

SHIELD OF FAITH MISSION INTERNATIONAL

SFMI

Prayer/News UPDATE

Fulfilling the Great Commission Through Establishing New Testament Churches

Wanted: Mature Men for Ghana

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Editorial Notes

Steve Montgomery is away from this column attending to family needs (see Missionary News). Nevertheless, a good lineup of articles and news (both edifying, and encouraging) fills this issue.

Brother Dick continues the theme of recent articles addressing the world's current developments but always reminding us to keep our eyes on the Lord as we run this race "looking unto Jesus" (Hebrews 12:2).

Steve Montgomery draws our attention to the Great Commission and what it entails for each of us.

The contribution from Jim Lucas,

"Except the Lord Build the House," is a good reminder that if the "work of the Lord" that we're involved in is not His plan, or fully directed and powered by Him, we're not working effectively for the Kingdom.

Brother David Kangni reports from Ghana and includes a plea for help in yet another of the fields that are white unto harvest.

Finally, we have our regular missionary reports, and the current trainees of the SFMI Discipleship course are given an introduction.

PS: Directly below is a missionary report from Jim Lucas that came in at the last moment.

PRAISE REPORT!

"And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all of one accord in one place" (Acts 1:1).

What a blessing it is when the Lord's people are all of one accord in one place. The day is coming when we will all experience this in the fullest possible fashion at the return of the Lord Jesus. In the meantime, it is a rare occasion that we see this blessing even in significant measure. I am glad to report that we have had the privilege of seeing a select group of our Lord's servants in one accord and in one place. This desired unity always brings the same results, which is an obvious divine presence of our Lord Jesus. I cannot say that we have seen the type of results from the outreach here in Rogers that we would like to see. It's not, however, about what *we* want to see. It's all about Jesus receiving the reward of His suffering because He is worthy.

You may be wondering who this select group might be? You, my beloved prayer warrior, are a part of this group. By fasting and praying for this endeavor, we all have been of one accord and in one place—before the very throne of God. Our Father blessed us in sending the four trainees from Bend, Oregon: Chris, Frank, Joel, and Ben. Chris Booher brought his wonderful wife, Lisa, and his six fine children. Everyone traveled together in the Booher van and travel trailer. Brother Jack Burwell joined up with them in Cheyenne, Wyoming.

Our heavenly Father allowed us to rent a very nice wooded lot in a central location. This was a great place to set up the tent and to park the travel trailer. Chris and family were well situated. The other gentlemen all seemed to be quite comfortable staying with Francille and me. We all had a great

time of fellowship, and the week passed very quickly. Joel has written a report of the time spent here, and I know you will understand from it that our Father has truly blessed us with His presence.

Our Lord has confirmed for us that our next outreach will be in Minnesota in July, Lord willing. Joel and Jack Burwell are quite certain that they will be joining us in that endeavor. If any of you would like to join in on the evangelism, please contact me. We are still working out many of the details, like the exact location, the length of time, and etc.

Most important of all is that we continue in one accord, and I know without question that our Father is using all of this in a much greater way than what might appear. I am convinced that if we continue to press forward in faith, we will see that our Lord Jesus is not slack concerning His promise. "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord" (1 Cor 15: 58).

James and Francille

Be sure and check our web site for pictures:

<http://www.usaforjesus.org>



Still Don't Get It? Look Up!



By Dick York

Journalist Mark Halperin, writing in *Time* magazine February 8, 2010, suggests that “to get back on track Obama should borrow from the playbook of Ronald Reagan.” That statement indicates that Halperin believes that Obama’s objectives are somehow similar to Reagan’s. Actually, nothing could be further from the truth. Reagan’s object was to preserve the constitutional republic and the conservative principles that contributed to the freedom and greatness of this nation. Obama’s is diametrically opposed.

There is every indication that what Reagan loved Obama hates. Obama favors the dismantling of America and the promotion of Marxist socialism for the globalization of a one-world economy. Unlike Marxism, however, Obama, according to his family history, will probably favor Islam over atheism.

It seems there are those who still “don’t get it.” They are under the illusion, along with Mark Halperin, that our president has the well-being of the American people uppermost on his agenda. They have not yet recognized that the philosophy against which America has contended since WWI has, through public education and other forms of propaganda, prevailed and the fox has been given charge of the henhouse. The agenda is obviously not to advance this nation as a republic in the tradition of its past, but rather to destroy that vision and subject it to the global agenda of the one-world government long prophesied in the Scriptures (Revelation 13: 1-9).

None of this has transpired without the Lord’s knowledge or intervention. His objective is neither a republic nor a socialist state but a kingdom, over which Jesus himself rules. But first, all that has been prophesied must be fulfilled.

Over the course of centuries, many leaders and prominent men have been identified as the antichrist, only to pass off the scene and

sink into obscurity while the world seemingly recovered from their evil influence. But, in fact, the world did not totally recover. Each one has left an indelible impression, moving the U.S. ever nearer to its demise and the world closer to globalization. Throughout the centuries, many have been labeled “antichrist.” There have been the Caesars, the Napoleons, the popes, Hitler, Roosevelt, and many others who have raised the antenna of seemingly “paranoid” Christians, and usually with some good reason. It may have been their doctrine, their political ambition, their agenda, or perhaps their sudden and extraordinary rise to places of influence and the radical effect thereof, but each of them appeared at a time in history out of context with the circumstances that, prophetically, would accompany the rise of the man of sin. No doubt it is possible that this man also, regardless of the apparently conducive world conditions, will pass from the scene without fulfilling the role of the antichrist. Whether or not that proves to be true, the church—especially here in America—should be paying attention to the signs of the times.

