



## GOFF MINISTRIES INC.

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12/19/09

### END OF YEAR GOFF MINISTRIES UPDATE & PRAISE REPORT

Dear Fellow servants of Christ Jesus,

Wow, where has this year gone? Here we are at the end of 2009 and I as I think back over the past year it all seems like a blur. To say that I have been busy this year would be a tremendous understatement. In fact from the beginning of the year up until Thanksgiving we had a constant flow of hurting people going through the program at The Good News Camp. I myself have been so occupied that this is the first time in 6 months that I have been able to personally write a newsletter to you. So here goes.

Words cannot express the tremendous gratitude that I feel to all of you who have faithfully stood by us through this last year. Economically speaking it has been a hard year for the whole country and many of you and I know that your continued financial support came at a sacrifice to you personally. I am very humbled by your gifts and I pray everyday that the Lord's blessing will continue to be upon you. I know that the Lord has huge rewards for you both here and in eternity, because God's stock market never crashes and "Spreading the Gospel" stock never loses value.

It would be impossible for me to recount all of the testimonies from the Good News Camp this year. Many people have written about their experience at the camp and I hope to one day put these personal letters on the website for all to see. I have had very little time this year to do anything else but minister at the camp to those going through the program. There have been many days where my physical flesh lacks the strength to keep going but with each new person, the Lord gave me supernatural spiritual strength to finish the job. Sometimes when I am away from the camp I think to myself, "How long can I keep this rigorous routine up?" But when I see the hurting and lost faces of those people in slavery to drugs and other substances, the answer is clear; "as long as the Lord wants me to He will give me the strength to carry on." Of course the Lord knows our needs and He decided to give me some rest towards the end of the year here and one day I found that the last person had graduated and I had no new applicants. This has given me some much needed time to take care of some other things like spending some quality time with my family and writing this newsletter among other things, which I will talk about a little later.

As hard physically as this year has been on me, I think it has been harder emotionally on my family, especially my wife Irene and son Benjamin. During the summer months when Benjamin was out of school Irene and Benjamin spent most of their time with me at the camp and what a glorious time it was. Because of the special person that Irene is, she is able to minister to people in a way that I never could. When she and I minister together to the people at the camp it is much more effective than when I minister alone. Unfortunately, because we have no permanent dwelling place at the camp, Irene cannot be there with me all the time and only a few days a month during the school season when Benjamin has to be in school in Lubbock. This situation has resulted in me having to be separated from them for up to 3 weeks out of every month and this has been a heavy burden especially on Irene. Although it is a sacrifice we are willing to make for the work of the Lord, it is one that we have prayed continuously for a solution to. Please pray with us that the Lord will provide the perfect solution to this problem.

There have been several changes for the better at the camp this year. Early on in the year the Lord began to show me through several events that it was necessary to require entry application to get into the program. At first there was some uneasiness about doing this as some felt we might miss someone who needed help. But looking back over the year I now see that it was what the Lord wanted, and it has had good results. Another change was to have a single start date once a month for each new group. This has led to me being able to have more consistent and steadily advancing bible teaching

throughout the 21-day program. These changes have led to a better and more stable environment at the camp for the leadership as well as for the campers.

There are several needs and projects at the camp that we are earnestly praying for the Lord's provision for. The camp will be celebrating its third year of operation in 2010 and though we started with nothing more than a tent, from the beginning the Lord has given a vision that I have continuously worked towards. Although the camp is very effective as it currently is, one day I have a vision of it having the logistics to help many more people. Even though the camp is far from what I see it becoming right now, little by little, as the Lord has provided, we have completed several improvements to the camp. This year we have completed a 20 X 40 foot storm cellar, a fishing pond, and grown a large chicken flock for eggs and meat. The more time we spend at the camp the more we see the need for better living facilities both for staff and for campers. We have several projects in mind to change this and we are praying for the Lord's provision to enable us to complete them.

**1. Walls and ceiling for our main building.**

1. The main building currently has hinged metal sheeting walls. Although these walls can be lifted or closed for cold or hot weather they are not sufficient for weather extremes like 105 degrees heat or 10 degrees cold. We have had several people quit the program in the past year because of weather extremes. For this reason we feel the need to close the building in with insulated walls and a ceiling and install a cooling system.

