotting the exam, so they could not be failing in more than one exam.

Len: So they were trying to manipulate you into passing everyone?

Dr. Stenhouse: Yes, absolutely. And so I just decided I would just make it easy for everybody and fail everybody because they had just boycotted my exam. And this led to all sorts of problems, as you can imagine.

Len: Oh, yeah! They probably didn't accept that too well.

Dr. Stenhouse: No, that didn't go over real big. And what happened was that this was heard in Kabul by the cousin to the king, who was also a doctor and who, as president of the Kabul's School of Medicine, failed some students.

And there was rioting in the streets of Kabul, and the king of Afghanistan did not want any rioting at that time in his city. And so he made it clear that I was not to be involved in this, and if I was, then I would need to be removed from the country.

And so the cousin of the king heard about it and asked me over for a cup of tea—which I went and had a cup of tea with him —, and he told

me about his experience of being in trouble for failing students also. And so he got demoted from the university, to be in charge of the Department of Infectious Disease for the country.

Len: I see. So tell me about what happened in your apartment when God protected you there from harm.

Dr. Stenhouse: Oh, yes. Well, I was given a guard each night in front of my door. And this night, about the same time I went home, there was no guard there. And so I thought, Uh-oh! Something's on the horizon.

Len: Yeah.

Dr. Stenhouse: So, I locked all of my three doors to the outside, and then I heard three students breaking in—they broke down two doors—, and then they were coming into my bedroom. And so, when they got to my bedroom door, I looked outside and it was snowing in Kabul, and so it wasn't really a good idea to try and go out the window.

Len: Right.

Dr. Stenhouse: And so, anyway, I said, "Okay, Father." And so, anyway, immediately, when they got to my door, they started yelling and screaming and took off running. And I'm sure my angel from heaven had appeared and taken them away.

Len: Definitely, because if they had made it through two locked doors, it would have been even easier to get through a bedroom door.

Dr. Stenhouse: That's right. So, the next day I went and was walking to the bank through the streets of Kabul, just to wind up my banking stuff, because it was clear that I was no more needed in Afghanistan. And so, anyway, as I was going toward the bank, there was a group of my students there—about ten in front of me, and about ten behind me—and they had hired a pickpocket to see if he could take money

out of my pocket. But there was none in it—I never used a pocketbook in the back of my pants.

So, anyway, he did his best to get it, but he didn't succeed. And then, I got so angry about it in my spirit, I tried to pick up the pickpocket, who'd been hired for this purpose, and I actually threw him about thirty feet. Well, I couldn't have thrown him one foot, in my own strength. So anyway, it was that my angel had appeared again.

The guy was actually caught by one of the last students on the outskirts of the group, and he fell into the arms of this guy. And the pickpocket opened his hands and smiled at me, showing me he didn't have anything. And when they saw where this guy fell, they just dispersed. So, that was the end of that.

Len: Wow! Well, again, I think that was supernatural protection!

Dr. Stenhouse: Yes.

Len: Because that probably wasn't your strength throwing him for that distance—you said it was quite a number of feet, right?

Dr. Stenhouse: Oh, nearly thirty feet.

Len: Right. So, that's impossible for a human to do that. So, your angel was, once again, stepping in.

Dr. Stenhouse: Yes. So I don't think any of them wanted to hassle with my angel.

Len: So did any of them have any weapons?

Dr. Stenhouse: Yes they all had their knives drawn or their hands on the knives. And so it was a tense moment in a sense, but I didn't notice it as such, because I was very conscious of my angel being there and taking care of the person who tried to pick my pocket. When they saw

what had happened, they gradually put up their knives and withdrew from the situation.

Len: Praise the Lord! God is awesome! He really protected you. And it really shows how dangerous a situation it was, but the Lord was with you and protected you.

Dr. Stenhouse: Absolutely! He was absolutely there all the time, every time. How great is our God!

Len: Amen.

Dr. Stenhouse: So, anyway, then I went to the U.S Embassy, in the Kabul, and settled in there for about a week till they flew me out one morning. And so that was my time in Afghanistan, briefly. But there were a lot of other interesting things, as you can imagine, happening along the way.

Len: Oh, yeah! So you had to live in the U.S. Embassy for that final week that you were there, for your protection.

Dr. Stenhouse: Yes.

Len: And, altogether, you were there for about a year?

Dr. Stenhouse: Yes, about a year, in all.

Len: Ok. And that was back in the mid '60s, right?

Dr. Stenhouse: Yes.

Len: Now, didn't you also have another assignment that was simultaneous with your work establishing the hospital in the South—that you were also doing up in the North at another hospital, Andrew?