It is abundantly clear that being on the right side politically, no matter how dedicated, sincere, and activated one might be, has little to do with keeping our country on track. When it is God’s time to judge a nation, He does so by allowing the basest of men to rule over it.

Although the Bible has much instruction about how the Christian life should be lived in this present world, its main theme is the unfolding of God’s eternal purpose. Starting out with creation, it unfolds history segment by segment, climaxing in the coming of the Lord Jesus to set up His kingdom, the end of the world, and finally the new heaven and earth.

Within the church today, we have a tendency to give lip service to such weighty and important matters as heaven, the coming of the Lord Jesus, and things eternal, while majoring on the temporal things of this world,

like political freedom, health, wealth, security and success—all of which will soon be non-issues—as though the gospel were designed to give us the good life here and now. It seems difficult for many of us to make the connection between what the Bible says will transpire with what is currently going on around us. If we do notice the similarity, we are inclined to think that we would be considered naïve to suggest that what we are noticing is related to the fulfillment of prophesied events that most would think are still in the distant future (and according to some, may never happen at all). We would, rather be unprepared when the time comes than be considered unsophisticated now. But perhaps we should be paying attention.

Jesus said, “When these things begin to come to pass, Look up, for your redemption draweth nigh” (Luke 21:28). Besides “these things,” which include earthquakes, wars, and natural phenomena, which seem to be increasingly prevalent, of late we have seen tsunamis and earthquakes, hurricanes and tornadoes, floods, oil spills, and other disasters on an almost daily basis, and of increasing intensity. Is it mere coincidence that these multiplied natural phenomena are concurrent with an economic crunch that has brought the U.S. to its knees, reducing it from the greatest economic power to one of the most indebted nations in history? Is it furthermore coincidental that “The Great Satan,” as America is known to its Muslim detractors, has begun to fall before the Jihadists who took down the World Trade Center and are now about to erect a mosque where the towers once stood? Is it possible that there is nothing of significance in that plan? That seems very unlikely. The fall of the towers was a microcosm of what they represented. When they were hit, they seemed for a short time to have absorbed the impact; but then the buildings began to crumble, one floor at a time, until they collapsed into a pile of

rubble. Once they began to fall, they fell.

Not coincidentally, while all of this has been developing in the natural world and on the political stage, similar things have been threatening the health of the church. The attack has been subtle, sustained, and venomous, but should not be unexpected if one has been reading and believing what has long been a part of New Testament prophecy. Two things are to precede the coming of the Lord Jesus to gather the saints to Himself: 1) There is to be a great falling away; and 2) The man of sin is to be revealed (2 Thessalonians 2:1-4).

The great falling away is obviously in progress, but to many, ironically, it may seem like the end-time revival that many Christians have been taught to expect. Certain mega-churches are burgeoning with new adherents and growing in popularity; new movements are “breathing fresh life” into churches

by adapting their message to the perceived needs of the community in which they locate. By changing their appearance and their vocabulary, they are making themselves more acceptable to the nonreligious world that they are trying to reach and to which they are

trying to conform, all of which may seem reasonable, logical, and effective until one weighs it against Scripture and inspects the fruit of it all.

The gospel is not primarily a remedy for social ills or a conservative response to political travesty. It is a message of redemption—a message rejected by the world, as was the Christ who commissioned it, and embraced only by those who have seen themselves as the offenders of a holy and righteous Creator. The gospel has nothing to do with entertaining the flesh or relieving the sinner of circumstances that his sin has induced. It has everything to do with declaring the holiness of God, the depravity of the human condition, and of the

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awful price that Jesus paid to reconcile fallen sinners to an impeccable God. It is a message to sober the frivolous, to humble the proud, to awaken the indifferent and careless ones; a message to break the blasphemer, silence the scoffer, and to cause the sinner to repent. It is a message to prepare new creatures for heaven, not to rehabilitate sinners to live more comfortably on the earth or more prosperously in this world. The people of God are not to be circumstantially motivated or opportunistically directed or purpose driven—they are to be Spirit led.

It is for this reason that God gave us the timepiece of biblical prophecy: so that we would know where we are in history. Do we, then, have a crystal ball by which we can prognosticate? No. What we do have is a reliable indicator reminding us that time is short. Satan knows it, and, if we are paying attention, we should know it also. Jesus rebuked the Pharisees because they could read the signs of the sky and forecast the weather, but they could not see the signs of the times. Let us not be deserving of the same rebuke.

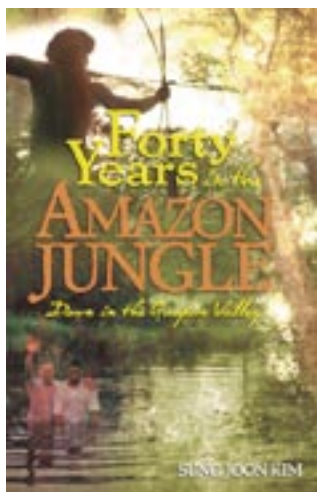
Look at the unfolding history. Look at the earthly phenomena. Look at the condition of the church; at the commentary of Scripture: then look up, because your redemption draws nigh! We are not looking for a restoration of our republic—that would be nice, but it would

be temporary—we are looking for a greater hope than that, as were our fathers in the faith (Hebrews 11: 13-16):

These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims in the earth. For they that say such things declare plainly that they seek a country. And truly, if they had been mindful of that country from whence they came out, they might have had opportunity to have returned. But now they desire a better country, that is, an heavenly; wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; for he hath prepared for them a city.

