Reflection on the Life of a Christian Missionary Nurse

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The nursing profession has a long history and is one growing public health field marked with a more comprehensive range of opportunities and career specialties. However, it faces complex and different challenges regarding alleviating suffering and pain, improving health, safeguarding patient safety, and preventing injuries and illnesses. The nursing field also focuses on missionary nursing. Missionary nursing is a specialty that focuses on spreading biblical teaching (gospel) and plays a significant role in healthcare as it is integral to nurses' spiritual and physical life. Therefore, this paper focuses on Betty Olsen, a Christian missionary nurse who dedicated her life to services. Research shows that Betty was an African American nurse in French West Africa, particularly Bouake, on 22/10/1934 and died in 1968. She was the daughter of Elizabeth Olson and Walter Olsen, missionaries. Her parents worked in the Christian and Missionary Alliance. Betty Olsen enrolled in a missionary school during her primary schooling and Hampden-Dubois Academy for her high school. In high school, she interacted with and served other children whose parents were also missionaries, as she dedicated her whole life to being a missionary. God was the only predominant figure during her childhood and adolescence, and she understood the significance of missionary works and services to humanity. She helped children and people who needed her help or care. This influenced her life, and she pursued missionary studies and nursing to provide care overseas. The following part explains the summary of the nurse's history, particularly the impact of spreading the gospel, the impact on healthcare, and the impact on her spiritual and physical life.

Research shows that Betty Olsen made a tremendous impact by spreading the gospel to other children in school and higher levels of education. Her knowledge of God shaped her decision in life as she always chose to be in service for all people bestowed on her care. Not only Olsen made a mark or contribution to the gospel but contributed substantially to healthcare. For example, she cared in. For instance, from 1953-1956, Betty Olsen was trained as a professional nurse at Brooklyn Methodists Hospital and provided care as an obstetric nurse in different healthcare facilities such as Nyack Hospital. In 1962, Betty Olsen graduated from Nyack Missionary college, where she majored in missions. Towards the end of the year, Betty Olsen utilized her nursing skills, education, and biblical teaching while working in The Christian and Missionary Alliance. She significantly contributed to this organization by providing care and excellent assistance. While in The Christian and Missionary Alliance, Olsen relocated to Vietnam to deliver healthcare services to many people battling leprosy. Olsen had great confidence and relocated to Vietnam despite this nation being underdeveloped and dangerous since she had an unshakeable faith and firm trust in God and wanted to assist the underprivileged.

In 1963, Olsen focused on missionary work and obtained further training as preparation to serve during the Vietnam War. During this time, Olsen went to work in Da Nang, where she studied Vietnamese and provided services in a missionary hospital. In 1964, Betty Olsen arrived at the healthcare facility for leprosy, geographically located in Vietnam. In this hospital, Olsen understood the risks of serving or providing care to those areas since there were evident threats to her well-being and physical health. Different external factors triggered fear. For instance, there were continuous external threats throughout this time, including harsh treatment and kidnapping. However, Olsen decided to stay in Vietnam since she understood the impact,

she was making on the community by providing care. However, her love for the people she cared for exceeded the need to understand the risk she faced as she believed God's presence was around her. This could be viewed as a true definition of Christian missionary nurses, as Olsen dedicated her entire life to the community's or other people's greater good, regardless of the present circumstances. This also implies that Betty Olsen developed a greater understanding and bond with her Savior. Her identity as a Christian missionary nurse enabled her to spread love to patients, and she became a source of hope for people suffering from leprosy and everyone around her. She also made others believe in Jesus Christ in this God's World.

In 1968, Vietcong held Henry Blood, Michael Benge, and Betty Olsen captive, where they were treated as savage animals and required to take on strenuous tasks. They were placed in cages, chained together, and were not allowed to take healthy drinks or food that could assist them to service. They suffered dengue fever, malnutrition, and other infections in this cage. Even in this cage, Olsen attempted to help other prisoners. She would serve others food to sustain her, especially those in great need. She was later killed by one of the North Vietnam Army. However, her contribution in prison, in Vietnam, and around people surrounding her inspired and kept them going. She promoted health and encouraged others within communities. Olsen treated different sick people, which is a greater witness to her physical well-being and spiritual development.

Conclusively, the paper has looked at Betty Olsen's life, the impact of spreading the gospel, the impact on healthcare, and her spiritual and physical life as Christian Missionary Nurse. Olsen lived a life that was not in the van. For instance, she firmly anchored her faith and religious belief, which assisted her in comprehending roles in spreading and advancing the gospel. As a nurse, it is imperative to prioritize the need of patients and to be a source of light or

hope to others. For example, Betty Olsen was a source of hope for the underprivileged and showed people the actual definition of the love of God through her deeds. Her whole life serves as an exemplary illustration of a Christian missionary nurse. She compromised her health and security to protect and care for others. Her deeds remain a historical marker and absolute beacon of light.

References

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