Dr. Stenhouse: Yes, this is absolutely correct. And, what we were doing was I would go up periodically—about once a month. A pilot

from the Missionary Aviation Fellowship would take me up in his little plane, and that was quite a bit hair-raising at times because of the fact that we would have to fly low over the landing strip and clear off the animals. And then we would go around and land on the landing strip. And we would stop by going up the hill on the right side.

So, it was very interesting. And the reason we did that was the hospital itself was a mission-related hospital that required some expertise periodically. And we would take care of the patients at the time.

The other thing that we used that hospital for was we would get students over from the University of Indiana to come over and work with five of our best students from our hospital down near Jalalabad. And this turned out to be very profitable for both groups of students, whether they were from Indianapolis, or whether they were from Jalalabad.

Len: Interesting.

Dr. Stenhouse: So this was the interesting thing—the return to the Kabul in the plane was quite exciting, too. We would have to run down the hill and off the end of the cliff. And we would drop about a thousand feet before we'd get enough airspeed to get the plane up in the air properly.

Len: Wow!

Dr. Stenhouse: And then we would fly down to Kabul and land and then go back to our regular routine.

Len: Yeah, very good.

Len: Now, did you have to learn any language when you were there at all, or—you said you just used a translator most of the time.

Dr. Stenhouse: Yes, I used a translator most of the time. What I would do, Len, is I'd put on the board an outline of the lecture that I was giving that particular time; and I'd write it in English. And there were two or three students there that were excellent students, and they would translate what I was saying in that particular language. And it would be Farsi, or it would be Hindi, or it would be Pakhtu—you know, there were a variety of languages. But I could tell, and I would always use those language translators because they were so reliable.

Len: Yeah, very interesting.

As we begin to wrap this up, I want to just tie this back in with something that you mentioned in our last segment. You said that when you were in London, you sensed that you would be a missionary once again, and that was when you began to have the thought of going to Afghanistan. So this was the fulfillment of that, correct?


Dr. Stenhouse: Yes, that's right. I felt in my spirit that I hadn't finished what the Lord had called me to do. And that makes sense.

Len: Yeah, it makes sense; and that's a very interesting testimony about your Afghanistan experience. So, thanks for sharing that, Andrew, and we're going to wrap this up and conclude this session on that note. So, thank you, and I look forward to our next discussion together.

Dr. Stenhouse: Yes, and I thank you so much, and I have nothing but love for the people over there, because, you know, they saw a light appear, and they did not like the light.

Len: Yes. Amen. Well, thank you, Andrew, and have a good night.

Dr. Stenhouse: Thank you, Len. Good night.



CHAPTER 10

U.S. Private Practice: Divine Results with Patients

Len: Welcome to *A Willing Heart*. This is Len Lacroix, and I'm here again tonight with my guest, Dr. Andrew Stenhouse. And we're going to be talking about his time in the United States, where he had many experiences, but one of which is his private practice that he had for thirty years in the United States. So, Andrew, I want to welcome you back to the program.

Dr. Stenhouse: Thank you so much, Len! It's great to be back with you and with our guests that may be listening in.

Len: Yes. So I want to begin by talking about your private practice in the U.S. for thirty years. So first of all, why did you immigrate to the U.S.?

Dr. Stenhouse: Well I think the reason I came back to the U.S. was I have my United States passport, and I was born here. And secondly, the two surgical doctors that I was working with in Afghanistan are both Texans and were from the Dallas area. So it was natural for me to continue my relationship with both of them. They were both excellent physicians and surgeons, and we worked very well together. So that

was how I came to Texas, in order to be close to both of those gentlemen.

Len: Yeah. So that's how the Lord led you to Texas, out of all the places you could have picked.

Dr. Stenhouse: Yes!

Len: So initially you went to Tyler, Texas where you started off at, but you didn't stay there.

Dr. Stenhouse: Yes, one of the things I did when I came back was take an appointment with the Southwest Medical School in Dallas. And they had a section of their university at Tyler, Texas; and this was in relationship to, predominately, long-term tuberculosis care.

So I was given this opportunity to join them, which I did and worked with both of the surgeons and with the hospital in Tyler, Texas, east of Dallas. But it was more of a tuberculosis hospital and a chest-disease hospital.

Len: Ok. And how long did you work in that assignment?

Dr. Stenhouse: Well, with this assignment, I worked approximately one year, while I looked around to see if I could find the one I felt the Lord would be having me do for the rest of my life—and it would be a private practice, I felt in my spirit. And so that was why I made my base there.