Let us also *see the promises*, now no longer afar off and much brighter by far than any hope we may have thought we have here. Let us *be persuaded of them, and embrace them, and confess* daily that we are strangers and pilgrims on the earth, and let us declare plainly that we seek a country, and we look for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God.

We are not trusting any man's agenda to be "on track." We are trusting the sure promises of an almighty God who cannot lie to fulfill his prophecies as well as his promises. *The kingdom of God is at hand!* 🙏



New! **Forty Years in the Amazon Jungle** (Sung Joon Kim)

In 1968, Sung Joon Kim, with his wife, Je Sun, left his homeland to be the first missionary from South Korea to carry the gospel to an unreached tribe of primitive Indians

in South America's vast Amazon Basin. His destination: the Valley of the Guapore, a river

tributary to the mighty Amazon. His mission: to bring the light of the gospel to a people living in heathen darkness and to bring them into the twenty-first century.

Living where they lived, sleeping where they slept, eating what they ate, and feeling what they felt, he became their advocate—fighting for their right to be treated as human beings in a developing country. Along the way, God used him marvelously and provided for Sung Joon and Je Sun in remarkable and miraculous ways.

This is a worthwhile and encouraging read. It will make a wonderful gift with which to edify your family and friends.

Highly Recommended. **Price \$12.00 includes shipping and handling in the United States.**

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The Great Commission

By Steve Montgomery



The masthead of this Update carries the purpose statement of Shield of Faith Mission: “Fulfilling the Great Commission Through Establishing New Testament Churches.” We looked previously at establishing churches. Now we will consider the expression, “The Great Commission.”

What is the Great Commission? These words never appear in the Bible, so where did the expression come from? The term refers to Matthew 28:18-20:

And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, *even* unto the end of the world. Amen.

It is a *mission* because it is a charge. It is a *co-mission* because it is not a charge to one person but to the collective church of Christ. And it is a *great* commission because...

Because what? To see just what is so great about the Great Commission, we need only look at the use of the word “all” in these verses:

All power: the authority.

All nations: the extension.

All things I have commanded: the extent.

Always: the duration.

ALL POWER: This is not only power in the sense of strength or ability. It is *that*, and we can be certain that as we declare the gospel to our neighbors, fellow workers, or fellow students, we will have the strength and ability to communicate that message, to stand up to their mocking, and to respond to their questions. But it is more than simply strength. It is power as authority, the full authorization of Heaven to announce this Good News to all of those around us and around the globe.

This gospel of the kingdom *shall* be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations, and we are enabled and authorized for obedience (Matt. 24:14).

ALL NATIONS: There are at least 60 countries on the planet today that state it is against the law for Christian messengers to enter their country with the purpose of proclaiming the Bible message. These

countries are lying. The King of all kings has stated that His people are authorized to make disciples of Christ among every ethnic group. We have the God-given strength to do that and the God-given authority to see it done. Any government that denies the extension of the gospel within its borders is in rebellion to the true Sovereign of this world, taking sides instead with the rebel whom Jesus defeated in His resurrection.

Occasionally, we hear that Christian missionaries destroy the long-held cultural traditions of ethnic groups when we take that gospel to the Indian man down the street, the Mexican woman at the store, or the tribal individual in the Amazon jungle. As Christians, we need to be careful that we carry as unadorned a gospel as possible, unfettered by our own cultural baggage. Those making this accusation should remember that in the Kingdom of God we, too, have a long-standing “tradition,” one that supersedes all cultural traditions: “We ought to obey God rather than men” (Acts 5:29).

ALL THINGS: We are not told here simply to teach all that Christ commanded. The mandate is to teach to *obey*. The hallmark of the disciple is his obedience to his master. The grace of God which saves us also teaches us to obey (Titus 2:11-13).

But note this: Jesus is telling His first disciples to teach those they bring to Him to obey everything that He commanded them, including the command He is giving at that moment! So obedience to “all things” includes being a communicator of the message that was brought to us. This Commission is also Great because it is given to *all* Christians!

ALWAYS: The Greek is two words, *all + days*. This Commission will take *all the days there are* to finish. Or, perhaps better said, the days will end when the work is done. Time on planet Earth is literally predicated on the extension of the gospel!

So Jesus Christ, the *All - Mighty*, has charged *all* His people, as a company, to extend *all* of His message to *all* people, teaching them to obey *all* of it. He declares that He authorizes and empowers *all* of that effort and will personally accompany its fulfillment at **all** times.

All Christians, all nations, all of Christ’s message and all of time.

How could a commission be any greater? 



