

GOFFMINISTRIES

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As the witch doctors began to offer their sacrifice to the fire, Pepe, the head native spiritualist, began to explain how the tobacco; when placed in the fire would please the "mother earth", and continue to provide food, protection and whatever else her children needed!

Dear Ones in Christ,

This pagan ceremony took place yesterday (now, about 3 weeks ago) and it was only by the grace of our Lord that I was allowed to attend. Last week a Chipiwayan Indian woman named, Dolly, invited me to come to her graduation. She was to be honored for completing a course on drug and alcohol abuse counseling. Dolly has been thirsting after righteousness and has attended some of our Bible studies in Rabbit's house.

There were about thirty or forty Chipiwayan natives from Ft. Resolution and another reserve near Hay River attending this ceremony. I was the only white man there; Blaine did not go, but not the only Christian. At once the Holy Spirit began to tell me to demonstrate for the new believers how to boldly proclaim the Name of Jesus to the unbelievers. As the people began to present gifts to Dolly, I asked her what song could I play and sing for her on my guitar? She said that any song would be fine, so I sang, "One Day At A Time". As I sang, tears filled her eyes and also Raymond's, her common-law husband. Next, Bro. Rabbit, asked me to sing my testimony song. When I finished singing, I gave a detailed account, loud enough for all to hear, of how Jesus came into my life and changed me. This is when the witch doctors stepped forward with their drums to begin the pagan rite mentioned above. They asked for all that wanted to put some tobacco into the fire as a prayer to mother earth, to walk in a circle around the fire, as they beat their drums and sang their chant. When I saw not only the new Christians stand their ground and refuse to participate, but at least half the others present also, my heart leaped for joy!! The Word of the Lord had caused division and gave strength to the weak!! Later, I explained to, Pepe, that Jesus Christ, who was the creator of the wood for the fire and the tobacco had given a much better sacrifice, once, for all time for all men, which was His blood! Jesus Then placed Himself in the fires of hell as our substitute and all those who receive His offering will never have to offer another sacrifice!!

Another victory took place three days later. Blaine and I were out looking for lost souls at midnight in the town of Hay River. We found some teens about fifteen and sixteen years old and they invited us to their beach party down by the lake. We did not hesitate as we had been trying to find where they hang out. They built a big bonfire out of some driftwood and we began playing our guitars and singing to them. These kids were already stoned on drugs and alcohol and using the most filthy language we had heard since leaving Yellowknife, (the capital city), where we had been ministering two weeks before. As time went by, we began to realize that they were all very sad about a sixteen- year- old friend of theirs who had died a few days ago from brain cancer. We suggested a song in memory of their friend and they all stood very quietly and reverently around the fire as we sang the song over and over again. When we finished I asked them to join hands as we prayed to the Lord, which they did. We then began hugging each other as the love of Jesus bound us together. We then presented each of them a new Bible. As we drove them all back to town, they were very quiet and reverent again and didn't utter one more cuss word. Praise the Lord!!

There are so many more precious incidents I could relate to you, but there simply isn't enough room in a letter. Just please remember that you all have a part in the ministry up here in the Northwest Territories of Canada. A part in every soul that comes to Christ, every soul that is touched and encouraged in any way to turn their back on their old way of life and learn to live for Jesus. This ministry is a pioneer effort, a breaking of ground, laying a foundation. It is tough and long and takes a lot of patience. We don't have multitudes of people flocking down to altars to accept Christ. That's not the way this type of ministry works, but we stay the course. We are available to these people 24 hours a day to love them, serve them and meet their needs just as Jesus would do if He were here in the flesh. And, He is here in the flesh, OUR flesh!! We thank God for giving us the privilege of bringing the Gospel to these precious people, who for the most part have never heard the true Gospel. We thank God for each of you too who pray for us and so faithfully support us. We need you, as we are all working towards the same goal of preaching the Gospel of Christ to those who haven't heard and building the Kingdom of our Dear Lord Jesus Christ. I love all of you and pray for you, may God bless you in every way you need His blessings!

Your fellow servant in Christ's work, Larry

Now A Word From Vaughn.....

Dear Fellow Soldiers in the Army of Christ,

As I sit and type these lines, I stop to thank the Lord for all of you. I thank the Lord that you have been so faithful in your prayers and support. Your prayers and sacrifices have reached the throne of God and He has heard your request. There are no words with which I can express my immense gratitude to you for your faithfulness to this ministry. I only know that it will be returned to you many times over in the form of blessings that will be pressed down, shaken together and overflowing.