Len: Okay. Now you ended up moving from there over to Amarillo, and that ended up being where you settled in. Tell me about how you began your private practice there in Amarillo.

Dr. Stenhouse: Well I was looking for the perfect situation for me and was offered multiple options. One of them was to be the

Commissioner of Health for Texas, but I didn't feel to take that position, even though it was a prestigious position.

And then the next one was to take a position in Lubbock, Texas. And I was thinking about that; and as I looked out the window, I saw a huge dust storm coming towards us. And I said to the lady—I said, “Y'all can get these here?”

She said, “Oh, yes, these dust storms are common in Lubbock.”

And so I took that as a “no” from the Lord, bringing up that dust storm.

So then I came up to Amarillo. And I liked the feel of Amarillo; I felt almost at home here. And I was introduced to an internal medicine doctor, who was very senior, and who was actually looking for an internist to take over his practice. So we met together, and we started working together. And he retired three months after we had been working together.

He was wonderful! He was a wonderful believer. And even when his wife couldn't hold his hand when he was dying, I wouldn't leave his side and took his hand. And he passed into heaven peacefully.

Len: And so then you ended up at that practice by yourself, right?

Dr. Stenhouse: Yes, that's correct.

Len: You assumed all of his patients and the whole practice, and you continued on there.

Dr. Stenhouse: That's right, yes. It was absolutely wonderful! And I loved the patients, I loved the practice, and I loved the gentleman that I took it from.

Len: Yeah! So from there, what are some of the experiences that you had in private practice?

Dr. Stenhouse: Well I'll just give one or two. And what I found out, Len, was that I would pray for people, and the Lord would heal them. The Lord would show me what was wrong with them, and then I would heal them.

But then a lot of the healings that were in believers, He would just say to me, "Get them to take communion as a family, or husband and wife take it together." And when they did that, the healing occurred.

For example, I had a gentleman that came in with a tumor. He was a pastor, and he was sent to me in order to clear him for surgery. And I did that, and I told him that this is what the Lord just showed me for him; and I thought that he should do that because I feel the Lord might heal him without the surgery. And sure enough, he did that—he and his wife—and, when he went to see the surgeon, the surgeon was shocked because there was no mass now.

Len: Wow! Praise God. That's amazing. Well do you have one other that you can share today for this segment?

Dr. Stenhouse: Well one of the other ones was a gentleman I was asked to see, who had back pain and high blood pressure. Well I was just taking care of his blood pressure, and then he came back into the hospital without any pain in his back and in his knee because the Lord had healed him. And they were taking communion in the same way.

And so he had his surgery, and the next morning when I saw him, when I was going to check his blood pressure, he said, "Doc, the pain's come back!" So the pain that had gone had come back with the surgery.

And he said, "Doc, would you pray for me again?"

I said, "Sure!" So I prayed for him. And when I was in the hospital on that floor later in the day, seeing another patient, he was running around the hospital with his IV pole to support him and saying, "If you want to get rid of your pain, get Dr. Stenhouse to pray for you."

Len: Amazing!

Dr. Stenhouse: So the surgeons weren't excited about that.

Len: Yeah! Ha-ha! You could put the surgeons out of business that way.

Dr. Stenhouse: Ha-ha! No, I wouldn't do that. It was the Lord that did it.

Len: So there was also a pastor that you saw in a hospital, who got healed of a large tumor. Did you want to tell us about that?

Dr. Stenhouse: Yes. This is another wonderful healing that occurred. And it was actually the same day that the gentleman was running around with the pole.

So anyway, I went in to see him. And he had a huge tumor extending outside the left side of his neck, way past his shoulder, and it was growing by about a-half-an-inch every week, in spite of all the treatment they could give him.

Len: Wow!

Dr. Stenhouse: And it was the size of a big melon, but it was going further out. And so I saw him and examined him. He was a pastor, too, and he had his wife there; and about six members of his board were also there.

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So anyway, after checking him, I went back to the desk, and I sat there. And I put my head in my hands, and I said, "Lord, help! What am I to do?"

And the Lord spoke to me and said, "If you do these four things, I'll heal him."

So I said, "Yes, Lord."

So He told me the first one was not to touch the tumor; number two was to continue seeing the doctors; and number three was, "Tell him how much I love him." And when he heard that, he fell into my arms.

And the Lord showed me, then, that he had believed the devil's lies about something he may have done or may not have done.

And then the fourth thing was, "If you pray for him, I'll heal him." So I told him that.

Len: Praise God!