Except the Lord Build the House

By Jim Lucas

“Except the LORD build the house, they labor in vain that build it: except the LORD keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain.” (Psalm 127:1)

Salvation is of God. (See Psalm 37: 39)

So then neither is he that planteth any thing, neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase. (1 Corinthians 3:7)

If salvation is of God, why aren't more people coming to Christ? The reason could be that our heavenly Father has chosen to use the believers as instruments in the hands of the potter. Jesus will build His church, but He has given us the responsibility of taking the gospel to the nations. It seems that He has given us the charge to do what is impossible for us to do. If it were left to us to build the church, it never would be built. Perhaps this is why believers vacillate between ignoring the Great Commission and trying to go out and do in the flesh what can only be done by the Spirit. Many of those who choose to ignore the command to preach the gospel to the lost seem to think that it is more important to spend their energy ministering to the needs within the church. However, to focus on the needs of the Saints at the expense of the souls that are perishing is morally wrong because it is self-centered (or church centered) and hypocritical.

How can we teach our brother to love God when we are failing to love our neighbor? This is *counter-productive* because it profits nothing: “Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal. And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing” (I Corinthians 13: 1-3).

This type of religious activity can be the spinning of our wheels, a whole lot of smoke and very little fire. The work of the Lord is simply not

about us; it is *His* work. This is one reason we have so few laborers for the fields that are white unto harvest. When men try in their flesh to reap the harvest, they fail, and nobody enjoys failing. We like to do what we are good at. Nobody is good at doing the work of the Lord except the Lord. The work of the Cross is the answer to this dilemma. However, the work of the Cross is only appropriated when we exercise biblical faith, which is the “faith *of* Christ,” not simply “faith *in* Christ.” For some, to have “faith in Christ” requires only the knowledge that He is the Son of God. Even the devils acknowledge that: “Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble” (James 2:19). The faith *of* Christ comes with a revelation of Him. Those to whom Christ has been revealed love Him; to know Him is to love Him. Many have faith acquired through knowledge, but only a few have faith that worketh by love (See Galatians 5:6).

Faith to move mountains without love is nothing. Beloved, we need the faith that *worketh* by love. The need to see how spiritually poor we are is monumental. The lack of passion for souls is the stark evidence of our need for a work of the Holy Spirit in our lives. Jesus said: “Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled” (Matthew 5:6).

I pray that Jesus will ignite our fire and enable us to see the horror that faces the unrepentant soul who dies without Christ. Also, I pray for you as Paul prayed for the saints at Ephesus and ask you to pray the same for us:

The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints, And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us—ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power, Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places, Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come: And hath put all things under his feet,

and gave him to be the head over all things to the church, which is his body, the fullness of him that filleth all in all.

The eyes of your understanding being enlightened:

It's not enough to understand academically; we need to be enlightened. "That [we] may *know*," and the word used here means more than mere academic understanding; it means to have a firsthand experience of His calling and what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in us. Wow! To know the exceeding greatness of His mighty power in us! Once we know the exceeding greatness of his power to us who believe, the Lord's work will be done *through* us, and we will wage war against the powers of darkness. It is time, my beloved, to stand up and be known in the spirit world. Satan has no right to continue his destruction with very little resistance from the saints of God. Christ is now sitting on the throne above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion. And He has put all things under our feet (present tense).

We are living in the days of great deception of which Jesus warned us: "There shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect" (Matthew 24: 24). *If it were possible, even the very elect would be deceived.* It is *not* possible; therefore, we can pray, knowing it is God's will to save those whom He foreknew before the foundation of the world.


May the Lord Jesus help us to be aggressive in prayer. The Lord says, "Ask of me, and I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession. Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron; thou

shalt dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel" (Psalm 2: 8, 9). Let's quit complaining about how evil the times are if we don't hate evil enough to "break them in pieces" in Jesus' name. Whenever we see evil forces causing problems and do nothing to stop it, we are stating that we don't care or don't believe that anything can be done.

Jesus gave us very clear instruction concerning this: "Verily I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. Again I say unto you, That if two of you shall agree on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven" (Matthew 18: 18, 19).

Thus, spending time in prayer will do wonders for our testimonies and strengthen us to preach the word of God with boldness. In Acts 4:13 we read: "Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marveled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus." Today, it seems as if Christians are more concerned that they be perceived as being knowledgeable than being known as those who have been with Jesus.

Dear ones, we can take comfort in the fact that although we could not save ourselves, we have been saved. Neither can we do the work of God, but for that purpose He has saved us; therefore, we shall *by His grace* do what we have been called to do.

For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast; for we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them (Ephesians 2: 8-10). 

"Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marveled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus" (Acts 4:13).

Missionary Reports



Ivory Coast, West Africa

Jerry and Cherry Skiles

Cherry and I had a wonderful and refreshing visit in America. We were able to spend a weekend together with our children, who arrived from different parts of the U.S. The time with family, friends, and the believers in our supporting fellowships recharged us. It was also a time for Cherry to take advantage of the medical professional care available in the States.

During our time in Oregon, Mike Cousineau contacted us. He was responsible for the work and medical team that were such a blessing to the Northeast region of the rebel zone last February in Ivory Coast. The team's visit strengthened the witness of the church in the area and built relationships with the Ivory Coast government and the rebel forces as well. A doctor on that team did cataract surgery that allowed a younger Loma woman to see after being blind for 10 years. At that time, Mike and a national church leader were prompted to expand this ministry. The following is an excerpt of a letter he wrote announcing the plan for the next team.

