

Newsletter

Volume 10, Issue 2

February 2006

Kreider's Korner

I remember the excitement in our house growing up when somebody began to build a large home on a vacant lot down the road from us. A concrete truck rolled up to pour foundations, and for several days we could hear the sound of vigorous pounding as carpenters framed the walls. Then everybody left. I never knew why. Not another nail was pounded. The frame stood winter and summer - as long as I lived there - a house of sticks and little more.

Some of God's projects stall, too. Five centuries before Jesus was born, the Israelites returned from exile to find Jerusalem in ruins and their beloved temple destroyed. With great enthusiasm they set about rebuilding it.

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However, Zerubbabel the governor, got little farther than laying the foundation before opposition set in. Neighbors fought the project tooth and nail, finally succeeding in putting a halt to the construction (Ezra 4). Zerubbabel's enemies mocked him. His supporters became discouraged. For years the site stood silent.

Failure. Zerubbabel felt like a failure. Oh, there were plenty of other things to do. Zerubbabel set to work building his own wood-paneled home, but his grand dream of building the temple had fizzled.

He was probably like the rest of us when failure looms. What little self-confidence we have simply floats away. We try to keep ourselves from more pain by denying the reality of the situation. We become skeptical of any effort we might think of making. We protect ourselves from getting our hopes too high again. We look at the ground rather than the sky, at the past rather than the future.

And then one day a man of God,

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St Paul's Bible Church

Missionary Update

Dear St. Paul's Family,

Here come a wee note to thank you once again for all you do for us--your prayers, your financial support, your words of encouragement. We are so grateful.

Things are going well for us here in Hemet. We have met with the pastor and one of the elders of the Hispanic church we are attending, and will soon begin a discipleship program in the church. We also talked of other ministries we would like to offer them, and these are being planned for as well. Very soon we will be starting a four-week seminar on Biblical Finances which we will first present to the pastor and his wife and the elders of the church. After that we will be doing the seminar with other groups in the church.

Last night we were invited to the pastor's home for his 44th birthday party. There were several other folks from the church there, and it was a wonderful opportunity to get to know the pastor and his family as well as the other folks.

We are feeling so much better now that we are actually getting into the work. It's great to be back on track again after being so long in the planning stages. Thanks so much for praying.

We send you all our love,

Jim & Gail McKelvey, CAM International

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Greetings from Cold Prague Czech Republic,

It has been quite a while since you have heard from us. Life continues to be full of ministry opportunities and God's goodness.

Christmas was spent in Austria this year with Debby's brother and family. We mostly rested there and tried getting over the flu or cold that we all seemed to be dragged down with in some way or another since October. It was a good time of just relaxing and enjoying family. Praise God for that.

Now we are back to business as usual with the children in school and not really wanting to get up in the dark mornings. Greg is teaching this semester again. He is continues to disciple several of the students; he is writing for his dissertation, and he is the moderator for our church for this year.

Greg was also at a conference for Greater Europe Mission in Berlin. Among other things there was allot of planning for our summer annual conference that took place there.

I continue to watch over the kids and make sure they are going the right directions. I also continue to teach piano to several students (I really want to get them involved in church and get rid of the fear they have of playing and singing in front of others). My life is also busy

with the children's school and activities I have with several moms. I enjoy getting to know them and their cultures. Pray that they will see Christ in me when I am with them.

Next week end I will be taking Selina to Spain to a conference that an Educational service is putting on. She will be taking a specific test to try to figure out just what we need to do to help her in her struggle with reading and writing. I will let you know what they come up with. She is frustrated as she tries so hard to progress and we are frustrated as we don't know how to help her. This was our closest and easiest and cheapest option. Thank you for praying in this area as well.

Please also pray for our students. One of the guys came down with measles. Many of the others have not been vaccinated yet. Pray they won't all get it.

Also pray for Johanna from Hungary. She was a Certificate student last year and is now a Masters student. She struggles getting her work done as she is also taking University classes from her home country. Pray that she will now be able to catch up with her work here as she is done with the classes in Budapest as of today. Pray for me as I interact with her on various levels.

Thank you for your love and concern in our lives. Thank you for your prayers.....we need them desperately.

Blessings to you in return,

Debby for the Nichols family, Greater Europe Missions

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February, 2006 Prayer Update

Dear Friends,

For the first week of April, we're planning an "All-School Retreat." It looked like we had a team to come to help with the speaking. But four of the six have had to cancel out. Do pray that at least two more people can come to take the place of the others. Our missionary kids need this time to commit their lives to the Lord. It's one of the few times in the year when they are challenged spiritually in their own language.

Answers to prayer this month:

1. This year's annual Translation Workshop is going well with translators completing their goals and Indians getting into the Word. Several of the Indians still are not followers of God's way. May they make decisions to follow Him.
2. From two of our neighbors, we've heard, "That book you

Kreider's Korner (cont.)

