



Lifeline

...a prayer letter from John and Jackie

May 31, 2005



Dear friends,
Jackie and I say hello again in the wonderful name of Jesus! And we again say thanks to you for taking time to read our letters, to pray for us, and to support the ministry as the Lord enables you. You and the Lord are the reason we are still going after so many years of full-time ministry.

Feed God's kids...

'till we go to heaven or 'till Jesus comes!

We are glad that age sixty is the beginning of fruitfulness, not merely the time to reflect on life past. Hallelujah, if you read our letters, you will lose the anointing for retirement! Where is retirement in the Bible? Really, it's the time of life that we can be more available to serve the Lord than ever!! OK, you can slow down a little, but here is the truth about you. God has stored up many good things in you over the years! Why? ...so that you can give it away to those who know little or nothing about the Lord.

Bill Gates intends to spend the rest of his life giving his wealth to others. He may need to work full time from now on just to give it away! You have more wealth in you than Bill Gates! You have the wealth of the life of Christ in you, and all the lessons he has taught you. It will take the rest of your life to give it all away!! The more that you are with people who are hungry for God, the more you discover that there are riches stored within your spirit and riches from God's Word that you can give to others.

If those close to you don't want to hear all that God has given you, then lift up your eyes and look at the people of the world! Feeding spiritually hungry people is the greatest joy in life! Go and keep going until you find them.

On occasion, we have little grandkids to feed. At times I (John) stop what I am doing to help feed these kids. Today it came to me that that's really my main job -- feeding kids! God has many spiritual kids in the world, and we want to spend the rest of our lives feeding them.

Jesus said we should be doing something like that when he returns.

"Who is the faithful and wise servant, whom his master made ruler over his household, to give them their food in due season? Blessed is that servant whom his master, when he comes, will find so doing." Matthew 24:45,46.

I am not sure when this age will end or when Jesus will return. But I do know exactly what I want to be doing when he returns: Giving God's household their food in due season. In other words, feeding his kids when they are hungry. That is what He wants to find us doing when He comes back. That is who He said would be a blessed servant, worthy of a reward!

There are millions of new kids in God's kingdom among the nations, and more being born again every day all over the world. The world is full of God's young kids who know little about God or Jesus or the Bible. Whatever you have learned, it is more than they know! Why not find a way to give away what you have while you can still walk and breathe and move and speak???

What better use is there for your "golden years"?

We know that not all of you who get our letters are in the "golden years", but the same thing applies to you whether you are young or old. When Jesus returns, he wants to find you feeding His kids the bread of life!

Gregory's report from Ukraine about gathering and feeding kids...

"We had a kids' celebration on Saturday, May 28 at the main church. It was a great performance. I think there were more than 1000 children present. We had found kids living on the streets and in the basements of buildings in recent days. We built relationships with them and today we took them to this feast. We also went into five schools that have been closed to our church. Albert talked with the principals of these schools about our program for problem kids. All the principals of these schools said that they need this, that they have problem kids, and what we are doing is going to be a great help. So they organized their teachers to take kids to this celebration.

"Our youth helped us with this celebration, and all our churches. Albert gathered a team who went to restaurants and clubs with game machines and they asked the people there about kids who come in and ask for money. He told them about our program, and they want to help; they are very glad about it! All the directors of these restaurants, clubs and schools agreed to send to us all the problem kids who come to them. So now, perhaps 200 organizations are

helping us to reach the homeless and problem children. The rehab center is working on this ministry a lot. Many people from the rehab center have lived on the streets and they know how this street life is for the kids. A few children already live in our newly built church rehab center now.

"Natasha from the village Krasnayabalka brought more than 30 kids to this celebration. Pastor Oxana has been working with an orphanage. We rented a bus to take kids from this orphanage to this celebration. The driver of this bus by mistake went to another orphanage. He discovered that this orphanage also knew about this celebration and they were feeling bad because nobody had invited them to this feast. When the bus came by mistake, they were so glad that they organized more than 40 kids to go. So we had to send another bus to Oxana's orphanage!

"We also had kids from other orphanages. 30 kids came from our children's rehab center. It was a great scenario. This celebration was from 2:00 till 5:00. By that time all the kids were hungry. So we made sandwiches for them, and they ate with pleasure. We also gave gifts to all the kids. Some of the kids took a shower while with us, and were given a change of clothes. With twelve new showers in the new rehab building, a lot of people can now take showers!

"One homeless kid who was brought to the celebration found his lost father in our rehab center!

"It was awesome!"

With love from pastor Gregory

Ukraine in ten days! How, Lord?

The Congress of Churches of Praise starts on May 18. More than 1200 Church of Praise pastors, church planters and ministers will come from 14 oblasts (provinces of Ukraine, plus the

main leaders from Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Armenia, and perhaps Moldova. Almost all of these 1200 leaders are spiritually young, saved in the last 1-5 years.

The week before the Congress, our plan is to teach the Blood Covenant to the newest church planters-in-training who are attending the summer mission college. Consequently we feel an urgency to arrive by June 10.

However, we still need almost all our travel funds!

Though the time is short, we trust the Lord to meet the need. Many times in the past He has surprised us with unexpected provision! He is our Jehovah Jireh, The Lord Who Will Provide! We are preparing to go, and we have decided to be ready to go in a moment, whenever God opens the door.

All we need is to be "sent".

Thanks for praying and supporting us as the Holy Spirit leads you. At a time like this, we know without a doubt that the "senders" are just as important as the "goers"! As Romans 10:15 says, "*How shall they preach unless they are sent?*" Both the senders and the goers share in the harvest and in the rewards. **Pray-ers and givers are the senders.**

To this day, we have no one other than our friends to be our senders.

May the great blessings and joy and peace of the Lord be in your heart, your home, and your service for Him. What God's Word says you have - you have!! Who His Word says you are - you are!! What His Word calls you to do - you can do it!!

With love,

John and Jackie