Dr. Stenhouse: So, I got everybody settled in the room — made sure everybody was a believer — and they were. And then I prayed a simple prayer to the Lord. And six weeks later, I get a call from his private doctor, telling me that it was now the size of a small marble.

Len: Wow! Praise the Lord! It went from the size of a large melon, down to the size of a small marble in — six weeks you said?

Dr. Stenhouse: Six to eight weeks, yes.

Len: Wow! Praise the Lord!

Dr. Stenhouse: So, those were two that occurred on the same day.

Len: Yeah.

Dr. Stenhouse: And the other one, of course, was different. But I've had a lot of patients tell me how much they improved—not necessarily with major problems, but with other problems—when they took communion on a daily basis.

Len: So, there was one other healing that we have time for, if you want to share about it today. And that was the person with the hernia that got healed?

Dr. Stenhouse: Yes, there was a gentleman that came in that had a hernia. And the Lord indicated that he wanted him to do the communion on a daily basis. So I told him that, and I told him I'd pray for him. And I did that, too, and he was healed.

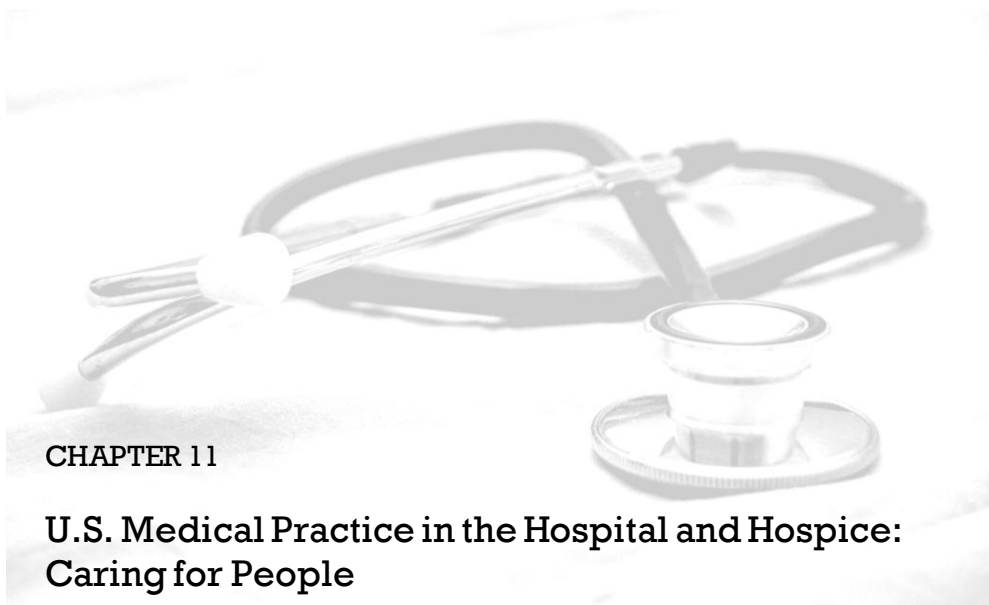
Len: Wow! Praise the Lord! Those are some amazing stories, Andrew. And I really appreciate you sharing all that today about your private practice in Texas that you had for thirty years, there in Amarillo. And, now that we're coming to the close of our segment today, I want to thank you very much for being with us on this program, and I look forward to our next conversation together when we meet next.

Dr. Stenhouse: Isn't the Lord, wonderful?

Len: He absolutely is. He's awesome.

Dr. Stenhouse: Thank you, Len. Goodnight.

Len: Goodnight, Andrew.



CHAPTER 11

U.S. Medical Practice in the Hospital and Hospice: Caring for People

Len: Welcome to *A Willing Heart*. This is Len Lacroix, and I'm here tonight with my guest, Dr. Andrew Stenhouse. And we've been discussing his life as a doctor.

And we've been discussing on our last program his life in the United States, starting with the private practice that he had in Texas for thirty years. And we're going to pick it up with another part of his life, here in the U.S., tonight. So, Andrew, I want to welcome you back to the program.

Dr. Stenhouse: Thank you, Len. And this is a wonderful section that's going to be coming up, and I want to thank you for the opportunity of doing this. And I would like to just go through these to show what the Lord will do with anybody whose heart is totally and completely given over to Him in what they're doing.

Len: Amen! So, Andrew, there was a period in time when you were the medical director for a veterans' hospital in Texas. Can you tell us about that, please?

Dr. Stenhouse: Yes, the interesting thing about that was that I love the veterans, because of the fact of what the American veterans did, coming to Britain and risking their lives in order to save Britain during World War II. And what they would do, also—they would throw me candy from the cars and tanks and so on, that were going down the road. And so I felt I had a lot of debt to repay.