God had placed on the heart of Pastor Paul that we should begin thinking about a mobile surgical unit. Those very same days as I ferried the construction team and supplies to Nakélé He was pressing this on my heart, too. And then, from out of nowhere, Jerry and Cherry Skiles showed up and blessed us with their enthusiasm and love for the people with whom they have labored with many years. God spoke to us about going further into the bush, closer to a people group (tribe) that has never benefited from the type of care we can bless them with. A few weeks ago I had a phone conversation with Jerry and Cherry Skiles about what God was placing on my heart...to reach into their area with the gifts and skills God has equipped our team with. They were absolutely thrilled and excited and ready to do what they could to help facilitate the action.

At present, we are doing a survey of the medical needs that would benefit when this team comes in February 2011. Hovare is excited, as he personally knows many in need. Pray that the team could be organized and that individuals might come together who could work on this team.

During our time in Oregon, a young Loma man was bitten by a snake as he was cultivating his field. He did not receive medical attention and died the next day. His eternal destiny is decided. The Gospel of Grace is in SFMI Update

the Loma language now, but the message is only being accepted by a few souls. The Bible is being translated into their language, young children are becoming literate, and these things take time. The act of being born again to eternal life is incredibly sudden. Please pray for the Loma people and for the believers that live in that area.

Jerry Skiles 

Ghana, West Africa

Mike Ball Family

Just a quick report on a trip we just took to Volta region. There were some men that we wanted to visit and see one last time. We took off on Monday the 21st, wanting to get to certain town in Volta where we could stay and use it as a base to visit Joel and other brothers in the nearby villagewhere Skip Voetburg and others had visited and preached to these people. They were converted to Christ and were baptized, and we wanted to encourage them in the Lord and maybe do some teaching. On the way, we were stopped by the hand of God in the form of a flooded highway and bridge. So we had to "hole up" in a town about an hour west of Accra called Winneba.

Next day, road was open and we continued. We arrived at our destination early enough to travel out to the village the same day. We were able to meet with about 10 of the 15 brethren, including Joel, who is the one who is teaching these people. These people are all farmers and were in desperate need of rain. It started to rain about an hour after arriving. They thought that we brought the rain! The same thing happened the last time we went to the north to visit the brothers there.

Anyway, we all moved inside the "roof over our head," which serves as their meeting place. We were all crammed into this small room, visiting and sharing from the Word with them concerning their own unique situation. We could not stay long because the road would become impassable after a long rain, and it was raining hard. We left before we wanted to, as we would have liked to have stayed for a meeting in the afternoon. We came close to getting stuck once. Joel called in the evening to say that it stopped raining shortly after we left, but we did get out just in time. A big van that we met on the way out never made it to the village. We wanted to go back the next morning, but Joel thought the road would be more saturated by then.

We continued on north to look up brother John, who had gone through the training program here. He had moved back to his home village, a very small one, where he has a small fellowship in his house. We were able to get to his place early and spend several hours with him. He took us around the village and we were able to do a

little preaching. I happened onto two men who spoke English, so I was able to preach to them. Meanwhile, Tim was preaching, with Joel as interpreter to another group of men hanging out under a “roof over our head.” Most people in the villages don’t speak English. We continued north that afternoon to see some waterfalls. We arrived at a small town and met, at the Welcome Center, a man who knows a certain brother who went through training in Tarkwa. This man, Wisdom by name, works at a missionary training school in same town.

They had rooms for us to stay in for a reasonable rate. The next morning, we hiked to the falls. It was a very nice visit, but Tim began to come down with Malaria. Upon returning to our rooms, he slept for a couple of hours, and we headed home. The original plans were for Tim, Sam, and Clement to go on to Togo for a visit, and Hysant and I would drive the van home on Friday. It was Thursday, and we headed home. We arrived at Accra and stayed the night. It started to rain at 3:00 a.m. and was still raining hard at 8:00, so we left, even though Tim could have used more rest. We still had to cross the bridge that had flooded before. It rained all the way home for the next five hours. The water was high at the bridge but not on the road. We thank God for a safe trip and for letting us see the brothers. Tim is now recovering well, and I am trying to get over missing my family.

Mike Ball 🙏

Burkina Faso, Africa **Ed and Patty Enns**

Greetings in our Lord. I am sending a communiqué that I just received from Moses Osho from the Ethnos mission in Nigeria. I had recently attended the refresher course there for the Nigerian missionaries from at least two different sending missions. It was quite physically taxing for me but was spiritually rewarding for all who attended. His truth is marching onwards, and it is exciting to see how the Nigerians are responding to the challenge of the great commission and their commitment to the task. They are well underway in constructing a new missionary training center that will be teaching more new candidates to take the gospel to the unreached areas of West Africa. It is a privilege to be able to draw alongside and encourage them in the Lord. Thank you for your faithful prayers that kept me safe during the trip, and together we rejoice at the great things God has done and continues to do in Nigeria .

In Him
Ed Enns

Nigeria, Africa **Moses Osho**

Beloved brother Ed,

I was glad to read in your mail that you returned

home safe and sound and that you met your wife doing fine, glory to God Almighty.

I, and on behalf of my colleagues here, use this medium to thank you for honoring our invitation to come to our Refresher Course through that rigorous route. We so much appreciate your coming and all that you shared; we were greatly encouraged. Our prayer is that God will continue to bless you, your ministry, and home, in the name of Jesus, amen. We are looking forward for further working relationship in very near future, especially in the area of Training. I have the mind of sending the attached pictures to you earlier than now, but our internet server was faulty. The fault is rectified now, praise God, amen.