**2. Metal roof over storm cellar.**

1. We were blessed with a large 20' X 40' storm cellar. This left us with a large concrete platform that we would like to put to good use. We are praying for the materials to build a metal roof over the storm cellar. This will not only provide an outside shaded area for us to use after the main building is walled off, but it will also help the storm cellar to stay cooler during the summer months, as it now becomes sometime unbearably hot due to the direct sunlight on the concrete.

**3. 24' X 24' Cabin for Vaughn's family.**

1. Ever since we started the Good News Camp, we have needed a permanent home at the camp for my family and I. Until now the Lord has not provided for this need. This has been a great burden on my family, as it has required me to stay a minimum of 3 weeks out of every month away from my family for most of the year. Until the Lord provides in this area I would like to build a small 24-foot by 24-foot cabin so that my family could live with me full time at the camp.

**4. Small 8' X8' Cabins for the campers.**

1. Up until now we have used tents for campers to stay in. Even though we like the idea of campers staying in tents for several reasons during mild temperatures, the truth is that during weather extremes they are just not adequate for long-term living. And, they don't last very long in the high winds and dust and we have to buy new ones every month, which cost quite a bit. I would like to build at least four 8 foot by 8 foot cabins for campers to stay in. This year I experimented with trying to make adobe block from our soil to reduce the cost of building these cabins, but unfortunately I had no success. I am still praying I can someday make adobe work for us because of it's economics and eco benefits, but for the time being I may resort to building some simple shed like structures out of conventional materials.

There are still some other needs of the camp but I will not put them in this letter as it is growing to long. You can also check our website to see what our current needs are.

We already have two people signed up for the next program starting on January 5<sup>th</sup>, and if everything goes like it went last year don't expect to hear from me for several months. Oh, and if any of you feel led to come out to the camp for a visit, the door is always open to you. Not only will you get to see first hand the work the Lord is doing through the camp, you might even have the chance to minister to the people going through the program. I would love to see you out there this year if the Lord allows.

Well, I could go on and on about what the Lord has done this year at the camp. But it would be selfish of me to hog this whole newsletter for myself when Dad has some exciting testimonies to tell from his work on the streets of Corpus Christi. So I must stop here. But not before wishing you a blessed CHRISTmas and an abundantly joyful New Year full of the Love and the blessing of our Lord Jesus.

In His harvest field,  
Vaughn, Irene, Esther, Ephraim, and Benjamin

#### UPDATE FROM LARRY:

Hello everybody,

12-19-09

Last night was probably one of the most exciting days of the ministry down here in Corpus Christi, Texas. I was ministering in a What-A- Burger on Baldwin Street, which is in the center of gangland. At around 1:00 am, I walked four young gang members, around 17-23 yrs.old. I was playing my guitar and singing and they came and sat down close by me to listen. I was very surprised that they even cared about my style of music. I sang about 12 songs before going over to sit down with them and minister the Gospel to them. I was amazed at the respect they showed to me and how intently they listened, for about 45 minutes. They then got up and left.

Earlier I had been sitting and talking with a police officer who is a Christian and works this particular What-A Burger every Friday and Saturday night to keep the peace. I had met him a few weeks ago when Valene and Scott had come down from New Braunfels, to minister with me. He was very impressed with the ministry then and thanked us for what we were doing for these young gang members, as it is a very needed ministry. Anyway, I returned to the table where the officer was sitting and as we began talking, one of the gang members came back in, walked up to me, held out his hand and when I shook his hand, he squeezed it with feeling and said, "Thank you sir for sharing all those good words with us." Well, the police officer was shocked! He said, "I have known these particular gang members for awhile and I can't believe what my eyes just saw and my ears just heard. Those kids showed you such respect; they never even used a cuss word with you. As for myself and the other officers who work here, they just cuss us out." He told me that this group is a pretty rough gang and that the young man who came back in and shook my hand was the leader of the gang. He said, "You must have really touched his heart." Then he said, "You have something so powerful going on, until you started coming here this was a pretty bad place to work, I was constantly having to throw out drunks and break up fights and arguments, but now it's turned into a pretty nice place to work"

Besides ministering in about 15 What-A-Burgers in the Corpus Christi coastal area, God has also opened the doors of two bars for me to minister in. One is, The Oasis, just outside the gate of the Naval base and the other is Shorty's Bar in Port Aransas, where I have my pontoon boat parked. By the way, I live on my pontoon boat and love it!

