

Sam Childers
The Machine Gun Preacher

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Sam Childers **Pennsylvania**

Machine Gun Preacher, Sam Childers grew up in the hills of Pennsylvania. His parents were decent, honest people but at an early age Sam started to show a knack for getting into trouble. His father, a former marine, grew fond of saying “Boy, somebody’s gonna kill you one of these days!”

By his early teens Sam was sliding deeper into a life of violence and crime. He became a Shotgunner – an armed guard for drug dealers. It was during this stage of his life that he met Lynn, a stripper, who would later become his wife.

Sam, haunted by his father’s words, became increasingly concerned that he was going to be killed because of drugs and slowly began to distance himself from his former life. He found a job in construction and prospered despite his continuing drug and alcohol habit. Lynn, meanwhile, returned to the Church she had forsaken as a young adult. Sam also sought to re-establish his relationship with God and began to live a clean life. Slowly, things began to change for the better. Lynn gave birth to a healthy baby girl and Sam started his own construction business. Little did they know that their greatest challenge was just around the corner.

In 1998, Sam arrived in the village of Yei, Southern Sudan. The African nation was in the midst of the Second Sudanese War, and Sam, urged by his Pastor in America, had joined a mission group to help repair huts damaged in the conflict. During this assignment Sam stumbled across the body of a child torn apart by a landmine. He fell to his knees and made a pledge to God to do whatever it took to help the people of Southern Sudan.

Sam returned to Sudan several months later to run a mobile clinic. To fulfill his promise, he ventured far across the nation, from the western town of Yei to the eastern villages of Boma. While passing the village of Nimule, on the Ugandan border, God sent him a message: I want you to build an orphanage for the children, God said. And I want you to build it here.

The local people thought he was mad. At the time, the Lord’s Resistance Army, a brutal rebel militia that had kidnapped 30,000 children and murdered hundreds of thousands of villagers, was laying waste to the area. But Sam was adamant: God had told him to build the orphanage in Nimule and that’s where he was going to build it. He returned to the U.S.A, sold his construction business and sent the money to Africa. Slowly the orphanage began to take shape. During the day Sam cleared the brush and built the huts that would house the children. During the evening, he slept under a mosquito net slung from a tree: bible in one hand, AK47 in the other.

With the orphanage finished, Sam began to lead armed missions to rescue children from the LRA. It wasn’t long before tales of his exploits spread and villagers began to call him “The Machine Gun Preacher.”

Today the orphanage is one of the largest in Southern Sudan and has fed and housed over 1,000 children. In 2017, more than 185 children call the orphanage home.

Sam is just as dedicated today to the plight of the Sudanese children as he was to when he first went there. Sam’s biography, *Another Man’s War*, was made into a Hollywood feature film starring Gerard Butler. The film was released in September 2011.

For more information about Sam Childers please visit www.machinegunpreacher.org.



The Mission of Sam Childers: Angels of East Africa

Angels of East Africa is a non-profit aid organization established to provide a better future for orphaned children of war in southern Sudan.

Angels of East Africa (AOEA), founded in 1998 by Machine Gun Preacher, Sam Childers, who has rescued over a thousand orphaned children from becoming child soldiers, starvation, disease and enslavement by brutal Rebel Armies like the LRA.

Today 185 plus children live in the Children's Village, a secure compound and oasis of calm in the Southern Sudanese village of Nimule. Behind these protective walls the next generation of Sudanese leaders are housed, clothed, fed and educated, safe from the echoes of war that still traumatize the nation of Sudan.

Despite the incredible challenges associated with operating an orphanage in South Sudan, the Children's Village continues to flourish thanks to the tireless work of AOEА and her legion of dedicated supporters.

Well over 1500 children have been Rescued or housed - educated by Sam's projects since 1998. The village isn't much to look at, just a Very modest collection of dormitories, a rudimentary Church (multi-purpose building), a school and a kitchen, but by Sudanese standards it's a stately home. It even has its own soccer ground (last year, the Children's Village team were the best in the district!).