The interesting thing about that was that the VA (Veterans Administration) tended to have a bad reputation as a care facility or a hospital. And I decided that that was not going to happen in our hospital. So I made sure that the veterans were cared for, that the staff was cared for, and that we would be known as a hospital that cared. And what happened was we became the most improved VA hospital in the nation.

Len: Wow!

Dr. Stenhouse: And the second thing that happened was that we were in the top five of all of the hospitals in the United States. And that was something of an extreme honor.

And we went over to the California area where they were giving away the awards. And the other doctors that were on the top five said to me, "Stenhouse, how did you get into this rarefied atmosphere here?"

And I said, "It's a matter of caring for your patients and for your staff." And they couldn't understand that.

They said, "What is caring?"

And I said, "You don't know what caring is?"

And they said, "No."

And I said, "It's not just using the techniques that are available for getting good results. It's a matter of taking care of people—both the patients, both the staff—and you'll get a good result."

Len: That's so true. And I think that you're right about the reputation that the VA hospitals have, here in the country. And I'm sure that the caring is something that's probably missing in many of them, but you brought that. And how the Lord turned that all around—it's just amazing—to end up resulting in an award for the hospital.

Dr. Stenhouse: Oh, yes. It was a big award.

Len: So, before we conclude, I wanted to ask if you could talk to us a little bit about some important work that you did, Andrew, working in the hospice.

Dr. Stenhouse: Yes, I would love to do this because my heart goes out to each patient that we have. And when they're coming in the hospice area, they're near the end of their life. And I love to talk with them and see them and talk to them about their eternal welfare with the Lord and if they have a relationship with the Lord Jesus.

And in this particular situation I had this evening was this gentleman said to me, "Well I don't know how to go about this."

I said, "Well you know there's a door; and when you open a door you have to go through it to get through to the other side," and then I did a little banging on the desk that was there. [Makes knocking sound] Like that. And I told him, I said, "Now you have to open the door yourself, because the Lord is knocking on your door right now. And the thing you have to do is to open the door to the Lord and to invite Him in and to thank Him for the work He did on the cross for you and for me and for everybody that has been born."

And the next morning I got up early and went in to see him in the hospice area, and he had a big smile on his face. And I said, "Are you keeping the door wide open?"

And he smiled at me and said, "Yes, very wide open." And that night he passed into eternity.

Len: Wow, that's amazing! Got him just in time.

Dr. Stenhouse: But that's all it takes...

Len: Yes.

Dr. Stenhouse: ...is just to have someone that you could talk to just at the right time.

Len: Yeah. We need to let people know, at any point in their life, but especially at that end point of their life, that they need to repent of their sins and believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and they shall be saved.

Dr. Stenhouse: That's exactly correct.

Len: And one of the things that I really like is how you shared that whenever you would see a patient, your heart went out to them. And I think that's not necessarily a characteristic or a trait that all doctors have, necessarily. Because they may have the skills and the knowledge, but they may not have that compassion.

Dr. Stenhouse: Yeah.

Len: And the Lord—when He called you to be a doctor, He not only gave you the ability to do the technical aspects of that profession but also to have the heart for the patients.

A WILLING HEART TO PLEASE THE FATHER

Dr. Stenhouse: That's exactly right. Every patient that I saw, I think I had that feeling for.

Len: Is there anything else you want to share about the hospice work? We're almost out of time here.

Dr. Stenhouse: No, I think that's all I've got. I could probably dig up lots of things, but those are the things that I felt I needed to share, that the Lord had put on my heart.

Len: Yeah. Well, Andrew, that's going to conclude our program for tonight, as we end our time together. And I want to thank you very much for sharing all these wonderful experiences that you've shared about your time as medical director and your hospice work. So thanks very much for being with us tonight!

Dr. Stenhouse: Oh, it's been wonderful! And I just would like to mention that it wasn't me. All I did was be obedient, Len. And I really feel that if somebody is obedient to the Lord and does what He asks them to do, then He'll fill all the details in, and they won't have to worry at all.

Len: Amen!

Dr. Stenhouse: But the thing about being called to live as a doctor is something that I never even thought of when I was young, but it's one thing I would never have missed in a million years.

Len: Hallelujah! Well we appreciate that. And thank you for all those years of service to the Lord and your calling as a doctor. And we'll look forward to our next program together when we meet next time.

Dr. Stenhouse: Okay, Len, I do too! And blessings to all those that are listening.