I have only described one incident that has happened when I am out ministering. God has blessed me with many, many more just as exciting as this one, every time I have gone out. I know it is because of the prayers of all of you who have been praying against the principalities and powers over this area that has helped me be so successful. I haven't had any resistance to the gospel yet, which is just amazing! Thank you all and please keep up those prayers, they are so important for the ministry here. God is so good and I pray He blesses every one of you.

Yours faithfully on the frontlines for Jesus,  
Larry

#### A NOTE FROM BETTY:

Hi,

I just want to thank all of you for praying for me too I have really needed it. God has been so good to sustain me through the last few weeks. My Dad had his knee surgery re-done and my Mom can do little to help him, so I have been taking care of them both almost constantly, plus getting all the Christmas shopping done and cards out. It is my pleasure to help my mother and father in their time of need, but it takes all my strength to do it, so thanks for remembering me. I always lift you up in prayer too and I hope you and your families have very blessed times celebrating together during this season of the year. Have a very MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!!

P.S. Last but not least:

You remember our last newsletter told about the upcoming graduation of the students from Goff's Missionary Training Center in Kenya, Africa. They wanted Larry to come to oversee that graduation, but Larry didn't have the leading of the Lord to go to Africa and he also didn't feel up to the trip physically. Well, the Lord spoke to our daughter and son-in law,

Valerie and Pete Bailey to go in Larry's place. PTL! They have been missionaries for over thirty years in many countries, so they have a lot of experience in remote areas of foreign countries. Anyway, they went and the graduation was so special, the people were very happy we sent them over to participate. They gave out diplomas and also a new bible to each graduate, plus a small gift of some money. It was a blessed time!!

Valerie and Pete also took with them the "Jesus" movie in the Pokot language, the Turkana language and the Swahili language to show back in the native villages. They went all the way back to the Pokot village where Larry had built a school before he left. They took lots of food to give out, as there is much starvation all over that area because of a terrible drought. The natives were so happy to get food, but they were also happy to get the gospel in their own language. When they showed the "Jesus" movie they had hundreds show up and they sat without moving or making a sound, with tears streaming down their faces till it was over. Then they all stood and spontaneously raised their hands and started singing! Valerie said the Holy Spirit was so strong you couldn't help but be moved to the depths of your soul.

Right now what ever you are doing, where ever you are at there's something I want you to realize. Thousands of men women and children are listening to the gospel of Jesus Christ, the New Testament, in their own language for the first time in their lives! And the reason they can is that Valerie and Pete took with them "Proclaimers" to give out. What is a "Proclaimer"? It is a little black box with a micro-chip in it with the entire New Testament in their own native language and the only thing you can do with it, is play the New Testament! It is virtually indestructible and is run by solar power. You just turn it on and it plays the New Testament in their own language. They gave out two Pokot Proclaimers to the leaders so people could come and listen to them at the school. They also left two in Turkana and two in Swahili to be given out to the people that speak those languages. It is a wonderful thing that God gave someone the knowledge to make these precious instruments to spread the gospel throughout an area that has never had the gospel of Christ before! Hallelujah! Just pray for the people to get revelation and get saved when they listen. I'm sure we will be hearing good reports of the results of these Proclaimers!

Valerie and Pete had to fight through a lot of resistance from Satan to get their mission accomplished, but they persevered and got the job done. Pray for their physical recovery. I can't tell you how primitive and how hard of a trip they have had, but they are so blessed to have been used and deem it worth all the physical suffering to get the gospel to these remote villages.

So, finally we will close and pray this whole, long letter blesses you and all who read it. We again pray God's blessings on each of you and thank you so much for being a part of all God is doing with Goff Ministries. You all have a part and will receive your rewards.

Yours in His Service,

Betty, for the family

**DONATIONS:**

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