

Dear friends,

Greetings in Jesus Wonderful Name!

Jackie and I thank the Lord for each of you who prays for us. We continually are reminded of how important you are to us and to the ministry that the Lord has given us to do. We are convinced that without your prayer we would not have made it through these last years. Through your prayer and faith the Lord has continuously kept us and encouraged us through our trials and disappointments, and has allowed us to work with Him -- even in the "regions beyond".

It's time to "sit at His feet" again...

Once again we are "sifting" our priorities and commitments, wanting to be sure that we are in the center of His will. Our vision and purpose remains the same as it has been: to call the church to prayer and assist the greatest task in the world -- the Great Commission. And with this in mind, we are sitting at His feet for Him to show us the next part of His plan for us.

The story of Mary and Martha is again a reminder to us. (Luke 10) "Mary", Jesus said, had "*chosen the good part, which shall not be taken away from her.*" Mary knew when to stop working and sit at Jesus' feet to listen to Him. Martha, on the other hand, needed to be exhorted. Jesus said to her, "*Martha, Martha, you are worried and bothered about so many things; but only a few things are necessary, really only one....*"

I think Jesus meant that God's will could be described as "*a few things necessary*". We all tend to become involved in too many things, sometimes out of need or pressure rather than the Lord's direction. When I become involved in more than a "few things", I tend to become bothered and worried like Martha. I can even begin to doubt His love for me like she did. "*Don't you care...?*", she said to Jesus! She assumed that if He really loved her, He'd get Mary to help her in the kitchen. When I get involved in things that are not born of His Spirit, it seems He doesn't help me out enough in all of my efforts to "do good deeds for Him"!

Mary wasn't lazy; she just knew when it was time to pay attention to Jesus -- instead being distracted by all the urgent needs, and having no energy left to fellowship with Him. Mary showed her loyalty to Jesus Himself by putting everything else out of her mind when He came to visit her home. She knew He wanted her attention first, not her service.

Lord help us all to take the time to be with You. Help us to see the "few things that are necessary", those things to which You have really called us.

Lord, help us all to see the "really only one thing necessary" -- to sit at Your feet, hear Your Word, and live according to that Word.

Lord, show us all how to "choose the good part, which shall not be taken away from us".

A big answer to your prayer for us...

In December we asked you to pray for our need of a vehicle; we were without a car, and without means to purchase one. We want to report that the Lord has answered your prayer marvelously! We were given a 1993 Plymouth Acclaim 4 door sedan with only 10,000 miles, purchased for us by a family who want all the glory to go to the Lord! We give Him glory, and thank you for praying. To this family belongs the blessing of Philippians 4:18,19: Their gift is "*a fragrant offering, an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God. And my God will supply all THEIR needs according to His glorious riches in Christ Jesus.*"

Development continues for a new full time school of ministry, called Life on Wings training center. We do not yet know the Lord's will for us long term concerning this school; but we have helping to develop the vision for several months. Please pray for the Lord's wisdom.

We were privileged to host two of our missionary friends recently: Dan Bushy, director of YWAM Nepal, and Sam Dharam, one of the national leaders of YWAM India. The Lord is doing great things in these countries, and we want to thank you who are serving as "prayer missionaries" with us for these lands.

We have initiated plans for a ministry trip to Asia this summer. This will include India and most likely a return to Aceh in Indonesia. Please pray for the Lord to make His way clear.

Thank you for continuing to pray for our financial provision. Every month needs new miracles. Thanks to you who continue to support us. A few of you have helped us faithfully for years, which reminds us of Paul's thanks to the Philippians: "*You sent me aid again and again when I was in need. Not that I am looking for a gift, but I am looking for what may be credited to your account.*" (Phil. 4:16,17) May the Lord credit more and more blessing to your account with Him!

Now may the Lord bless you richly, and keep you hidden in the secret place of His love. May you keep your heart thankful towards Him and forgiving toward those around you. Keep your eyes fixed on Jesus!

Yours in Christ,

John and Jackie