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Len: Amen. Have a good night!

Dr. Stenhouse: Thank you! Good night, Len!



CHAPTER 12

Credentials: Counting it All Loss

Len: Welcome to *A Willing Heart*. This is Len Lacroix and I'm back again tonight with Dr. Andrew Stenhouse for our final segment, as we've been discussing his life story, especially his divinely ordained career as a medical doctor. In this podcast, we'll be discussing Dr. Andrew Stenhouse's credentials that he has attained by the grace of God.

He holds multiple academic degrees that he has earned, including a Bachelor of Medical Science (BSc), a Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (M.B.B.S.: an international medical degree equivalent to an M.D. in the U.S. system, also abbreviated as M.B.) from New Zealand, and a Postgraduate Doctorate of Medicine (MD) from New Zealand.

He was also awarded the Wellcome Research Fellowship, along with several prestigious postgraduate awards, including Member of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians, Fellow of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians, Member of Royal College of Physicians in London, Fellow of the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, and Fellow of the American College of Physicians.

He is board certified in Oceania as a Member of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians (MRACP), board certified in England as a Member of the Royal College of Physicians in London (MRCP London), and he retired after fifty-five years in the field of Family Practice and Internal Medicine, having served on multiple continents and islands, including Oceania, Asia, Europe, North America, and Hawaii.

Several articles that he either co-authored or solely authored were published in seven different medical journals, including two of his own articles, published by *The British Medical Journal*. Some of these articles have received many citations by other authors.

He has studied several foreign languages including French (this is the one with which he was most proficient), German (he was able to speak it), Latin (which he understood), Rarotongan, Arabic (of which he knew a little), Hebrew (that he began learning), and Fijian.

He also served from 2007-2015 as President & Chairman of the Board of the ministry I founded, called Doulos Missions International, and is currently one of our board Members. I've known him for around twenty-eight years, and it's both my joy and privilege to call him my friend. Andrew, welcome back to the program!

Dr. Stenhouse: Oh, thank you, Len, for that introduction. It's such a wonderful pleasure to be back with you again.

Len: Well, Andrew, all of those credentials of yours are evidence of the excellence with which you served as a medical doctor for fifty-five years. But much like the apostle Paul said that he counted all his great credentials a loss, you also count all your credentials a loss for the sake of knowing Christ.

Dr. Stenhouse: That's correct, Len. Knowing Christ is the most important thing in my life to me.

Len: Amen. You know, the apostle Paul wrote in Philippians 3:7-11:

"But whatever were gains to me I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ—the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith. I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead." (Php 3:7-11)

Dr. Stenhouse: That is exactly how I feel, Len. My biggest concern in sharing my life story is that I really don't want anyone to think more highly of me than what they see in me or hear from me. I'm certainly not perfect. My personal life did not measure up to my professional life. Being on-call and working sometimes twenty-four-hour shifts adversely impacted my personal life. All I did was to be obedient. If a person's obedient to do what the Lord told him to do, Len, then even if the Lord sends him to a war zone, he would be taken care of. Anything good you see in me is Jesus, and all the mistakes are mine.

Len: Amen. Isn't that true for all of us!

Now you've been walking with the Lord for eighty years since childhood, so you have a little more experience with it than most of us do.

Dr. Stenhouse: Well I've not always been faithful to Him, but you know, He's always been faithful to me, Len.

Len: That's something that I think all of us can say, too.

Now when you say you count it all loss, that's not just a concept or a theory for you, it actually happened. A few years ago in 2014, you

stopped practicing medicine, not because you wanted to retire, but for health reasons. You had a stroke that wiped out all your medical knowledge from your memory bank, so it was literally all lost. Can you tell us about that and what it was like to have that kind of experience?

Dr. Stenhouse: Yes, I can, Len. I was no longer able to remember any of my medical knowledge after my stroke, you know, and for a short while I didn't even remember who I was, but that came back, of course. But if I were to see a patient in my office now, I would not be able to treat him medically. The Lord told me after my stroke that I was not to practice medicine any more, but I could still help people spiritually.

Len: Wow! That's amazing to lose all that knowledge, and I'm sure it was very humbling, too. But the Scripture says that knowledge will pass away, and in this case it certainly did. However, the Lord not only gave you the natural talents and abilities to fulfill your calling as a doctor, but He also gave you an anointing for it that included supernatural gifts of the Spirit such as healing, wisdom, prophecy, and knowledge; and He gave you the heart of compassion that a doctor should have, as well as other vital fruit of the Spirit.

And while you lost all of your medical knowledge, you didn't lose those things that are of the heart and of the Spirit. Those have remained in you to this day.