Greet your wife for me as mine also sends her greetings. Please let me hear of the work over there, the Lord is your strength. Once again, I thank you very much.

I am yours in Jesus,
Moses Bola Osho 🙏

Valle De Juarez, Mexico **Ed and Abby Drysdale**

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The last couple of months have been full of activity for us. I will try to remember the important parts!

With that said, the most important thing to happen was that Oscar gave his life to the Lord! We have been so encouraged by him. Last night he came to the Bible study and told me, “I have started a Bible study with my cousin, but it’s over the internet; does that count?” His cousin (Claudia’s sister) lives in Tepic and has been asking him questions. Every week he has a question or a comment about something he has read in the Bible. He loves to use the internet. It’s been exciting to see him use it to search for Bible studies, Christian music, guitar chords, and anything else he can find to learn more about the Lord. Please be praying for him that he will get baptized and become the spiritual leader of his family. His wife, Gaby, still has not made a confession of faith. At times she is very interested; then she is scared off by the idea of submitting to God.



Oscar and Gaby

Two weeks ago, we planned a dinner for couples. We had invited couples to come to a formal dinner, where we showed a movie called *Fireproof*. It went really well. We met another family, Samuel and Rosario, who have taken an interest in the things of the Lord. Oscar was particularly excited about this event, since marriage problems are what first brought him to our doorstep.

We offered babysitting at the church, where one of the sisters shared the gospel with the kids. Samuel’s kids are so excited about going to a Christian camp in

July. They are trying to sell their things so that they can go. I personally got saved at a Christian camp, so I know this could not only impact their kids but them as well. Two families came from Atotonilco who were such a blessing to us: Ricardo and Marisol and Omar



and Deanna came to help us out.

Three weekends ago, we were blessed to have the “Hermana Barocios” here. They are two sisters who

sing Ranchero style music. Ranchero music is the most liked style of music in this town. It was a great opportunity to minister to the community. We were given permission to use the central plaza with the stipulation that it just be the singers. The sisters gave their testimonies, and the brother we invited to preach became a “singer” for the night as well. So the word of God was still preached.

The weekend before that, another couple from Atotonilco came to share with us. Joel ministered both on Friday night and Saturday to the church. I think it is very encouraging for the brothers here to see that they are not alone. Since Joel was coming, we decided to take advantage of that and planned an event on Saturday. We showed a movie, sang some songs, and preached the Word in the poor area of town.

These are the things that have been going on here in Valle. I could continue, but it will begin to sound redundant. For about the past five weeks we have been doing some type of outreach. We have had a lot of support from the church in Atoto. and other churches as well. It has been good. We are trusting that God will use this for His glory.


A point of concern in the church at the moment is finances. It seems that all of us are struggling to meet our bills at the present. Please pray that the Lord will provide and that we may all learn to trust in Him for this.

On a personal note, our family is happy. We are worn out, tired, sick and financially stretched. But we are HAPPY! God has been good to us, and every one of these events has brought us encouragement. *Thank you for your prayers, the Drysdales*

Contact: Want to know more? Call us **anytime** at (541) 728-5946. Yes, that is a U.S. number! Want more regular updates? Search for Abby Drysdale on Facebook. If you prefer pen and ink, here is our address:

Ed and Abby Drysdale
Apdo # 22, Calle Morelos 353
Valle de Juarez, , Jalisco 49540
Mexico

What a glorious day it was!!! My son was baptized!!!

The Drysdales 

SFMI Update

Atotonilco, Mexico **Steve Montgomery Family**

Dear Friends:

The outpouring of prayer and encouragement from you has been like an avalanche of care, and we are truly humbled and grateful. Thank you to all who are praying and to those who have sent notes and verses. I will be compiling all of those verses to give to Ryan and Barbara.

We have news. The doctors have determined that the cause of the kidney failure initiated within Ryan’s kidneys and was not an attack from a disease or condition of his body. This means that he is a reasonable candidate for a transplant. They have also determined that his kidneys are no longer sufficient to sustain him, so he definitely needs the transplant [At press time, Ryan’s brother Josh has been cleared as a transplant donor and an operation scheduled]. We ask you to pray about the following:

- 1) We are yet anticipating a dynamic intervention from the Lord for healing whether through surgery or the intervention of the Lord.
- 2) Pray for Ryan and Barbara as they trust the Lord for Ryan’s complete recovery. He and his wife will also need grace through all of this.
- 3) Pray for Ryan’s finances. They have a large deductible and an additional co-pay. Ryan has been overseeing the closing down of Peace Industries at a reduced income for several months, so they have used up all of their income just for living. Their house is for sale, and if it sells it will help them considerably.
- 4) Ryan was the key man for Mexico in the large missions outreach to Yakima this Summer. Pray that we can step up to the plate in moving this forward and that plans to reach out with the gospel to the Hispanic community in the least-reached state of the U.S. would not be sidetracked.
- 5) Pray for Linda and me as we look at how to bless Ryan and his family as we continue our other tasks.

Again, thank you for praying. Garland Brock has pointed out that the Bible does not indicate that the Lord will answer a prayer solely because more people are asking, so the number of intercessors is not a measure of how likely it is we can “get God to act.” The issue is another:

In 2 Corinthians 1:11, we read “Ye also helping together by prayer for us, that for the gift bestowed upon us by the means of many persons thanks may be given by many on our behalf.” That is to say, God is glorified when the prayers of many are answered and then the many rejoice in thanking Him. So it will be here, as I trust to be able to update you soon with the news of God’s mighty undertaking.