It is now nearing 4 months since my return from the Amazon jungle. I have had the opportunity to meet with a lot of you in person and share the wonderful and awesome things the Lord is doing in the Amazon. I have also been able to share the intimate details of the seemingly gargantuan obstacles that lie in front of us, so that you will know how to pray for us. It has been hard for me these last four months, for my heart is constantly torn with the desire to return to the Amazon. As a father worries for his child who is far away, so I also have worried for the Amazon Mission base. But just as a father's heart fills with pride when his child stands strong in the face of adversity, so my heart is also filled with overwhelming pride and joy as the Amazon Mission has stood strong and unwavering in the face of incredible adversity and hardship in my absence. Brother Jonas (who I left in charge of the mission), despite his youth in the Lord, has firmly stood his ground even though he has been faced with rejection and persecution for his presence at the mission

base. In fact he has blossomed into a valiant leader and has won several people to the Lord. I spoke with him on the phone 2 days ago and was amazed that his joy was unquenched by the hardships they are facing. He seemed to be bubbling over with excitement as he recounted all the things that had transpired over the past month since we had last spoken to each other. I praise the Lord for him and ask that you continue to pray for him and his family, that will be gaining a new member this coming September, as sister Anita is expecting.

There have been some recent developments in the Amazon between the Waiwai tribe and the federal government of Brazil. An un-contacted tribe has been located in the state of Para by the Waiwai, but the federal government filed arrest charges against the Waiwai chief of Mapuera village for trying to contact them with the gospel. This has caused a ground swell movement to expel the federal agents off of all Waiwai reservations. Hallelujah! This is an answer to prayer! Please pray that this movement will grow and that the Waiwai will be able to stand strong in their resolve and not be dissuaded from this effort by the deception and fear tactics that the federal government is sure to employ against them. If the Waiwai are successful in this effort, it will open the door for the exploration and contact of several un-contacted tribes that live within the borders of their reservations.

On a personal level, I am requesting prayer for Irene. She has not been feeling very good for quite some time now. We have scheduled a doctor's visit to do a complete physical. Also Irene is in desperate need of a lot of dental work. We have tried for years to find a good dental program to help reduce the outrageous cost of dental work these days, with no success. We are praying that the Lord will lead us to a good Christian dentist that would be willing to help us with her dental needs. Please pray with us about this in earnest prayer.

In closing, I just want to thank the Lord for providing many of the items I listed in my last newsletter. The video projector arrived last night, and the - micro- hydro- generator arrived several weeks ago. We are still looking for the bible films in Portuguese and also, Portuguese bibles.

I want to remind everyone that NOW is the time to submit your email to be added to the Amazon Update mailing list. I will be in the Amazon for almost 8 months this time and I want to get as many of your email addresses added to the list as possible, so I can send you updates straight from the Amazon jungle via satellite up-link. I am working on a way for you to write back to me so I can receive fellowship and encouragement from you as well. Even if you have already submitted your email address, please submit it again. I had a system crash and I am not sure if I recovered everyone that was on my email list. I know you will regret it if you do not make the list because of all of the great feedback I have received from those that were on the list last year. To get on the list, just send me an email at: vaughn@goffministries.org .

I pray that the Lord will bless each and every one of you with overwhelming peace and joy that knows no bounds.

On the front lines for Jesus,
Vaughn, Irene,
Esther, Ephraim, & Benjamin

Also, a word from Betty..... Just wanted you all to know how very much we love and appreciate you. I will be leaving Lubbock on July 22nd to go to be with Larry in the Northwest Territories. We are both overjoyed to be together again after four months of separation. I'm looking forward to seeing all the people again that I met last year also. I really bonded with some of them. I do need your prayers for traveling mercies as I have been having some back problems and this is a long hard trip with many changes of planes and layovers. I know the Lord will sustain me though, He has never let me down yet! Praise Him! Also, my mother and father are in very ill health and it is so hard for me to leave them. I am on call to help them 24 hours a day, and although my children and grandchildren will be near by, it won't be the same, as a lot of them work and can't be reached when needed. I am entrusting them into the hands of my Lord though and I know He will take care of them, but please do pray for them. Thank you so much.

Larry and I plan to fly back to Lubbock on September 10th, arriving Sept. 11th. Blaine and Heather will pull their trailer back to Arizona with our chevy tahoe and then bring our vehicle to us here in Lubbock and pick up their truck. Larry and Vaughn will then be ministering together here in the U.S. until Vaughn and his family fly to Brazil to the Amazon Mission on Sept. 30th. After that, Larry and I will be ministering together until he returns to the Northwest Territories next year. Just a little of our future schedule for those who may be interested in setting up some meetings. You may call and do this with Vaughn anytime. He and family will be here to minister to you the rest of July, August, and Sept. They would love to see you, and you will love their fellowship and be blessed by their ministry! So please do get in touch with them. I'll list his phone numbers below. So, until next time, we love you and may God richly bless you each one.

THE GOFF FAMILY
Larry and Betty
Vaughn, Irene, Esther, Ephraim and Benjamin

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