Pray BFF Letter #211

Tuesday, July 31, 2012

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The Promise

"And this is the promise which He Himself made to us: eternal life" (1 John 2:25).

Dear Prayer Partners,

We live and minister in hope. Whether we are writing, speaking or traveling abroad, our hope is found in the abounding nature of eternal life through Jesus Christ. Life is not static but sprouts, grows and reproduces. So it is with the Word of God.

"For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, And do not return there without watering the earth, And making it bear and sprout, And furnishing seed to the sower and bread to the eater; So shall My word be which goes forth from My mouth; It shall not return to Me empty, Without accomplishing what I desire, And without succeeding in the matter for which I sent it" (Isaiah 55:10-11).

As I (Paul) make plans for my first trip to the Philippines in mid September, I go forward in hope that God is preparing hearts to respond to His mighty Word. I am getting ready for three seminars. Do keep praying for one coordinator (Pastor B.) who either broke or seriously injured his ribs. We have not heard more from him. We thank the Lord for the first \$10.00 of \$6,000 toward this trip.

Abounding Grace in Africa

We recently received a follow-up email from the coordinator of a past marriage seminar in Malawi. This is the fruit of your prayers that enlisted the power of God to work!

 $\lq\lq$ I would like to report about the marriage seminar which we had with you from 22nd March to 24th March 2012 , the families who came to attend , a

lot of them are coming to me to state their appreciation for what you taught them. Their families have been transformed to be loving and understanding each other. Now they are happy families than before the seminar."

This note on the marriage seminar is encouraging especially since one group in the southernmost city of the Philippines also requested this topic, one of the most challenging seminars due to my cross cultural ignorance. We must live in hope that God's abounding grace will fill each area of our lives.

Praise!

- Elizabeth, our oldest daughter, just returned from a short term trip to Cameroon (Africa) very excited. Her conclusion: people are so hungry for God's Word.
- Dates for the Philippine trip are now settled. Now we need to work on the ticket.
- Our first \$10 has come in toward this short term ministry trip to the Philippines.
- We are so appreciative for several volunteer editors working on several books. May God richly bless them in their lives and service.
- Visits with people and churches we know on our vacation trip to New England; enjoyed the wonderful scenery.

Pray!

- Pray for Pastor B's healing. Haven't heard any more. We are still hoping the seminar goes on as originally planned but preparing for last minute changes.
- Pray for provision of the anticipated budget of \$6000.
- Pray for wisdom for Paul as he redesigns web pages with different computer devices in mind.
- Petition the Lord to powerfully change the lives of His people through His Word.
- Allison is seeking full provision for her first semester of her third year of college at Union University in Tennessee.

Paul

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