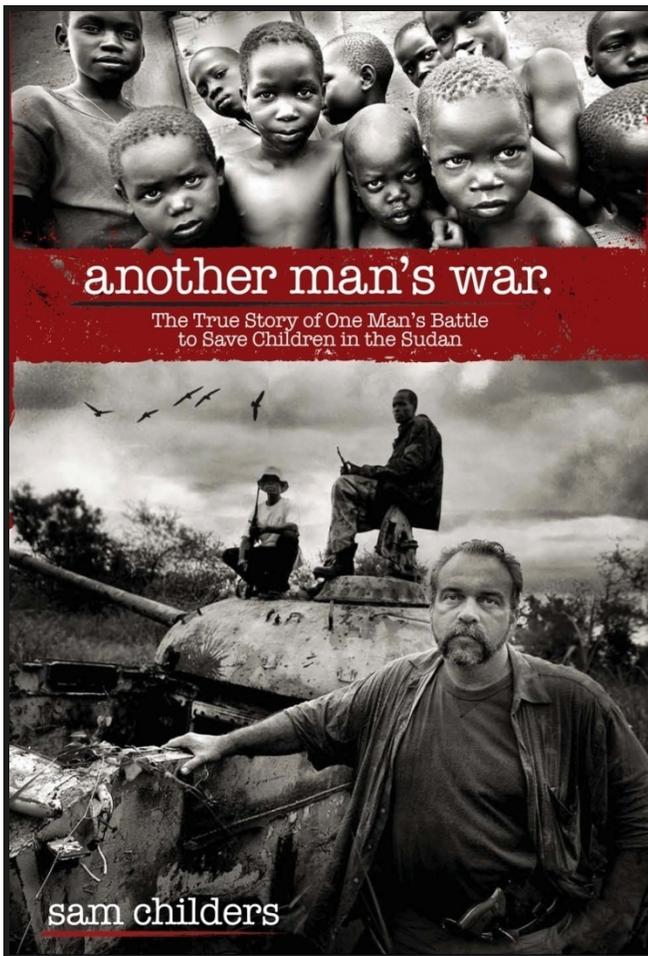
A dedicated group of Sudanese staff oversee the day to day operation of the orphanage, many of whom are orphans or widows themselves. The security detail is also Sudanese, and these tireless EX-SPLA (Sudanese People's Liberation Army) combat veterans patrol the grounds 24 hours a day

Unfortunately, the situation in Southern Sudan has continued to decline despite the 2005 ceasefire and its independence in 2011 - In December 15th 2013 it all changed. A Bloody tribal war started between Dinka and Nuer that has displaced millions and killed 10's of thousand's.

AOEA has also assisted the greater Southern Sudanese population by operating a farm in Northern Uganda and transporting food to the refugees - raising infrastructure to provide electricity and running water in remote villages

Rebel Armies of Southern Sudan, capture, enslave and torture, woman and children who are forced to repeat the cycle of violence and become sex slaves or child soldiers.

TODAY (2017/18) THE CIVIL WAR IS THE BIGGEST CHALLENGE IN SOUTH SUDAN... Millions have fled the country and famine is inevitable, whilst Uganda has opened its border – and *claims the largest refugee camp on the planet* – Sam Childers helps where ever he can in the fight to free the oppressed. AOEА look after around 350 children 24/7 and prepare around 10,000 meals a day to feed the hungry.



The Book: Another Man's War

In 1998, Sam arrived in the village of Yei, Southern Sudan. The African nation was in the midst of the Second Sudanese War, and Sam, urged by his Pastor in America, had joined a mission group to help repair huts damaged in the conflict. During this assignment Sam stumbled across the body of a child torn apart by a landmine. He fell to his knees and made a pledge to God to do whatever it took to help the people of Southern Sudan.

