

## Maximizing the Experience

A self-described “late bloomer” to Christianity, Pat Thomas’ journey has accelerated quickly.



When her husband, Jim, entered *The Master’s Program*, Pat decided to participate in *The Partner’s Program* in order to maximize the experience for

them as a couple.

When they started their prospective programs, the “blindness came off” and they realized the desire for Kingdom significance in the second half of their lives. When they were introduced to the DreamMaster’s materials, Jim and Pat scheduled a weekend to commit themselves to the Dream Planning process. Although it was “one of the hardest things [they’ve] ever done,” they sat down, listened to each other’s dreams, and made a plan.

## Open to Adventure

When it came to their Kingdom goals, Pat and Jim were committed to being “open for what God had in store” for them as a couple. They quickly became involved in various ministries they both felt passionately about that brought immediate and significant change to the people being served.

## Called to Ministry

The most significant call to ministry came from a session meeting of Pat’s *Partner’s* class. Fellow participant Gerda Audagnotti sat in one *Partner’s* session, sharing about the children rescued from the AIDS crisis in South Africa through her organization, Acres of Love. Gerda communicated her desire for the women in the room to meet

these AIDS orphans, and immediately the women sitting around responded with enthusiasm. Within moments, hands were raised around the room as these women began to plan a way to meet the children living in the Acres of Love homes in South Africa.

Within a matter of months, four women from this *Partner’s* class and seven other women involved in *The Master’s Program* were on a plane, headed across the ocean to South Africa.

## Safari Sisters

Calling themselves the “Safari Sisters,” these eleven women from Southern California quickly came to realize that God had called them collectively to become ambassadors for these children left without parents or hope for a future.

Since returning from their trip to South Africa, these women have started to raise funds and have made the commitment to raise enough to purchase a home and provide three years of operating costs for Acres of Love that will provide a stable and permanent home for 8-10 AIDS orphans.

Pat, who describes herself as “rather irreverent,” mailed her Christmas letter out in July, sending the story of her travels to South Africa and her mission to bring Christ’s love to these children, while inviting the people in her world to participate. This Revolutionary is looking beyond her world and finding Kingdom significance as a result!

*Pat Thomas lives with her husband, Jim, in Laguna Beach, Ca. They have one grown daughter. They attend Mariners Church in Irvine, Ca.*

*To find out more about The Master’s Program, go to [www.mastersprogram.org](http://www.mastersprogram.org)*