Steve for the Montgomerys 

Editor's Note: You first met Brother David Kangni in this Prayer/News Update. We published his testimony a few years ago when he was a student in the Missionary Training Program in Bend. Since then he has established a Fellowship in Regensburg, Germany and has had a vision to establish a work in his native Ghana. The work has begun and David is in the process of transitioning from Germany to Ghana permanently. He is making an urgent plea for a mature man or family to join him in that work.

UPDATE REPORT AND REQUEST FOR REPLACEMENT OF MISSIONARY TEAM IN GHANA (HIS VISION MISSION)



Our trip to Ghana was from April 06 to June 06. We got back to Germany on June 07 to continue with our transition plan and our possible trip back to Ghana before the close of the year. Prior to departing Germany, we had shipped a truck and a seven-passenger van, which had to be cleared at the port in Accra, Ghana. The ship arrival was delayed and the clearing process slow, so we were not able to get to Tarkwa until May.

Our wait at Accra was well spent. I was able to visit an infant fellowship in Kpetoe in the southeast, where my family members live. Shortly after our arrival, Jerry and Cherry Skiles with Ed and Patty Enns visited us. I have been working on a blueprint for His Vision Mission, which might serve in the future as a longterm development project. I shared it with them and sought their counsel.

In May, we headed to Tarkwa. We were pleased to meet with the Balls and to see Timothy and Samuel Spurling. We got involved in the work in Tarkwa and the two nearby villages where some infant fellowships are springing up. I had the chance to visit the radio station with Brother Mike to see how the broadcasting is handled and to hear about the meetings in the predominantly Moslem north part of Ghana.

Brother Mike and family will be returning to the States at the end of July. Timothy and Samuel indicated their willingness to continue with the work in Ghana but at the moment will also leave because of the absence of a mature overseer for the work at HIS VISION MISSION.

I know God's providence is mysterious. Thanks be to God; He is in control. And because ALL things work together for good to His children even though my understanding is faint, because He is control, I know all is well. At present and in the immediate

future, there is much work to be done and some measures to be put in place to get His Vision Mission off the ground in order to see the six-month mission/leadership training plus the three months practical work begin. I personally was looking forward to a team of 1) capable and experienced people 2) committed to the vision and willing to stay two years or longer.

According to the blueprint I mentioned earlier on, His Vision Mission will be a self-supporting project. Agriculture, Christian schooling, Medical and Sanitation, Broadcasting and Publications might be some of our areas of interest. This may sound like a huge project, but the Lord is able, and our reason is simple: to be able to spread the gospel and perhaps generate funds through the Ghanaian believers themselves to defray the cost of running His Vision Mission. Our request for the replacement of a missionary team is ONLY to provide Mission/Leadership training. However, counselling, know-how, Information and Technology transfer will be extremely helpful, as well and greatly appreciated.

Many in Ghana and the entire West African region are plagued with a lack of knowledge, including some unreached tribes who need to be reached. Helping the people come out from "darkness" into the "light," from "ignorance" into "knowledge" is the utmost goal of His Vision Mission. Your support in mobilization, training, and sending is sorely needed, highly appreciated and very welcome—all to the Lord's glory and only His glory.

Thanking you very much for giving attention to this matter, I look forward to hearing from you soon.

*In Christ,
Bro. David*

Meet the Trainees

Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost (Matthew 28:19)



Frank Stangel—I have been married for 20 years to my loving wife, Virginia. We have three daughters: Emily, 13, Tiffany, 9, and Sydney, 5. Two years ago I was very fortunate to have been invited to a missionary meeting in Deer

Park, Washington, where I heard Dick York and other missionaries speak. At the time, I was looking for schools to go to but had not decided on anything. We had property to sell in order to facilitate going to a school or training. Our property sold a few months before we needed to be in Bend, Oregon, for the SFMI Training. We believe that this was the Lord's doing. Our reason for coming to this training is that I believe Christians need to be discipled according to the Bible. We need to start with a solid foundation in our service to the Lord. I had grown up in and around many church groups, but I lacked discipling. I am thankful for this opportunity and am looking forward to serving our Lord and Savior.



Joel Bernard—I'm from Powell, Wyoming. My family has been going to the SFMI conferences since I was 13. I've wanted to go to the Discipleship Training Course since I was 15. I see a need for discipleship in

my life and have a desire to walk in service to the Lord, to be grounded in Scripture, and to be solidified in much prayer. Last year, I had a number of opportunities to go to several places, but after some fasting and much prayer, God directed me to come here. He confirmed that in several ways, and I'm thankful to be here. Romans 8:37-39.



Benjamin Han—For around 20 years, my family and I had attended a mission that one of the trainees in Korea established after Brother York left. In 2007 summer, my family left that mission, and I started to contact Brother York through

emails, asking several questions we had when we left the mission. Since I had learned that the mission was the only organization that has the truth, it was so confusing for me to discern what is true or false. When I met Brother York last summer in Korea, I was messed up with lots of doctrines from different people. After the meeting, I decided to attend the discipleship program in America and hear God's voice. The Lord allowed me to come over here and I am so thankful for his words that I listened to.