Dr. Stenhouse: Oh, yes, Len, isn't that wonderful, how the Lord does that? Everything is from Him, through Him, and to Him. And the Lord gives and He takes away, so we should never be prideful of what we know, but realize that all things come from Him and are to be used for His glory. And the things that remain forever are faith, hope, and love.

Len: That's right! Those are the most important things in life that last forever.

All those letters after your name are quite impressive in the natural, but the fact is that they won't last throughout eternity. I tried writing them all out and it's like an alphabet after your name that takes a couple lines—MD, M.B.B.S., BSc, MRACP, FRACP, MRCP(UK), LSHTM, FACP. But, you know, the most important letters that you've received are your BWJ from the Lord, like it says in the Bible in Acts 4:13, "When they saw the courage of Peter and John and realized that they were unschooled, ordinary men, they were astonished and they took note that these men had been with Jesus."

Dr. Stenhouse: You know, Len, that's right. "Being with Jesus" or BWJ—that's what really matters for all of us, Len. And that's my desire for everyone who's listening or reading my story, that they would repent and believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, so that they would come to know Him personally as their Lord and Savior. For even if one person comes to know Him through my story, then that would be wonderful.

Len: Amen. That's certainly our hope and prayer.

Would you do the honor of giving the Gospel invitation to our listeners tonight?

Dr. Stenhouse: Yes, I would love to do that, Len. You know, everybody has been created individually by the Heavenly Father. No two people are the same. Every person has his hair numbered—not just counted, but numbered—on his head. And He sent his Son to the cross to die on the cross in our stead and in our place. And what we need to do is just to realize that His love for us is so great that He would give His only begotten Son on our behalf. So I would just like to invite everybody that is listening just to lay down your life from yourself and give yourself to Jesus and the Father in heaven.

When somebody comes to the Lord, they have to come to the cross, and they have to lay down everything that is theirs, and take up everything that is His, which is glorious and wonderful, and gives him the right to be in eternity with Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Len: Absolutely! Amen. Repent and believe the gospel, for the kingdom of God is near. That's our message to everyone, and if anyone would like to pray with us or give his or her life to Jesus, I'd like to extend an invitation to contact us through our website, and we will be delighted to do so. The web address is awillingheart.org.

Well, Andrew, it's been a joy to do these podcasts together and hear your testimony, and that concludes our final segment. So I want to thank you very much for sharing your story with us.

Dr. Stenhouse: You know, Len, it's been such a pleasure for me, and I just want to thank you and say, "God bless" to you and your family and to all who may be listening.

Len: Thank you. God bless you, too. Goodnight

Dr. Stenhouse: Good night, Len, and good night to all.

APPENDIX

Medical Articles Published by Dr. Andrew C. Stenhouse

At awillingheart.org, you will find links to several medical articles, of which Dr. Andrew C. Stenhouse, MD was either a co-author or the sole author. These are made available there courtesy of Dr. Stenhouse and the NIH National Library of Medicine: National Center for Biotechnology Information.

The *British Medical Journal* (BMJ) published two articles, of which Dr. Stenhouse was the sole author. This is quite an honor for anyone to receive, let alone for one such article to be published in the BMJ. These are the first two listed below.

Other articles that he has coauthored have been published in *The Journal of Human Pharmacology*; the *Journal of Applied Microbiology*; the American Society for Microbiology's (ASM's) *Infection and Immunity Journal*; *Thorax*, an official journal of the British Thoracic Society (BTS) and a companion to BMJ Open Respiratory Research; the Microbiology Society's *Journal of General Virology*; and *The American Journal of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene*.

One of the articles he coauthored, listed fourth below, was in conjunction with the University of Hawaii School of Medicine, Leahi Hospital, Honolulu, Hawaii, and was supported by the U.S. Army Research and Development Command.

The seventh article listed below on the topic of Reovirus type 3 in mosquitoes required that the virus be injected into the thorax of mosquitoes, which first had to be put to sleep with an ether anesthesia.

The eighth article was coauthored by Dr. Stenhouse during his 1959 residency research on the South Pacific island of Rarotonga, which was discussed in Chapter Six of his biography. This was published in a

journal called *Transactions of The Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene*.

1. *Viral antibody levels and clinical status in acute exacerbations of chronic bronchitis: a controlled prospective study.*

Stenhouse AC.

Br Med J. 1968 Aug 3;3(5613):287-90. doi: 10.1136/bmj.3.5613.287.