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Order Online: *Another Man's War: The True Story of One Man's Battle to Save Children in the Sudan.* www.machinegunpreacher.org



The New Book: Living on the Edge: Sequel to Another Man's War

by Sam Childers

Living on the Edge is a compelling, first personal account by Sam Childers, the “Machine Gun Preacher,” of his continuing battle to help the orphan children of East Africa. It’s the follow-up to Sam’s 2009 bestseller, *Another Man’s War*, which became the Hollywood feature film *Machine Gun Preacher* starring Gerard Butler as Sam!

In his first book, Sam shared the harrowing account of his early life as a drug dealer, heroin addict, and hired gun. He traced the story of meeting his future wife, Lynn, and turning from his old ways to follow Christ. Sam told of his first mission trip to Africa in 1998, and the shocking experience there that caused him to give up a comfortable life and a successful business in Pennsylvania to rescue helpless orphans in the war zones of South Sudan.

Living on the Edge picks up where the first book left off. Here, Sam explains how the same love of action and adrenaline living on the edge that made him a local legend as a drug dealer and biker, was redirected by God to hunting the Lord’s Resistance Army and rescuing children, some as young as five, from terrifying lives as killers and sex slaves. His mission, Sam explains, is to give these innocent boys and girls “the chance to be kids again.”

In *Living on the Edge*, Sam fills us in on what’s happened with his African ministries since the first book came out: three more orphanages up and running, and a sixth under construction; new projects with schools; a 1,000 acre farm to teach boys how to raise crops; a security company; and even a modeling agency to bring the beautiful and talented people of Uganda to the attention of the world. Along the way we meet children whose lives have been transformed by Sam’s ministry: Joseph, who was kidnapped and trained to kill at age five, and who now hopes to go to medical school; Walter, shot in the face and left for dead by LRA soldiers, his life saved by surgery in the US. Sam talks about his support from Yoweri Museveni, the president of Uganda, and his deep friendship with John Garang, the founder of South Sudan, who was killed in 2005. He also reveals what he can about his clandestine work for US intelligence agencies and freedom fighters in the Congo and elsewhere. Governments and military commands across Africa know and trust Sam Childers to do what others cannot.

And running through the whole story is Sam Childers’ incredible life example. “I did some very bad things in the past,” he says. “But you can’t let your past keep you from doing great things in the future. Don’t let what’s in your closet hold you back. God knows what’s in there, and He forgives you. Now get out there and do His work!”

Living on the Edge is the saga of a man who, by the grace of God, redirected his incredible energy and bravery from drug dealing and debauchery to serving Him in Africa. He goes where no other soldiers will go, and does what no other man could do. He senses the special gifts God has given him, and he’s dedicated to using them for God’s glory.

John Perry served as Sam’s collaborator on *Another Man’s War*, and again on *Living on the Edge*, accompanying Sam on a tour of East Africa in 2013. John is the author of 31 books including *Lady of Arlington*, nominated for the Lincoln Prize for books on the Civil War era and coauthor of the *New York Times* bestselling novel *Letters to God*. John graduated *cum laude* from Vanderbilt University, with additional studies at University College, Oxford, England. He lives in Nashville.

***Living on the Edge* by Sam Childers is available now from Barnes and Noble or Amazon.**



The Movie:

The Machine Gun Preacher

Starring Gerard Butler as Sam Childers

www.machinegunpreacher.org/movie

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The Documentary

The Machine Gun Preacher

“It’s not the ones I saved that I think about, it’s the ones I had to leave behind”—Sam Childers

Sam Childers grew up in the hills of Pennsylvania. His parents were decent folk, but at an early age, Sam started to show a knack for getting into trouble. His father, a former marine, grew fond of saying, “Boy, somebody’s gonna kill you one of these days!”

By his early teens, he was constantly in trouble. Whether it was fights, drugs, or married women, Sam slid deeper into a life of violence and crime. He eventually became a ‘Shotgunner’ – an armed guard for drug dealers. It was during this stage of

his life when he met Lynn, a stripper, who would later become his wife.

