

Nyack College

Mikkel Darzhmeniak

NUR 301 World View

Dr. Elenice Lima

October 20, 2022

Abstract

The present paper will present the life of Christian missionary nurse Grace Tazelaar by describing the nursing practice and the effect of spreading the Holy gospel in the community. Nursing is a calling to care for others, therefore, as a Christian nurse the needs of physical, psychological, and spiritual needs are pivotal for the wellbeing of the patient's health care.

Many people describe nursing as a career that is driven by an intrinsic force to help others. Nevertheless, nursing goes beyond that, it is a calling to positively change, care, protect, enhance, and promote the physical, psychological, and spiritual wellbeing of the community that the nurse is serving. Nursing is a very demanding career. Your efficiency in dealing with another person in need of care determines your success. However, in a world where there is so much suffering our spirit can be afflicted, however as a Christian nurse we can reflect on God's plan and His purpose within the scheme of nursing, the gospel, and His plan with us.

The motives of helping others and advocating for the whole wellbeing of people are the qualities that move veteran missionary Christian Nurse Grace Tazelaar as she describes suffering is not something we would choose, yet Jesus chose to suffer for us out of His love for us (Tazelaar, Intervarsity). However, when we are abundant in blessing the notion of suffering can sound to us as foreigner concepts. Many people did not choose this path and many of them are suffering from chronic conditions, war, poverty or no parent to care for them or teach them about God. Those were some of the motives that drove Grace to become a nurse.

During her nursing years Grace faced the paradox that she has been concerned with suffering, however, she herself did not want to go through it or sacrifice her personal comfort and career to spread the gospel. Nevertheless, Grace Tazelaar's nursing journey as a missionary nurse in Uganda was very tumultuous as her mother was severely ill with depression to the point that she needed to be hospitalized and the loss of one of her friends with AIDS and ultimately the death of her sister due to cancer.

These were challenges that motivated even further Grace to care for others that are ill and suffering and challenge the belief that nursing is just an advanced knowledge base. As nursing is a conjunction of science based and compassion and trust between the caregiver and the

individual, where the caregiver needs to advocate for the well being of the person that in itself is a quality that can not be measure because it is a servant spirit given by the Lord for the grace of His kingdom to serve and bring comfort to those that need the caring and soothing comfort of Jesus's love.

As a Christian nurse she looked to Jesus as her example to follow. Jesus cared for the people physical, psychological and above all their spiritual well being. Grace Tazelaar understood that by following Jesus on His mission would be a costly price for her to pay. As she was renouncing a comfortable and stable life, by opting to live in places where resources are limited and basic human rights might be scarce and sacrificing everything that you have ranging from diet to living conditions.

Therefore, a journey in a mission in particular healthcare missionaries is extremely daunting as many missionaries face many dangers but Grace believes that health care is more than just a form of reaching those hard communities or people that need caring, but an important part of the gospel message. As it is pivotal for a Christian nurse to care for the physical and soul of the individual as a whole conjunction of the gospel of the Lord. Most of her life's career has been dedicated to mission healthcare. Grace is using her expertise to encourage the next Christian nurse generation to follow the path of healing and health and building God's kingdom and expreding the gospel to marginalized communities .

Questions such as why there is suffering in the world are intrinsic questions that move missionary nurse Grace Talezaar to embark and answer God's call to mission throughout Africa to care and spread the gospel. Despite the challenges that she faced as Christian nurse, Grace was able to uphold one of the most important duties as a nurse which is to care and preserve the life of a fellow human. This is one of the most daunting tasks a person could face on a daily basis.

However, the satisfaction one could get from doing such a task as a career makes it all worth it. Grace, dedication and faith in the Lord has inspired me to follow her role as a Christian. I am determined to help improve the lifestyle of people on my journey through nursing school and ultimately, once I become a registered nurse. I would have the privilege to take care of those who could not take care of themselves. That in itself is a precious gift. The passion that I have for this career has given me the drive to touch the lives of others and spread the Gospel.

References

Tazelaar, G. (n.d.). *called to a suffering world. Nurses Christian Fellowship. Retrieved October 21, 2022, from <https://ncf-jcn.org/>*