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July, August, September 2009

Insight International Braille Outreach Worldwide

Please consider this ministry in estate planning.

Hello and greetings in Christ,

New Christians, others almost ready to obey our Lord, first time requests for Bibles and more; these are just a part of the following letter.

First, I want to thank each of you who help to make this ministry to the blind possible. It's simple. We couldn't reach others with God's Word without God's guidance and your help! You are our partners in bringing the Good News to the world's blind.

MINISTRY NEWS

God's providence continues to allow us to meet people who are looking for the scriptures in their language. Last month at a small gathering in the south of Ireland, a lady who was visiting came up to talk with me. It turns out that she needed the scriptures in English, but also in the Tagalog language of the Philippines. Unfortunately, Braille production in that language has ceased, but I am looking for a new source of Braille Bibles in the Tagalog tongue. I have found the scriptures on cassette, and we are in the process of getting these to her for distribution in the Philippines and the UK. We also sent Bible study CDs to her in English.

On 9 August I told a group of around 100 people about this outreach. When I finished speaking two blind young adults came to examine the talking Bible. They were certainly enthusiastic, and both of them immediately asked if they could get such a Bible. These little Bibles, which can be held in your hand, and which run on two AA batteries, can contain two versions of the scriptures. The listener can mark passages, go from book to book, find verses, and do many other things by using the keyboard. This is the first time that a blind person can carry around the entire Bible and use it easily, for either personal or public study. The two blind people who asked for these electronic units are brother and sister. One of their sisters is also blind, and she will probably be asking for these talking Bibles soon. Each Bible costs us \$75, but we try not to make cost an issue, so long as we can afford to pay for them.

We recently received more requests for Braille, large print, and cassette-CD Bibles from Nigeria and Kenya. Often the summer is a slow time, but this summer we have received more requests than ever, and we are trying to keep up with them. Several more people in the United States have also asked for the Courier Talking Bibles and CD lessons. These Courier Bibles are the ones I mentioned earlier, and are the most expensive to provide, but are so useful in allowing a blind person to bring their Bible along with them.

For several months I have been studying three times a week on the internet with a blind lady named Emma. She has made tremendous progress, and is now ready to be baptized into Christ. I am working with one of the deacons from the Riverside Church in Lafayette, Louisiana to find someone who can help her. He is from South Africa and knows the region in the Western Cape where she lives. Please pray for her, that we can find a concerned, loving Christian to go and baptize her.

Usually I put the best news at the beginning of the letter, but this time I left it until now. Since the last newsletter three more blind people have been immersed into Christ in South India. We provided Bibles for them and they studied with brothers Philemonrajah and Kingslyrajah. Two people (a husband and wife) obeyed the Gospel at one of the Bible camps which we fund, and a blind lady put on Christ at a Gospel meeting. These new Christians need prayers from each one of us, please.

Certainly, the more publicity we can get for this ministry the more God's Word is spread. I am thankful to have been given over a half hour on a radio station which covers the city of Cork and surrounding areas. We pray that this will bring more requests for Bibles and material, not only from the region, but also from those who hear it and who know missionaries, friends, and family in other countries. The broadcast was also on the internet, and was retransmitted at least once. One point I made often was the need for unity based on the scriptures, and for us to be Christians only. As I write this, I am working to go on a network which has coverage in Ireland, the UK and throughout the world on the internet.

The Newsletter is now available by email. Please email Glynn at insightbow@aol.com and request your name to be added to the email list.

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FAMILY AND OTHER NEWS

After being with me this summer, Ann is back teaching at the Montessori School near Lafayette. We talk several times a day on Skype, and of course I look forward to being with her in October, after speaking in several places. It is far less expensive to speak region by region, than to go back and forth, so I try to pack as much as possible into an area.

Elise began her first hair dressing job in August, after receiving her diploma in June. She enjoys the work, and the owner of the salon is a Christian.

Andre remained in the US this summer and attended summer classes at LSU. He is studying graphic design, and his grades were very good. He is now back in classes for the autumn term.

FINANCIAL NEWS

Probably mostly because of the economic crisis, one time contributions were down about 25 percent at the end of last year. If any of you know of a church, or of some one who can assist at the end of 2009 on a one time basis, it would certainly help. We use one time contributions to budget throughout the year, and because more Bibles are going out, and also as we have had some technical problems with items that must be replaced, I see larger bills ahead.

On the monthly support front, a wonderful Christian brother made up the loss I mentioned in a recent letter, so we are back where we were at the beginning of 2009. Continuing steep increases in health insurance costs, along with an ever mounting deductible, certainly doesn't help! Yet, God does provide and we thank each of you, His servants for all the prayers and support you so faithfully continue.

May God be with each of you in every way. Please forgive me when I don't communicate personally as often as I should. Both Ann and I thank God for you daily. I also want to thank Sally Bowers, and Laura Graham, who prepare and send out this letter. Their help is most valuable and appreciated!

In Christ with thanks,

Glynn, Ann, Elise, and Andre Langston