Haunted by his father’s words, he became increasingly concerned that he was going to be killed because of his lifestyle and began to distance himself from it. He found a job in construction and prospered, despite his continuing drug and alcohol habit. Lynn, meanwhile, returned to the Church she had forsaken as a young adult.

Sam also sought to re-establish his relationship with God and began to live a clean life. Lynn gave birth to a healthy baby girl and Sam started his own construction business. Little did they know that their greatest challenge was just around the corner.

In 1998, urged by his Pastor in America, Sam arrived in war-torn Southern Sudan with a mission group to help repair huts damaged in the conflict. One afternoon, he stumbled across the body of a child, torn apart by a landmine. He fell to his knees and made a pledge to God to do whatever it took to help the people of Southern Sudan. God sent him a message back: Build an orphanage for the children, and build it here.

The local people thought he was mad. At the time, the Lord’s Resistance Army, a brutal rebel militia that had kidnapped scores of children and murdered hundreds of thousands of villagers, was laying waste to the area. Sam was adamant and held fast to God’s mandate. He would build the orphanage there!

Slowly the orphanage began to take shape. During the day Sam cleared brush and built the huts that would house the children. During the night, he slept under a mosquito net, with a bible in one hand and an AK-47 in the other.

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Years later the orphanage is one of the largest in Southern Sudan and has fed and housed over 1,500 children. Today around 185 children call the orphanage home. Unfortunately, there are still many Sudanese children suffering and in need of rescue.

Today AOEA look after around 350 children 24/7 and prepare around 10,000 meals a day

The Machine Gun Preacher Story Documentary released - July 25th 2014

[The Machine Gun Preacher documentary](#)

The MGP Farm in Nwoya - Northern Uganda

We are going to feed 1000's of people with this project



Sam Childers and Angels of East Africa humanitarian organization purchased land in 2013, about 1,000 acres in Nwoya, North Western - Uganda about 2 miles from the Blue Nile River. The Nile can be seen clearly from the farm as the land has a gentle slope to the river.

The Farm will serve as a nature school of agriculture, farming and irrigation and for the children who live in the orphanages building began by AOEA in 2013. This project is full of hope for these children.

Angels of East Africa is a humanitarian organization dedicated to rescuing, restoring, and enabling the children caught in the crossfire of rebel atrocities in South Sudan. Angels of East Africa is a Children's Village for orphans located in South Sudan dedicated to the rescue, restoration, and enablement of children caught in the crossfire of the rebel atrocities in the area. Founded by an unorthodox American pastor from Pennsylvania named Sam Childers, the organization has been operating for many years, saving the lives of many children and renewing hope in a region where it has all but vanished.

Sam Childers, **The Machine Gun Preacher** Receives The Mother Teresa Memorial International Award For Social Justice In Mumbai, India On October 27, 2013!



Sam Childers receives the award for International Social Justice for his work in South Sudan and Northern Uganda. in the Rescuing of children in war torn zones.

He is also the **first American** to be honored with this award

The controversial "*Machine Gun Preacher*" has joined the ranks of **Malala Yousafzai** and the **Dalai Lama** in receiving a major award from an Indian charity that eulogizes *Mother Teresa*.

MUMBAI, India, Oct. 27, 2013 --*Sam Childers*, the **Machine Gun Preacher**, was chosen to receive the **Mother Teresa Memorial International Award for Social Justice**, one of the most prestigious awards bestowed by the Harmony Foundation in Mumbai, India for his humanitarian and benevolent acts through **The Angels of East Africa**

The award is to be bestowed to Mr. Childers for his devotion, commitment and dedication to lead rescue missions directly into the territory of the Lord's Resistance Army in Northern Uganda (1998 - 2007) (Southern Sudan 1999 - 2010) which has resulted in the rescue of over 1,000 abducted children. These efforts have propelled Sam Childers, known in the area as *The Machine Gun Preacher*, to be an outstanding icon worldwide for the cause of children affected by internal conflicts. Mr. Childers is still engaged in the rescue of children in troubled areas.