PMID: 4299087

2. *Rhinovirus infection in acute exacerbations of chronic bronchitis: a controlled prospective study.*

Stenhouse AC.

Br Med J. 1967 Aug 19;3(5563):461-3. doi: 10.1136/bmj.3.5563.461.

PMID: 20791322 Free PMC article.

3. *Methods for assessing drug-related anticholinergic activity.*

Rudd KM, Raehl CL, Bond CA, Abbruscato TJ, Stenhouse AC.

Pharmacotherapy. 2005 Nov;25(11):1592-601. doi:

10.1592/phco.2005.25.11.1592.

Pharmacotherapy: The Journal of Human Pharmacology and Drug Therapy.

The Journal of Human Pharmacology published on behalf of the

American College of Clinical Pharmacy (ACCP).

PMID: 16232021 Review. This article received 31 citations.

4. *Recovery of dengue viruses from tissues of experimentally infected rhesus monkeys.*

Marchette NJ, Halstead SB, Nash DR, Stenhouse AC.

Applied Microbiology. 1972 Sep;24(3):328-33.

PMID: 4627963 Free PMC article.

5. *Nonspecific factors in monkey tissues and serum causing inhibition of plaque formation and hemagglutination by dengue viruses.*

Nash DR, Halstead SB, Stenhouse AC, McCue C.

Infection and Immunity. 1971 Feb;3(2):193-9. doi: 10.1128/IAI.3.2.193-199.1971.

PMID: 16557953 Free PMC article.

6. *A search for mycoplasma infections in patients with chronic bronchitis.*

Cherry JD, Taylor-Robinson D, Willers H, Stenhouse AC.

Thorax. 1971 Jan;26(1):62-7. doi: 10.1136/thx.26.1.62.

PMID: 5101271 Free PMC article.

7. *Observations on reovirus type 3 in certain culicine mosquitoes.*

Miles JA, Stenhouse AC.

Am J Trop Med Hyg. 1969 May;18(3):427-32. doi:

10.4269/ajtmh.1969.18.427.

PMID: 4388789

Restricted access.

8. *A bacteriological investigation of wound infections in Rarotonga, Cook Islands.*

Markham NP, Stenhouse AC.

Trans R Soc Trop Med Hyg. 1959 Sep;53:404-9. doi: 10.1016/0035-9203(59)90042-2.

PMID: 14421253 Abstract.

Full article is only available for purchase as PDF.

About Leonard M. Lacroix

Len Lacroix is the founder of Doulos Missions International. He was based in Eastern Europe for four years, making disciples, as well as helping leaders to be more effective at making disciples who multiply, developing leaders who multiply, with the ultimate goal of planting churches that multiply. His ministry is now based in the United States with the same goal of helping fulfill the Great Commission.

He graduated from Zion Bible Institute, which is now known as Northpoint Bible College, in 1992. He also graduated from Regent University School of Divinity in 1995, with a Master's Degree in Missiology. He has traveled to several different countries for ministry, including Bulgaria, Romania, Hungary, and Ukraine. He currently administers a three-year discipleship training school online with two dozen students and six graduates. Almost all the students are located in various countries of Africa, such as Kenya, Nigeria, Uganda, and South Africa, except for one in the United States.

He has written several hundred articles related to Christian living, posted on his more than thirty blogs, which have been viewed on six continents where they receive hundreds of thousands of pageviews per year. These are accessible through his main collection of blogs called Writing for the Master.

All this he has done by the grace of God. He has a favorite quote from eighteenth century John Wesley of England, who once wrote: "Reader, if God has ever blessed my word to your soul, pray that He may be merciful to me a sinner." He and his wife Jennifer have been married for twenty-four years and have had five children together. He may be contacted via his website at www.dmiworld.org.

The Voice That Changed Everything

The amazing true life story of Dr. Andrew C. Stenhouse, MD, who began having supernatural encounters with God at a young age, and received a very unique calling, when he heard God's audible voice to become a medical doctor. Because of his willing heart to please the Father, he went on to serve as a physician on four continents over a period of fifty-five years, published several significant studies in various medical journals, and received numerous academic awards. He also experienced God's supernatural protection, guidance, and faithfulness, as well as unusual, divine results in the patients whom he cared for with a very special compassion that he had for people. This story will touch and change your heart.



LEN LACROIX is the founder of Doulos Missions International. He was based in Eastern Europe for four years, making disciples, as well as helping leaders to be more effective at making disciples who multiply, developing leaders who multiply, with the ultimate goal of planting churches that multiply. His ministry is now based in the United States with the same goal of helping fulfill the Great Commission. www.dmiworld.org.



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