

# A Pearl IN THE MAKING

**STRADDLING THE EQUATOR**, the East African nation of Uganda is rich in wildlife, including over 1600 different species of birds. Uganda is also home to mountain gorillas, a species that can be seen only in the wild and not in any zoo. Because of Uganda's magnificent beauty, Winston Churchill called it the Pearl of Africa.

With nearly half of Uganda's population under the age of 14, the average age of its citizens is the lowest of any nation in the world. ACTION is reaching out to many of these young lives.

Missionaries Charles and Bridget Ulibarri oversee Jesus Is The Truth School in the northern Ugandan city of Gulu.

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Bible-saturated Christian education, so that they can grow up to live productive lives.

A young girl named Sharon began to study at the school. She had had a rough start to life, having been severely burned. She was angry and stubborn and was failing her classes. As a result of prayer, however, Sharon began to change her ways. She became friendly toward other

The mission of **this primary school** is to glorify God by demonstrating His love to the vulnerable children of that region through excellent,



Sharon with her friend Nancy.

students and relationships blossomed. A miracle was happening.

Sharon's grandmother told the head teacher, "I do not know what you have done to her, but she is now compliant, willingly doing her chores and displaying a pleasant attitude." She is a pearl in the making.

As with many natural processes, the birth of a pearl takes time. But when the process is complete, the result is stunning. Would you be willing to go to Uganda to minister to the Sharons in Jesus Is The Truth School? There are young pearls waiting to be harvested.

Please contact ACTION at [www.actioninternational.org](http://www.actioninternational.org) to learn how you can be involved.

# Taking Time Out

**NORTH OF BARCELONA,** Spain, was the now-closed El Bulli restaurant. When it was still open, it was so popular that customers had to make reservations six months in advance. The noted chef and owner Ferran Adrià once closed the doors of his restaurant for two years to think, plan, and innovate with his staff. In an interview with *Hemispheres* magazine, Adrià commented, “If we are winning all the prizes, why change? Well, working 15 hours a day leaves us little time to create.” He realized that it was important to take time out to formulate new plans.<sup>1</sup>

The book of Acts tells the story of the dramatic growth of the early church. What was behind this exciting growth? One important factor was periods of prayer to understand God’s plan. Paul and his associates were planning to enter the province of Asia, but they stopped to seek the Lord’s direction. A

vision came to Paul during the night in which a man said to him, “Come over to Macedonia and help us.” As a result of this spiritual encounter, a church was soon planted in the Greek city of Philippi (Acts 16).

Someone once said, “If you are failing to plan, you are planning to fail.” Planning is so important. ACTION’s ministries are based on planning. Even now, somewhere in ACTION’s world plans are being made to reach children. How do we plan? By seeking the Lord’s will.

Every Wednesday, time is set aside for the ACTION community to fast and pray. Taking time to pray is so important. Martin Luther once said to the Lord, “Grant that I may not pray alone with the mouth; help me that I may pray from the depths of my heart.”

Many people cannot take two years off to think and plan, but we can all

lay out our agenda and pray for the Lord’s guidance. Would you pray and seek guidance from the Lord as to how you might be part of ACTION’s team? There are many slots open for children’s workers. As you seek the Lord’s will, He will reveal the steps to take in order to honor and serve Him.

<sup>1</sup> *The Daily Bread*, January 6, 2013



Phil and Mariela Legal are missionaries in Chia, Colombia.

## Find out more!

Contact us through any of the following:



ACTION INTERNATIONAL  
[www.actioninternational.org](http://www.actioninternational.org)



CHILDREN IN CRISIS  
[www.actioninc.org](http://www.actioninc.org)



EMAIL US  
[info@actionintl.org](mailto:info@actionintl.org)



### Action International Ministries

**USA:** PO Box 398, Mountlake Terrace, WA 98043-0398 USA

**425-775-4800**

**Canada:** 3015A 21st Street NE, Calgary, Alberta T2E 7T1 Canada

**403-204-1421**

**UK:** PO Box 144, Wallasey, Wirral CH44 5WE United Kingdom

**0151-630-2451**

Registered Charity: 1058661