Chris Booher—My wife Lisa and our six children moved from Texas to Drain, Oregon, in June of 2009. My brother Rudi had invited Dick York to speak in Yoncalla, Oregon, for a three-day seminar and I was able to make it to the third day.

On the way home, I was convicted to visit with Dick in Bend regarding mission work in Belize. In talking with Dick, he encouraged me to consider the training program. Three of my brothers and my sister had already been through the program, and I had seen a tremendous increase in their spiritual walk. My wife and I both felt the Spirit's leading to attend the training program in January. We rented my brother Brendan's house in Redmond and moved in January.

Labor Day Weekend Conference 2010 Shield of Faith Mission International

Riverview Bible Camp, 408771 SR 20, Cusick, WA 99119

Friday, Sept. 3 – Monday, Sept. 6

Registrars: Brian Martell / Peggy Martell

Mailing address: 2 Baxter Lane, Kettle Falls, WA 99141

Phone: 1-509-738-3041

email: bkmartell@hotmail.com

Here's how it works: Arrivals begin at 4:00 p.m., Friday, Sept. 3. The first meeting begins at 7:00 p.m. There will be no meal served Friday night. Please feel free to bring snacks. Saturday morning is our first meal, and Monday lunch is our last meal. We have spaces available for RVs. There are family cabins and lodging for others. **Bring your own bedding.** Riverview Bible Camp is a non-smoking facility. **Pets are not allowed.** Copy as many forms as you need. **Mail completed forms to Brian Martell.** We look forward to seeing you this year. Register early! **Please Take Note and Read:** Everyone registering for this 2010 Spokane labor Day Conference must sign a release form required by Riverview Bible Camp for each person. **You must have a release form in order to be on the grounds.**

Family Registration

Last Name: _____ First: _____ Home Phone: () _____ - _____

Address _____ Work Phone: () _____ - _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____ Email _____ @ _____

Please include infants

Spouse: _____

Child: _____ Age: _____ Child: _____ Age: _____

Child: _____ Age: _____ Child: _____ Age: _____

Child: _____ Age: _____ Child: _____ Age: _____

Child: _____ Age: _____ Child: _____ Age: _____

Child: _____ Age: _____ Child: _____ Age: _____

Child: _____ Age: _____ Child: _____ Age: _____

Circle Choices

Nights staying over:	Friday Night	Saturday Night	Sunday Night
Sleeping arrangements needed:	Room	Tent	RV
Meals:	Saturday breakfast	Sunday Breakfast	Monday Breakfast
	Saturday Lunch	Sunday Lunch	Monday Lunch
	Saturday Dinner	Sunday Dinner	

Special needs:

RELEASE AND ARBITRATION AGREEMENT (Must be signed by all attendees)

In consideration of and RIVERVIEW BIBLE CAMP & RETREAT MINISTRIES, I for myself, or the minor child named below, forever waive, release and discharge «Name», RIVERVIEW BIBLE CAMP & RETREAT MINISTRIES (and its parent corporation) from any/all injuries, claims, disputes, liabilities, or actions resulting from «Name» or RIVERVIEW providing services for me and for my benefit regardless of location for the dates identified above. I attest and verify that I have full knowledge of the risks and dangers involved; that I assume such risks, and that I will assume and pay my own medical and emergency expenses, in the event of an accident, illness or other incapacity, regardless of whether I have authorized such expenses.

Any controversy arising out of, connected to, or relating to any matters herein of the transactions between me and the above named parties or on behalf of the minor child named below, of this Release/Waiver, or the breach thereof, including, but not limited to any claims of violations of Federal and/or State Law, as well as any common law claims shall be settled by arbitration through Christian Conciliation Services; and in accordance with this paragraph a judgment based upon the arbitrator's award may be entered in any court having jurisdiction thereof in accordance with the provisions of R.C.W. 7.04. This agreement shall be construed and interpreted under the laws of the State of Washington. **I HAVE READ THIS WAIVER AND RELEASE CAREFULLY, AND UNDERSTAND IT.**

Print Participant's Name Birthdate: MO DAY YEAR

Signature : _____ Date: _____

(Must have Parent/Guardian Signature if participant named above is under 18)

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Signature : _____ Date: _____

(Must have Parent/Guardian Signature if participant named above is under 18)

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Important 2010 Labor Day Conference Information (Please read.)

Riverview requires that each attendee (or the legal guardian of each minor attendee) sign the accompanying insurance waiver (**previous page**), releasing the campground of legal responsibility in the event of accident or injury. You may make as many copies as you need for your family and send them along with your conference registration form.

Directions to Riverview Bible Camp from Spokane, WA.

- **From the North Division Y, take Highway 2 North for 27 miles.**
- **Turn Left at the Highway 2/Highway 211 junction, travel North on 211 for 15 miles.**
- **Turn Left at the Highway 211/Highway 20 junction, travel North on 20 for 13 miles. Welcome to Riverview!!!**

It is our purpose to make the conference as affordable as possible. Therefore, there is no charge. It works well if everyone does what he is able to do. Although the conference is without charge, there are considerable expenses to be met. For those who are able to give nothing, you are welcome and even encouraged to come. For those who have only the "widow's mite," it is enough; but we expect everyone to contribute what he can. When the children of Israel were provided for with manna from heaven, those who gathered much had nothing left over, and they that gathered little had no lack. Thank you for doing your best (Proverbs 11:24).

