

Invocation

By Ayo Majiyagbe, Spouse, TRF Trustees Chair

AT SECOND PLENARY SESSION

The Grand Ballroom, (12 F)

Saturday, Oct. 18, 2008 / 0855-0900

When we look around the world today it is obvious that some nations are more blessed than others. Many countries are dependent on aid from developed countries and organizations like Rotary, working collectively towards a common goal. Over the years Rotary has given millions of families the possibility to lead better lives by supporting literacy projects, providing clean water and medical aid, alleviating poverty and promoting peace all over the world. But Rotary members have also had the satisfaction of seeing how their time and donations have affected lives for the better.

Family of Rotary, Indeed, it is more blessed to give than to receive and we should not be tired of doing good. What could be more rewarding than seeing the joy on the faces of women when boreholes are dug in their villages, or the excitement on the faces of children as they learn to read and write for the first time, What could be more touching than the hope on the faces of sick people as they receive free medical treatment, or the look of gratitude and relief on the faces of mothers who know their children will not die.

Yes, there is no doubt that Rotarians are leaving their mark all over the world. Because Rotary shares. Because Rotary cares. But the journey is long and we still have far to go because in serving others the work is never done.

Let us pray.

O God, you have bound us together in this life. We are Rotarians, men and women from different countries,

people of different colors, cultures and religions, speaking different languages.

Yet as we stand before you with our differences, we are equal in your eyes and we are alike and united in our belief of Service above Self. We ask for the Grace to understand how the lives of millions of underprivileged and suffering people worldwide depend on the commitment, generosity, honesty and hard work of Rotarians.



As we continue to do good in the world, as we remain faithful in our responsibilities to mankind, and as we touch lives daily, we thank you, Lord, for the opportunity to give. We are grateful that we have enough to be counted among the givers and that we can share what we have to lift others up and put smiles on millions of faces. We are thankful to be part of an organization that strives to bring hope and peace to a world that is falling apart.

Please God, as you have made our dreams real, help us to continue to Lend a Hand to make dreams real for others. Amen