



Lifeline

...a prayer letter from John and Jackie

February 9, 2007



Dear friends,

Jackie and I greet you again in the wonderful name of Jesus! We are announcing with thanksgiving to the Lord the birth of our sixth grandchild. Jen and Scott gave birth to Zachary Scott, 8 lbs 2 oz. on Friday, January 26! Mom and baby are doing well; Zachary is sleeping and eating well, a beautiful little boy! Zachary is another miracle, since the doctors gave Jen and Scott less than a 2% chance of ever having a child!

Thank you, Lord for your blessing, as in Ps. 128:6: "May you see your children's children."

Meanwhile, Jackie got a final great report from the orthopedic surgeon about her leg. It has healed beautifully. She couldn't even see where the break had been when the last x-rays were shown! "Wear any shoes you want", he told her. "You don't have to come back. Be active, and do whatever you want to do."

Hallelujah for His blessing, as written in Ex. 15:26: "I am the Lord Your Healer (Jehovah Rapha)." "

That was a big deal. And it ended another mysterious problem as well. Jackie has had some severe stomach pains, to the point that her primary doctor insisted on a CT scan and endoscopy of her stomach -- thinking something was seriously wrong.

But all tests were normal. Following a word of wisdom from the Lord, she stopped taking high doses of calcium for her leg that supposedly wasn't healing well, and the pains stopped.

A routine physical has shown me to be healthy as well. So, onward we go. Regardless of being official senior citizens, we plan to remain active for the Lord, going wherever He leads us.

We thank the Lord for His promise, as written in Ps. 92:14: "They will still yield fruit in old age; they shall be full of sap and very green, to declare that the Lord is upright..."

While newborns and little ones will keep Jackie busy the next few weeks (plus keeping the home office functioning), I am returning to Ukraine as well as Kyrgyzstan and Afghanistan.

Missionaries from Churches of Praise in Ukraine, Uri and Genya and their wives, were sent to Kyrgyzstan several years ago. They have a fruitful work among many of the Muslim Kyrgyz, as well as several other ethnic groups in the country, including Chinese and Koreans. Our friends Steve and Marilyn Hill have faithfully cared for this work since it began.

I've been asked to teach in two church planters colleges, as well as minister in churches.

Afghanistan is another adventure indeed. War torn and troubled, it is a country of many cultures and various levels of poverty and disorder. The Taliban are alive and continue their murder and terrorism, yet somehow life goes on and of course, everyone needs to know of the love of God.

Our purpose in Afghanistan is to work with a brother and his family who have been serving in Afghanistan for five years doing humanitarian aid. He, his wife and four children are from Tajikistan. They have begun to lead people to God, and desire to do more than provide humanitarian assistance.

We believe God is giving us this friendship for His harvest in that country. This family has already suffered for their faith and yet press on with great courage and love for the people. We want to help them in every way possible.

A friend, George Farner, is accompanying me to Ukraine. George is an experienced minister and Bible teacher. We will do a Bible conference together in the two main Churches of Praise in Krivoy Rog February 18-25.

From the conference I plan to go alone to Kyrgyzstan, and then be joined by pastor Gregory and Anya our interpreter and travel together to Afghanistan.

We need your prayer of agreement for good flight arrangements and safety in travel. Please agree with us also that each day will be fruitful for God's kingdom. And remember to pray for Jackie and our family at home. I plan to return to the USA at the middle of March.

Beyond those things, finances are still needed. I have a round trip ticket to Ukraine, but funds for the rest of the travel expenses are still needed.

You can help financially even if the help arrives after **I leave on February 15**, since funds can be transferred to me while I am overseas.

Thanks for praying in faith with us, and for partnering with us as the Lord leads you. As always, we can do nothing without the Lord and without His friends...like you!

May the Lord provide your seed for sowing and give you a plentiful harvest in your family, your work and your ministry for the Lord!

With love,
John and Jackie