Zechariah, began to speak words that pierced Zerubbabel to the heart and filled him with fresh hope: "This is the word of the Lord to Zerubbabel," came the message. "Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit, says the Lord Almighty." Zerubbabel could feel his heart pounding as the message continued. "What are you, O mighty mountain? Before Zerubbabel you will become level ground. Then he will bring out the capstone to shouts of 'God bless it! God bless it!' The hands of Zerubbabel have laid the foundation of this temple, his hands will also complete it" (Zechariah 4:6-7).

The project had seemed like an immovable mountain, Zerubbabel thought. But now with God at work he knew he could finish the temple.

The final words of the prophecy jolted him. "Do not despise the day of small things. Men will rejoice when they see the plumb line in the hand of Zerubbabel" (vs. 10).

He had despised that early start. How weak, how insignificant, how naive he had been. Yet, in spite of all that, God had been in those beginnings.

How often our efforts for God are attacked by the enemy. We can get so discouraged we don't even want to try again, but the fact is that God delights in taking the insignificant and making something out of it. Down through history we can see the pattern:

- Moses' rod that delivered a nation from Egypt (Exodus 4:1-9),
- The jawbone of a donkey that in Samson's hand killed a thousand Philistines (Judges 15:14-16),
- Five smooth stones bought down the giant Goliath (1 Samuel 17),
- The small jar of oil that sustained a widow and her two sons through years of famine (2 Kings 4:1-7),
- Five barley loaves and a couple fish that fed

thousands who had come to see Jesus (Matthew 14:13-21), and

- The mustard seed Jesus said would become a great tree for birds to find shelter (Matthew 13:31-32).

What little thing, what dream, what false start, have you despised? Your small church, your tiny Bible study, your hopes of ministry for Christ? Do you despise your failures? Well don't. Surrender them to the God who delights in taking human weakness and showing His strength. Take another look at your discarded dreams, this time through God's eyes: "Not by might, not by power, but my Spirit says the Lord Almighty" (Zechariah 4:6).

Trustee Update

The trustees are all reorganized and ready to continue our job of stewarding the money for the church. We will try hard to keep expenses down. As of this writing, we don't have any huge projects in mind, but in our position we never know what the next day will bring. If any of you see something at the church that needs attention, please bring it to the attention of any of the trustees.

The trustees have also begun organizing the church archives, and setting up an archive room in the basement. If you are interested in helping out in this, please see Suzy Jillson.



Let's go to the Arctic Edge to see how to Be Strong, Be Courageous, and Follow Jesus. Trek north to LifeWay's VBS 2006, Arctic Edge, where daily excursions from Big Bear Lodge will have kids hiking across the tundra, exploring the sea scape by kayak, and skimming the backcountry in a float plane. Based on Joshua 1:9, Arctic Edge helps kids find the courage required to follow Jesus in every day challenges as they learn that God is always with them

We will undertake this journey from July 24 to the 28th. Please think about helping us bring this program to the children of our church and our community. We will have a short meeting after Sunday School on Feb. 19 to just talk a bit about what is going on.

Thanks - Eleanor

Missionary Update (cont.)

gave us for Christmas(Purpose-Driven Life) is really good." Praise God. May all of them read it.

3. Jean's mother's health is like a yo-yo. Right now she's not well at all and requiring 24-hour/day care. My sisters are wearing out but, of course, want to take care of her as long as possible.

4. We had a great start of a new school semester.

We also praise God for the safe return of Bill, one of our teachers, and his family.

Prayer Requests for this month

1. We are still concerned about one of our translators, Betty, who is working herself to a frazzle. As she completed this last book of the New Testament, it means that the whole New Testament is in first draft or in better shape. She still needs rest and restoration. Continue to pray for her.

2. Patricia who plans to come to Brazil in July to take over the "R" program is continuing the process in spite of the obstacles. Not one of her family is a believer. So when her mother also came down with breast cancer recently, her family insisted that Patricia give up her "unreasonable" ideas of being a missionary. But the Lord is answering prayers. Her mother's cancer was caught soon enough to be treated. It seems the enemy is trying his best to close down this translation program.

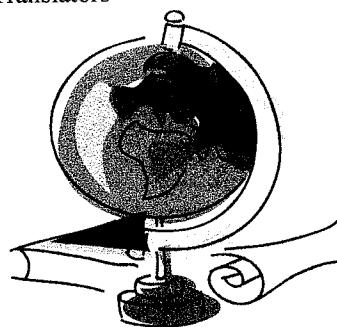
3. Another program that is under constant attack is the Wayampi (why-am-pe) program. We plan to tell you more about this program at furlough time. The translators have completed the New Testament in one dialect and are working in the second dialect. Because the attacks from the evil one are escalating, the Jensens need protection as does anyone connected with that language program.

4. We would ask you to pray for one of our students whom we'll call Vic. He desperately needs to submit himself to the Lord, but he is not aware of his own need.

We know we can count on you to pray. Thanks. Thank you too for your financial support—both means of support mean so much to us.

