

* GREGOR'S GREETINGS *
(SUMMER 1995)

Nehemiah said, "Go and enjoy choice food and sweet drinks, and send some to those who have nothing prepared. This day is sacred to our Lord. Do not grieve, for the joy of the Lord is your strength." (Nehemiah 8:10).

...I never thought I had so much to discover about the joy of the Lord and how vitally important it is for a Christian. Suddenly, it seemed like the whole Bible turned into a bright shiny message of overwhelming joy, a real invitation to a great banquet, a feasting table, a most rejoicing place that can exist! It seemed like for the first time I understood "rejoice in the Lord always" and what it really meant that God had set Jesus above His companions by anointing Him with the oil of joy (Hebrews 1:9).

I think God has a purpose of taking us to certain places and showing us certain things: in the difficult moments of much persecution, and all sorts of problems from outside the church and from inside; in times when our hearts are exposed and personal weaknesses laid bare; in an hour when we feel more discouraged than encouraged by looking at our inner selves and see we don't match with what we really are--the sons of the Most High King and Ruler of the universe; in times when our desperate need to change into the fulness of Christ takes us into dimensions we never thought possible before; times when things about which we don't have answers arise from every corner and situations seem to get worse; times when fears are exposed and people have to count the cost of being molded and used by God on His terms; times when the forces of darkness come full power against us, using the ugliest tricks their perverted minds can think of...then we really learn to appreciate the strength that comes from God, which is His joy...

I think this is the reason the Lord has brought us to a place of experiencing a movement of His joy and desiring it more. The church is having no less problems and difficulties (see the list of prayer requests), but there is an optimism and God-focused attitude that we never had before. We are experiencing God in most of the meetings in the deepest way we have since we started. And we all realize a quality jump. My heart is full of gratitude for all the Lord is being to us in these times.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Personal...God is keeping me fresh in my spirit--I have grown much lately in the areas of peace and joy.

I had a few times (2-3 days altogether) of being attacked in a supernatural way (well, it is always supernatural). I would appreciate your prayers for God's protection during these times.

General...URGENT--We were suddenly notified that we must move out (by the 15th of August) of the place we rent for the church. The landlord wants to sell it. She would be willing to sell it

to us for \$13,000 USD (which is not much at all if we had that money). Another place we know about (for rent) would require an increased income of at least \$100 USD per month (the place we have had until now is very cheap). PLEASE PRAY ABOUT THIS SITUATION. WE NEED A PLACE FOR MEETINGS!

We had a few (3) people leave the church for no obvious reason. One of them is back. Please pray for the others--Menir and Mark.

Going for evangelism in the park has been a great blessing for us. Many contacts, a few converts, but only one coming to church. We need intercessory prayers to envelop our evangelism. WOULD YOU HELP US IN THAT WAY? We intend to continue 2 nights a week for the rest of the summer.

TWO people from our church are leading a Bible study every Tuesday in the Old People's Home. More than 28 people attended last week (residents and staff). WE NEED TO COVER THAT WORK WITH PRAYERS TOO.

The children's ministry is growing, so the people working with the kids are in need of new ideas and materials.

PLEASE PRAY ABOUT THIS VITAL MINISTRY.

The Vehicle Account...is mounting up to \$4,250 USD so far. By faith, we still have \$15,500 USD to go. We continue to have no transportation. In between so many more urgent and less expensive needs, it looks funny to think about it. BUT WE BELIEVE GOD WANTS TO GIVE US A GOOD VEHICLE BECAUSE WE DO NEED ONE...and, anyway, isn't this what it means to walk by faith???

THANK YOU FOR YOUR VALUABLE PART IN THE WORK OF GOD HERE. GOD BLESS YOU.

Yours in Jesus,

Gregor