



June, 2007

“You did not choose me, but I chose you, and appointed you to go and bear fruit - fruit that lasts”

*Jesus, in John 15:16*

By way of a brief update, I'd like to share with you part of a phone call we received from Venezuela last week. Many of you will remember Isabel, the woman who helped Lois with house work during most of the 22 years we worked in Rubio, and her daughter Lucy, who worked at Christiansen Academy in the kitchen for a number of years. It was after eight years of prayer, witness, Bible studies and personal friendship that both Isabel and Lucy decided to become Jesus-followers, within days of each other, in our home. Lucy later married a Bible Institute grad, and they led a church in a nearby town for several years. Their first child, Tiffany, was born on my (Roger's) birthday, and ever since we have enjoyed that special bond. Tiffany is the one who called from Venezuela. She has now completed her second year of university, majoring in English. After saying “Happy Birthday” to one another, our conversation turned to how she was doing in her walk with Jesus.

She said that she was fellowshipping with some Christians from the university, and asked if we had ever heard of Campus Crusade. She then shared that she has gone on three weekend trips to evangelize in other university towns, and that she will be going with a group of university students for three weeks this summer to evangelize among indigenous groups in the jungle. What a birthday present for us to hear! Thanks for the part that you have had in helping us to plant and water in Venezuela, and now see some of “the fruit that lasts” in the third generation of a special family.

I (still Roger) continue to work in developing the LifeLearner Network for TEAM's Centre for Lifelong Learning. In addition to the secure website for learning groups to collaborate and learn from one another how to enhance the effectiveness of their ministry, we have recently launched a wiki site and a blog for our missionaries to communicate over the “wild and wooly” side of the web. One blog thread is about being an effective mentor, and the wiki is a conversation about qualities of godly leadership.

Lois is very active in her work as a wound care specialist, traveling to almost 20 facilities each month to assess wounds and recommend treatment regimes. She also presents in-service instruction on wound care to nurses and aides in the facilities. It is a challenging job, and she is responding well to the opportunity to continue her own lifelong learning.

This summer, Chris and Naomi get married on July 21 in New York, another joyous event, and evidence of the Lord's blessing as we welcome Naomi into our family. They will settle WAY too far away from us, in Plymouth MA, where Chris will continue to work as a paramedic, and Naomi plans to teach nearby.

Kevin, Bridget, Savannah and Caleb came to visit for almost two weeks while Kevin and Bridget attended a seminar on MK education options held at a church in Wheaton. They finish at Gordon-Conwell Seminary this summer, and move to Malden where they will continue to prepare for a return to Gilligan's Island. At the end of the spring semester, Kevin was awarded the J. Christy Wilson Jr. Scholarship by the Wilson Center for World Missions at Gordon-Conwell. His Grandpa Luce would be proud, just as we all are.

Once again, thank you for your friendship and encouragement. We consider you a vital part of what God is able to accomplish through us.

Roger and Lois

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