Yours,

Jean (and Wes) Bell, Wycliffe Bible Translators



Primary Class

Memory Verses

January 29 - *Lord, you are great. You are really worthy of praise.*
Psalm 145:3

February 12 & 19 - *Let us be thankful. Then we can worship God in a way that pleases Him.* *Hebrews 12:28*

February 26 - *A friend loves at all times.* *Proverbs 17:17*

February ACF Event

The ACF will hold the Annual Valentine's Dinner on Saturday, February 18th at 6:00 p.m. The entertainment for the evening is "underwraps" but we know that everyone will have a good time. The cost for dinner is \$10 per person. Child care will be provided. If you have any questions, please contact a member of the ACF Committee (Oakleys, Jillsons, or Kreiders). Reservations are required. Please RSVP to Karen Jillson at (773)445-7166 by February 15th. We look forward to seeing you there!

Coffee-Time

The new calendar for Coffee-Time is posted on the refrigerator. Lot's of months/weeks are available, so please sign up.

Do you not know what the responsibilities for coffee-time are, but think you would like to sign up? Please see Heide Sullivan.

Bible Factoids

The Book of Job deals with the question, Why do innocent people suffer?

The Book of Psalms is the longest book in the Bible, containing 150 individual psalms.

The psalms were written by many different people across a period of about 500 years.

The theme of the Book of Proverbs is godly wisdom.

The central personality in the Book of 2 Samuel is King David.

The shortest book in the Old Testament is Obadiah, containing only 21 verses.

Jeremiah is called the "weeping prophet" because of his sorrow over the sins of his people.

A Sad Situation

The following is a poem written by Judge Roy Moore from Alabama. Judge Moore was sued by the ACLU for displaying the Ten Commandments in his courtroom foyer. He has been stripped of his judgeship and now they are trying to strip his right to practice law in Alabama. The judge's poem sums it up quite well.

America the Beautiful,
or so you used to be.
Land of the pilgrims' pride:
I'm glad they'll never see

Babies piled in dumpsters,
Abortion on demand,
Oh, sweet land of liberty;
your house is on the sand.

Our children wander aimlessly
poisoned by cocaine,
Choosing to indulge their lusts,
when God has said abstain.

From sea to shining sea,
our Nation turns away
From the teaching of God's love
and a need to always pray.

We've kept God in our temples,
how callous we have grown.
When earth is but His footstool,
and Heaven is His throne.

We've voted in a government
that's rotting at the core,
Appointing Godless Judges
who throw reason out the door.

Too soft to place a killer
in a well deserved tomb,
but brave enough to kill a baby
before he leaves the womb.

You think that God's not angry,
that our land's a moral slum?
How much longer will He wait
before His judgement comes?

How are we to face our God,
from Whom we cannot hide?
What then is left for us to do,
but stem this evil tide?

If we who are His children,
will humbly turn and pray;
See His holy face
and mend our evil way:

Then God will hear from Heaven
and forgive us of our sins,
He'll heal our sickly land
and those who live within.

But, America the Beautiful,
if you don't - then you will see,
A sad but Holy God
withdraw His hand from Thee.

~Judge Roy Moore~

Friend's and Life

I believe - that you can do something in an instant that will give you
heartache for life.

I believe - that it's taking me a long time to become the person I
want to be.

I believe - that you should always leave loved ones with loving
words. It may be the last time you see them.

I believe - that you can keep going long after you can't.

I believe - that we are responsible for what we do, no matter how
we feel.

I believe - that either you control your attitude or it controls you.

I believe - that heroes are the people who do what has to be done
when it needs to be done, regardless of the consequences.

I believe - that money is a lousy way of keeping score.

I believe - that my best friend and I can do anything or nothing and
have the best time.

I believe - that sometimes that people you expect to kick you when
you're down, will be the ones to help you get back up.

February 2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Bible Study 7PM Kid's Club 7PM Betty Fish BDay Ruth Krome BDay	2	3	4 Christian Ed Mtg 9:30AM Archive 9:30AM Carol VanderMey BDay
5 Worship Service 10AM Communion Souper Bowl Collection Luncheon No Sunday School Youth Super Bowl Party 5PM	6	7	8 Bible Study 7PM Kid's Club 7PM	9	10	11 Archive 1PM Youth Valentine's Babysitting 4PM-8PM Mert Gawne BDay
12 Worship Service 10AM Sunday School Prayer & Praise 6PM	13	14	15 Bible Study 7PM Kid's Club 7PM ACF RSVP	16	17	18 ACF Valentine's Dinner 6PM
19 Worship Service 10AM Sunday School VBS Mtg 12:30PM Denise Taylor BDay	20	21 Elders & Trustees 7PM	22 Bible Study 7PM Kid's Club 7PM	23	24	25 Randi Williams BDay
26 Worship Service 10AM Sunday School	27 Lowell VanderMey BDay	28				