06-22-06

NEWSLETTER FROM LARRY:

Dear Fellow Heirs in Christ,

I just had to get up and write you a quick update. It's about 1:00 a.m., but there's still plenty of "daylight" by which to write this letter, up here in the Arctic.

Today the Lord gave me such favor with the people of Inuvik, Northwest Territories, Canada! I can only believe that it was because you have been in constant prayer to tear down the strongholds of the enemy. It all started with the Annual Aboriginal Day Celebration in Inuvik. It is a day of festivities, where the Eskimos all come together and play games and have contests that have been in their culture for a 1000 years. Also, many of the natives put on original clothing, made of animal skins and dance to the beat of drums. It is very easy to discern that the dancing and chanting is a reminder of the spirits of darkness, which hold on to these lost people, to blind them and keep them from receiving the Good News of the Gospel! The drumming especially is powerful to drum up evil spirits and keep these people going back to their old ways. This is not just a fun celebration of games and dancing, it is Satan's way of keeping these precious people in spiritual bondage! Please pray with us for their deliverance!

There were around 1000 men, women and children at this event. There came a time between events that they needed some one to sing a song. Praise the Lord, you guessed it, I was picked! I grabbed my guitar, got up on the platform and sang two gospel songs. When I sang "One Day at a Time", a lot of the people sang along with me. I was wearing my bright yellow "Stand Up For Jesus" T-shirt, so they knew exactly where I stood on the subject of Jesus Christ! Then, suddenly the Holy Spirit spoke into my spirit, "You are no longer a stranger to these people!" Later, I was asked to back up another singer with my guitar. I really felt a breakthrough in the Spirit. There were people there from all the surrounding villages, so now when I go to those villages, some of the people will already know me and receive me. Hallelujah!! Some time later it began to rain so we had to move into a building called "The Friendship Lodge. While the band was setting up I was again asked to play music, so I played old gospel hymns for them on my harmonica for about half an hour. This too was received with enthusiasm.

Later on, I was honored to dance with one of the most respected elders there. She is a great-grandmother, about 85 years old, known by all. I also danced with her daughter and another older lady. Then I got pulled into dancing a very fast, square dancing jig, for about 30 minutes without stopping. That did me in for dancing for the rest of the night! HA! It was a great ice breaker though, a good way to join in and relate to the people. So, in short, the favor I attained in one short afternoon, without your prayers and God opening the doors, could have taken a year to accomplish! Glory to our precious Lord, and thank you for your faithfulness, we are all in this work together!

I also want to mention that Tim Stone has been right there with me, backing me up in everything the Lord has been doing, and has been involved with me in daily Bible studies, street witnessing and showing movies every day since I have been here. He helped me drive up here and helped me move all our equipment over here to Inuvik; two very long hard trips with many trials along the way. What a servant of servants!

Well, that's all for now precious ones, thank you all for being here with us, helping to spread the light of Jesus Christ in these dark places. We will have victory if we persevere! Your brother in Christ, Larry

A NOTE FROM TIM:

The Lord is truly faithful. We have seen Him work each day. The power of the covering of your prayers is so genuinely appreciated and is so necessary. The dark work of Satan has been in progress for generations. There has not been a single individual we have encountered who has not been deeply hurt from alcoholism, violence, incest, or other serious sexual imposition, regardless of gender. The experiences of these people have most often been by members of their own family. But in the midst of this we see, one life at a time, how Jesus is still in the life-changing business. People are receiving healing. We have also encountered several precious ones who already own a deep relationship with Christ. Most everyone who owns this relationship with Christ has had to overcome life-destroying obstacles of Olympic proportions. It is as if I can see a net being woven, day by day, which will be used to make big catches.

