

Dear Friends,

How great it is to have God in control of our days and to recognize that fact! We left Texas with very little scheduled for our travels because there were just too many unknowns. We like to travel with definite purpose because we don't like to waste our time and the resources we have been entrusted with. We also like to have a sense of order in our lives when possible! It seemed though that I was so busy all the time in the previous weeks that I just didn't have the stamina to think, plan, write, and call so we didn't nail down many dates for visits and meetings.

We left Edinburg requesting direction from God and trusting him to use us in the way he saw fit while on the road. We have now been on the go almost three weeks and every day has been filled. I have been keeping a record of our activities, at least in part, and almost every evening has seen us with someone, sharing with them what God is doing. We spoke in a church in Hooker OK on our first Sunday out, Snyder CO on the second, and Harrisburg NE on the third.

We have reconnected with old friends and acquaintances and have met new people. We never tire of hearing how God has worked in people's lives to draw them to himself. We encountered one man who shared how he was raised by drug dealing parents in the Los Angeles area. They divorced when he was three and his mother was sent to prison for dealing in drugs. When he was 12 his grandfather died and his father was also being sent to prison for drug dealing so he went to live with his grandmother. When he was 14 he was invited to go hear an evangelist speaking in a big stadium. He never understood much of the message but went forward at the invitation just to be able to go down on the playing field. He wasn't impressed by the instructions given down there either but he was given a New Testament. He began reading that New Testament at home and became interested in it.

Sometime after the meetings at the stadium he went to a national park with family and friends but he had little interest in climbing among the rocks so he stayed in camp to read. He had taken along the little New Testament and decided to read more in it. One day he picked it up and noticed the words on the side of a page next to the Biblical text; it asked the question, "Does this describe you?" He had to admit that the description fit him. At the end it said, "If this describes you, you are heading toward Hell!" That shook him, but then he turned the page. Along the side it said, "But you don't have to go to Hell." There followed an explanation of God's simple plan of salvation. Suddenly things all came together in his mind and he understood from his Bible reading that God did truly love him and had provided a free and life-changing salvation. Right there in the RV he put his faith and trust in the Lord Jesus Christ and received eternal life.

After high school the boy enlisted in the Marine Corps and was eventually sent to a small detachment in Kansas City, MO. The directions he received to find the location of the detachment noted that there was a Bible college across the street; it was Calvary Bible College. Immediately upon arrival he went over and got a library card at the college. Soon he enrolled in night classes and when he was later due to be transferred he resigned from the Marines in order to continue his studies. He is now completing his Masters of Divinity with the intention of becoming a Navy chaplain to serve with his beloved, yet exasperating, Jarheads. How marvelous are the ways of God!

I have been working on the fifth-wheel trailer we acquired in Wyoming. One day goes well and then the next doesn't. Naturally I have found problems I wasn't counting on and I would really rather be helping the maintenance crew of Frontier School of the Bible with some of their needs than I would be working on something for ourselves. We are making progress however and will know before long if it will actually serve for us. So far Sandi has never been inside the trailer. We looked at a lift that goes on the side with a little chair that goes up and then can swing in the door but it moves so slow Sandi thought she would turn to a block of ice if she started up on a cold, windy day! We will see what we end up with.

Before I quit I have to tell you of an encounter I heard of between two past acquaintances. Salim Tanous was an Arab from Lebanon and one of our instructors in Bible School. He had the darker color and prominent features of an Arab. Eleazer Eirhbach was an orthodox Jew with a very long beard and the classic look of his people. Eleazer, like Salim, had recognized that Jesus Christ is the only way to God and he used to give demonstrations of the Jewish practices that in reality pointed to Jesus.

One day Eleazer accompanied our friend, Pastor Don Mathis, to visit Salim. When they arrived Salim met them and, without even a greeting, began immediately to tell of his cousins in Lebanon who had suffered a fire in their apartment. After the blaze was extinguished the fire investigators searched for the cause. At first they thought it was a pilot light on the second story. But then it was discovered that it was not a pilot light upstairs,, it was an Israelite in the basement!

Who but our God could give an Arab and a Jew such a rich and close relationship?

Hope this finds you well and enjoying the day that God has given.

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