Sam Childers is recognized for his benevolent and humanitarian acts of dedicating himself and his resources to form the **Angels of East Africa** and the **Children's Village Orphanage** where rescued children are cared for, educated and returned to normal life to become responsible citizen and reach their full potential.

Mother Teresa, a Nobel Laureate, was a shining light for the cause of social justice. Her life and mission, set against a backdrop of the poor and destitute of India, was honored as a saint around the world. The Harmony Foundation is the only institution bearing the endorsement of the Missionaries of Charity founded by Mother Teresa. Past awards have been given to His Holiness the Dalai Lama, Dr. Ansar Burney and Baroness (Caroline) Cox, UK.

"For me to sit here and give all kinds of excuses to make it right, I can't do. But what I want to ask everyone out there, everyone that has a child, everyone that has a brother, a sister: if your child or family member was abducted today, if a mad man came, a terrorist came, abducted your family member or your child and if I said to

"If I can SAVE your child... If I can bring your child home today...does it matter how I bring them home?"

~ [Sam Childers](#)

NAZRET - ETHIPIA

Children's - Lives are going to be CHANGED in Nazret



Nazret: The Ethiopian Children's building is a MASSIVE project that will house around 60 children - but is self-running. It'll have an Ethiopian manager that will run the 6 story building that will contain a bakery, cafe, hotel accommodation, conference centre, homes for the children, small shops including a bank and even a mini supermarket - its Sam Childers biggest building project in Africa (although he has built much larger buildings when he was a building contractor in the USA - as Sam says "That was many years ago")

The older children will work in the compound after school or university (university is right across the road from this project... so it's an UNBELIEVABLE location (Childers says) for a centre like this. It's not only going to benefit our children, but also the whole community.

Childers purchased the land in September 2012 and the project is on track to be finished by late 2018. It's been an amazing journey to get to where we are now in Ethiopia, we've had a lot of favor from the local government there and they believe in what we are doing to help the children and community district.

Nimule - South Sudan

A war challenged country that is fighting for its life



Tribalization and war are destroying this country

Today South Sudan is in another war - a war with itself - tribe against tribe. The Dinka and Nuer are killing each other - the 2 largest tribes in South Sudan - Conflict has taken the country to where it should have never gone - these once brothers fighting side by side against a wanted President, Omar al Bashir (Wanted for crimes of humanity against his own people - by the International Criminal Commission in the Hague) from Northern Sudan are now at war with each other - its challenging as we have friends on both sides of this war - Sam believes it's all provoked by the president of Northern Sudan.

Today we maintain our orphanage in Nimule South Sudan - there's around 185 children at the orphanage compound - with the country being so unstable we just keep the Children's Village running as things could change at any time - "*We love South Sudan and its people*" says Childers but it's been such a challenge - since December 15th 2013 the country has been at war with itself - with tens of thousands being slaughtered just because there are from different tribes - children are again being taken as young as 11 to be trained as soldiers and with the odds of the worst famine ever in the history (According to the United Nations) of South Sudan - if peace is not negotiated soon the country will be in its worst state ever. Fact is our children need us and we'll be there no matter what happens - some of these children we've had for 12 - 13 years. There our children and we LOVE them.

A & E's Machine Gun Preacher TV SHOW to Pilot 4th Quarter of 2017



Machine Gun Preacher the Reality Series:

Filming started the 1st week of March 2016 in Florida/USA for the pilot that screened November 2017 - and with the opportunity for 28 episodes to be done over a 60-90 day period - Sam will be busy.

It's a great thing for us to show the world what we do in the USA and Eastern Africa - even though the 1st show is only about our work in the USA - our hope is that we'll be filming in Africa so people will see the Real MGP at work.

The amazing thing about this is exposure to the ministry/work - which at the end of the day allows us to grow our projects and rescue more children in Eastern Africa.

**To arrange an Interview or to contact: Sam Childers - Machine Gun Preacher
contact: Kevin Evans:**

(email is best as Kevin Travels with Sam Childers and is out of country quite a bit)

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