It seems that many who are willing to proclaim Jesus, when we bring it up, have a deep sense of relationship with Him, but have not had fellowship. They are hungry. Please pray that the Lord will use us, to bring these people into fellowship and encourage their boldness and the tearing down of walls. As the scripture says, "One can rout a thousand; two can rout 10,000". Imagine how the Lord will use a net of many to restore families and change a community. It is war. We work for the winning side. Thank you for fighting these battles with us. We would love to share individual stories with you, but they are many, and more are about to take place, (and this is not a good time to leave the trenches). God bless you all and those who are dear to you. Tim

JULY 19TH-AN UPDATE FROM BETTY:

Dear brothers and Sisters,

Sorry to be getting this mailed to you a month late, but I have the same old excuse, busy, busy, busy. I'm sure you're all busy too, so you'll understand. There's so much to tell, but I'll just hit a couple of highlights.

Larry finally got the boat repaired and got the new motor mounted on it. PTL! It works GREAT! Gets right up on top of the water with those ski-like pontoons that Larry invented and so saves gasoline, and the motor gets twice the mileage the old motor did. That's very important since gas is over \$5.00 a gallon there and it takes 100 gallons to get to Tuk. That's where Larry and Tim took their first trip to through the Arctic Ocean. It's nine to eleven hours straight driving time. Going there though, they were stranded for 5 days while a storm with 80 mph winds passed over them. They turned into a cove that had a cabin where they could wait it out and a safe harbor for the boat. PTL! Later when they got to Tuk the Lord led them to the house of a Christian sister and they found out that the cabin they stayed in belonged to her sister. They had some great ministry time there and God opened some doors that will be important for the future ministry in that village. After arriving back in Inuvik they realized that God had led their every step and provided their every need at just the right moment! Glory!

A few days after they got back, Tm Stone left to go home to Ohio. He decided to hitchhike back to experience whatever the Lord has in store for him. We can't wait to here his stories. Larry will miss the companionship. He does get lonely by himself, but hey, he's got God the Father, Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit and all God's angels with him, plus all your prayers. Either Vaughn or myself plan to go spend some time with him and maybe drive back home with him in Sept. or Oct., depending on the weather.

In the meantime, Larry is keeping very busy in the Lord's work. He works 5-8 hours a day out in the community and on the streets meeting people, praying with them, feeding the hungry, both spiritually and physically, and just letting the Lord have complete control over every minute of his life. There is a certain bench where the worst alcoholics go to sit, as they aren't welcome anywhere else in the village. Their own people reject them, and these same people are alcoholics too, but not as far gone as the ones who sit on this bench. Everyday, Larry goes to talk to them, sing to them and pray with them. It has really made an impression to the rest of the people in Inuvik. They can see the love of Jesus going out to these poor, lost, forsaken people and they know they themselves are not doing a thing to help them and neither are the Christians. It is sad that God has to send someone all the way from America to care about these people when there are some, not many, but some Christians right there in Inuvik. I believe that most foreign missionaries find this to be true though. Thank God for those that do hear His voice and go wherever He tells them! Pray for Larry and his work there. The people are held in bondage by principalities and powers of Satan, but we, Larry, you and all of us together will work towards their deliverance! Thank you so much for being a part of this ministry. You are not forgotten, we love you each one and pray often for you. May God bless you greatly.

Now, on to other exciting news! Vaughn, Irene, Ephraim, Benjamin and Ellie arrived home on June 20th. Oh how happy we all are to see them after eight long arduous months of ministering in the Amazon jungle through the longest rainy season in recent memory! They were really wiped out physically and have been getting some much-needed rest. Vaughn has just begun to minister and just returned home from three meetings in the Abilene, TX area. If any of you would like to have him come and speak and share all the things God has done over the past eight months, please contact us. It doesn't have to be a big fancy meeting. He would just like to come see you and bless you, and get some fellowship himself. I know you would all be blessed to have him and his family and get to meet their new daughter, Ellie. Pray about it and let us know so we can get you scheduled in. Thanks and God bless you.

Well, we're trying to keep these letters as short as possible, so you busy people have time to read them, so I'll close for now, but remember, as I said before, you are not forgotten, and we know you don't forget us either. We are very grateful for that. You are forever in our hearts and prayers. Your sister in Christ, Betty

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P.S. Pray for Esther, as she is in Brazil (a different state), in a study abroad program from Texas Tech University. She's studying Portuguese, but witnessing and taking some great stands for Jesus too. We're so proud of her!