

LOST AND FOUND Adoption Stories

Have you lost anything lately – car keys, glasses, an earring, a favorite sweater? This weekend for Women explores the marvelous ways God overcomes our losses and redefines who we are. There are times when even our very identity is in question due to great losses or unrealized dreams. One of God's amazing gifts to us is the knowledge of our secure identity in Christ.

Join us June 5th and 6th at the Vista Ridge campus for a weekend devoted to adoption stories that give new meaning to identity, belonging and purpose.

One such story will be told by Pam Cope, the founder of Touch-a-Life Foundation that benefits 250 orphans in Ghana. You will have an opportunity to support this benevolent effort through your attendance and participation in an auction hosted by Mona Swofford. Bring an item from home to donate and start the bidding. All proceeds will go to the Touch-a-Life Foundation. Check out a Readers Digest article by Pam: <http://www.rd.com/your-america-inspiring-people-and-stories/one-familys-journey-from-loss-to-a-new-life-/article122333.html>.

Other charities will be represented for your consideration. Mission 4:86 will be presented by Kim and David Jones, who will be leaving the states on June 7th to assess the needs of seven orphanages in Russia. Your attendance at this Weekend for Women will bless their efforts through your registration fee.

Efforts are being made to minimize the overhead/cost of this event, through the generous support of Randy Ingram who will oversee the preparation of Friday night's dinner and Saturday morning's brunch. Enjoy scrumptious meals, opportunities to bless orphans throughout the world and make new friends. Also, hear powerful testimonies of love's promise. True religion is to care for the widows and the orphans.

Agenda:

Friday, June 6

6:00 pm	Registration & "Blackout Bingo"
7:00 pm	Worship
7:20 pm	Amy Woods, Speaker
7:50 pm	Breakout Ministry
8:00 pm	Dessert & Auction
9:00 pm	Conversations
9:45 pm	Goodnight

Saturday, June 7

9:00 am	Missions Displays
9:45 am	Conversations
10:00 am	Brunch & Mission Invitation
11:00 am	Worship
11:15 am	Pam Cope, Speaker
12:00 noon	Ministry
12:30 pm	Conversations
1:15 pm	Farewell

Conversations:

Friday:

- > Katy Boisvert
- > Nita Masih
- > Lanae Rainey
- > Kendra Rosenbaum
- > Amy Woods

Saturday:

- > Kim & David Jones

Nine years ago, Pam Cope owned a cozy hair salon in the tiny town of Neosho, Missouri, and her life revolved around her son's baseball games, her daughter's dance lessons, and family trips to places like Disney World. She had never been out of the country, nor had she any desire to travel far from home.

Then, on June 16, 1999, her life changed forever with the death of her 15-year-old son from an undiagnosed heart ailment.

Needing to get as far away as possible from everything that reminded her of her loss, she accepted a friend's invitation to travel to Vietnam, and, from the moment she stepped off the plane, everything she had been feeling since her son's death began to shift. By the time she returned home, she had a new mission: to use her pain to change the world, one small step at a time, one child at a time. Today, she is the mother of two children adopted from Vietnam. More than that, she and her husband have created a foundation called "Touch A Life," dedicated to helping desperate children in countries as far-flung as Vietnam, Cambodia and Ghana.

Pam Cope's story is on one level a moving, personal account of loss and recovery, but on a deeper level, it offers inspiration to anyone who has ever suffered great personal tragedy or those of us who dream about making a difference in the world.

In 2000, Pam Cope founded Touch A Life Foundation by establishing a shelter in Saigon for homeless children. Touch A Life now supports 224 children in Vietnam and helps fund the Place of Rescue in Cambodia, a safe haven for families who have been stricken with the AIDS virus. Pam is now working to raise funds to build a center for children who have been rescued from slavery in northern Ghana. Pam lives in Coppell, Texas with her husband, Randy, and her children, Van and Tatum. Her older daughter, Crista, attends college.

