

The Bottom Line

Instead of wringing their hands about the plight of Africa, Dale and Linda Bolton decided to do something by Joyce Starr Macias

The Gospel of GREEN



DALE BOLTON'S RETIREMENT DREAM INVOLVED BUYING A sailboat and heading out to sea. He never imagined that he and his wife, Linda, would instead wind up creating a cross-Canada business from scratch and using the profits to help orphans in Africa.

But Dale, a pastor for more than 30 years, experienced a life-changing moment in 2004 when he learned that more than 40 million African children had been orphaned by HIV-AIDS or other diseases. (The UN now puts that number at 54 million.) After his first trip to Malawi, Dale knew he had to do

something. But how could one person meet such great needs?

Intractable Problem

That same year, Linda's sister began taking a natural magnesium supplement that dramatically improved her long-time struggles with migraines, insomnia and bone-density issues. Linda became so enthused about the product, Natural Calm, that she became its sole distributor in Canada.

The business grew by leaps and bounds, and the couple soon had enough money to do more than simply wring their hands about the extreme poverty and disease in Africa. They decided to donate all their business profits, and began funding projects that helped homeless and orphaned African children.

"Natural Calm Canada was not founded to make money, but to give money," declare Dale and Linda, who live in Thornhill, Ont., north of Toronto, but spend five months a year in Africa now. When they're not in Africa, the couple attends The Salvation Army's Richmond Hill Community Church, where Majors David and Beth Pearo are co-pastors.

Early on, the couple assisted Hope for the Nations, based in Kelowna, B.C., which helps at-risk African children by

An organic-gardening workshop in session

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