



September 2009

*"But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all of Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." Jesus (Acts 1:8)*

*"We talk of the second coming; half the world has never heard of the first. Why should anyone hear the gospel twice until everyone has heard it once?" Oswald J. Smith*

Hello my friends!

I hope your summer has been blessed! Kathy and I have enjoyed a full and fruitful one. Looking at my calendar, I realize I've been in five different churches in the last eight weeks. I feel a little like the Johnny Cash song, "I've been everywhere man; I've been everywhere!" My time at home this summer has also given me the opportunity to reflect on all God has allowed us to be a part of and to look forward to what is to come in the future. It brings me back to God's call to the nations almost four years ago. Last week I pulled out the first letter we sent out, announcing the change in direction God had put on my heart, to move from pastoring locally for 16 years at Overlake Christian Church, to pastoring (teaching and training) pastors and leaders globally. This is a piece of what I wrote:

*"...if you saw ten men carrying a heavy log, nine on one end and one on the other, where would you help?" This grabbed me! Thinking about this question, a phrase from the Bible came to mind, "**Come over here and help us!**" I looked up the passage in Acts 16:9. It was the Apostle Paul's Macedonian call...I sensed God's voice saying to me, "Come over here and help." It was so compelling and powerful! I could not deny it or even think of saying no.*

This weekend I was asked if I like what I am doing and my answer is YES! Today I am just as passionate about this call as I was in November of 2005. Thank you for being a part of this journey with us! You are a vital part of what we do and we are so grateful!

### SE ASIA

On September 24<sup>th</sup>, Kathy and I will be leaving for SE Asia to do pastors conferences in Cambodia and Thailand. We are expecting 800 pastors total to attend these two conferences and will be training pastors' wives, village women and children. **Recently I learned that in Cambodia it is estimated that 1.72% of the country profess to be Christian and over 50% of the people are unevangelized. In Thailand only 1.27% profess to be Christian, with over 44% of the nation unevangelized.\*** I realize this is a God sized task but statistics like this further my passion to go! Please be in prayer for our team; Roland and Patricia Neidnagel, Arlene Meeds, Jerry Pryor, Kathy and I (all GTN staff), our good friend Scott Emory and our host Benjamin Komanapalli from India, as we prepare our messages and details for this upcoming trip. We are truly excited for the opportunity to teach, train and share the love of Christ in these nations. \*(Information gathered from [www.worldchristianatabase.org](http://www.worldchristianatabase.org).)



Until recently, a conference in Vietnam was originally on our schedule. **Benjamin informed us that Christians throughout this communist country are being persecuted right now for their faith.** Home churches are being raided and lives have been threatened. Please be praying for our brothers and sisters there. I have etched in my mind the faces of many passionate believers who are diligently working in this difficult situation to proclaim Christ. You can read more about the raid of Vietnam's house churches at [www.charismamag.com](http://www.charismamag.com).

**For each frontline pastor to attend a conference in SE Asia, it costs \$30, which pays for their lodging, food, transportation, and materials.** We raise these funds ahead of time, along with the cost of our plane flights, lodging, monthly support, etc. It can seem like a monumental task but the Lord gave us a promise at the beginning of this faith walk, *"He who calls you is faithful, who will also do it."* (I Thess. 5:24 NKJV) **God has always proven faithful and we know He will provide all that is needed for this trip as well.**

### GTN NEWS

- **In the first six months of 2009 over 2,800 indigenous pastors have received training through Global Training Network.** Join me in thanking and praising God for the work He is doing! Think of it, if the average touch of each of these indigenous pastors is 100 people, **over a quarter million lives have been affected in six months!**
- **GTN President, Paul Madson, shared the possibility of partnering with Logos Bible Software to get into the hands of pastors, a laptop with over 1,000 Biblical/Theological resources.** What a powerful tool for pastors to disciple their churches and bring people to faith in Christ! Paul and I will be meeting with the leadership at Logos in the next couple of months. Be in prayer with us for this! It is such an exciting opportunity for the Kingdom of God!

### FUTURE PLANS

In the past few weeks I've had many meetings regarding the possibility of doing conferences in the countries of Georgia, Greece and Mongolia. **Pray for God's direction and provision as we seek to hear God's call for ministry in 2010.** We have a large conference scheduled for Uganda in January 2010 as well. It is true that the fields are white unto harvest and we must pray for God to send forth laborers into that harvest field! (Matt. 9:37-38)

I leave you with this beautiful picture taken by my friend Barry Hartman from last year's Cambodia trip. As my brother Paul has said for years, *"You have never looked into the eyes of another human being who isn't valuable to God."* May we go to the ends of the earth with the love and grace of Jesus!

Lifting up the Name of Jesus, all for the Glory of God!

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