

September - October 2016

Number 123

"And they said one to another, Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the scriptures?" (Luke 24:32)

Two of Jesus' disciples were walking on the road to Emmaus discussing the events of the empty tomb. Jesus came along and fell in step with them. They told Jesus everything they knew about what had happened. Then Jesus, beginning at Moses and the prophets, explained everything in the Scriptures that had to do with Himself. The disciples asked Jesus to stay longer with them. As they were about to share a meal together, Jesus prayed. They knew at that moment who Jesus was, and he vanished out of their sight. Then they asked the question we shared in our Scripture text to begin today's devotional.

The question they asked is still a good one for us today: "Does my heart burn within me as I hear the Scriptures explained and as I read and study them?" Surely no one but Christ, and no word but His Word, can have such an influence on us.

Jesus holds the key to our hearts and He speaks to us today in the Scriptures. Like the disciples, we find His teaching is plain. It is scriptural. "*He opened to us*," the Bible said, "*the scriptures*."

Therefore, as Christians, do our hearts burn within us as we read the Word? If not, let us remember that Jesus promised, "for every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened" (Matt. 7:8).

When we hear the Scriptures explained, or we study them . . .

 \ldots if our hearts overflow with love for the things of God,

 \ldots if we're deeply affected with the love of Christ's dying for us,

... if we're kindled with a righteous anger against our own sins of omission as well as commission,

. . . and if we are in some measure refined and purified from our sins,

. . . then we can say, "Through the grace of Almighty God, my heart burns within me."

I believe David's heart burned within him when he said, "*I will never forget thy precepts: for with them thou hast quickened me*" (Psa. 119:93). ★ ★ ★



Looking back at last year's Christmas Blessings.....



Faith Mission Gift Boxes ready for distribution



.....listening to the message of the Birth of our Saviour, Jesus Christ



Gifts bring Christmas joy to all ages,.... not just to the children



Oh the Joy of Christmas! These gifts are the key to many of these young hearts



Preparing to bless more families with Faith Mission gifts in a Carpathian Village in Ukraine

Sharing the wonderful story of the Birth of Jesus in a meeting place in Southern Ukraine

Gift Box Reminder for this Christmas season.....!

* You can pick up empty Christmas Gift Boxes at Faith Mission at 425 Roblin Blvd East in Winkler. There are Gift Boxes in the Drop-Off room, that you can pick up anytime. The Drop-Off door is always unlocked. * Here is a list of items that we recommend to put into a box:

Mittens, Socks, Toque, Scarf, Underwear, Socks, Toothbrush, Toothpaste, Soap, Facecloth, a Small Gift or Toy, School Supplies, Pencil, Eraser, Pen, Paper or Note-book, Colouring Book, Ruler, Pencil Sharpener, Crayons, and Scissor.

* If you put candies in, please put them into a small plastic bag.

- Don't put any liquids into the gift boxes!
 - Send Bar soap..... instead of liquid soap
 - Glue stickinstead of glue bottles
 - No Shampoo, Body Wash, or Perfume

* If you aren't interested in packing the gift boxes yourself, you are very welcome to buy the supplies for them and bring them to us. Or maybe you don't like to or aren't able to go shopping then you may also designate a donation for this cause and someone from Faith Mission will buy and pack the boxes for you. The cost to pack a Gift Box is approximately \$30 - \$35. Use the above list to buy supplies. Here is also a list of items that we always seem to run short on:

Scissors Rulers Mittens Wash Cloths Tooth Paste

* Another idea - we encourage you to add a Christmas card, a note or picture of yourself. (Some people have gotten a response from a child that had received a gift box.)

* Fill in the white space on top of the box indicating if the gift is for a boy or a girl and the appropriate age category:

5-8 years 9-12 years 13-16 years

* Deliver the filled boxes to Faith Mission, **425 Roblin Blvd East in Winkler**.

Praise the Lord!..... We got PILLOWS!



Thank you very much for the response to our Pillow Project. We have been blessed with many new pillows which will be shipped together with a comforter. We will pass on this blessing to the needy families in Ukraine. If it's possible we hope to ship some of them to Eastern Ukraine where so many people lost their homes and belongings due to the war.



The War Continues Please Pray for the estimated 1.7 million people in Eastern Ukraine who have been displaced. Tens of thousands have lost all their belongings. Thousands have lost family members due to the war.

God has been blessing us with tremendous support for many years. He has blessed us with generous donations so that we have always been able to ship whenever we had a container loaded. However, during the last few months it seems like the world recession has also affected Faith Mission. Donations were once again down in June, July and August.

Please continue to share your blessings and God will bless you in return. To ensure a receipt for your 2016 giving, make sure to get your donations in the mail early so that it will be in our office before December 31st. నానాన The following story is taken from the book, "Voices in the Wilderness" published by Advancing Native Missions in Charlottesville, Virginia. Advancing Native Missions has granted us full permission to re-print the stories in our Mission Newsletter.

Although this story is not from any country where Faith Mission is involved, we have heard similar stories from Ukraine and Russia. We know that it is the same God that heals broken marriages in any country in the world --- in Thailand, Ukraine, Moldova or even in Canada.

Re-Tying the Knot - Thailand

Soonthorn's marriage was falling apart. His wife was fed up with his drinking, smoking, and gambling, and she was always quarrelling with him over his bad habits. He had had enough of her nagging and was constantly beating her to shut her up. But whenever he was sober enough to think about his family life, he knew he needed help—badly. But from where?

Born into a Buddhist family, Soonthorn was taught that suffering was the natural consequence of a person's bad deeds. He and his family were often sick, and he believed that sickness was the gods' way of punishing people for their sins. He tried his best to live a good life, but he knew that he lacked the strength to do so. As a result, he became gloomy and depressed, thinking that he could only expect more sickness and suffering in life.

To ease his depression, he began drinking and smoking. He knew it was wrong, but he stopped caring about what the Buddha taught because all his years of following the Buddha had made no difference in his life.

Soonthorn then thought that perhaps a new job and a wife would bring him out of his depression. He headed off for the nation's capital city, Bangkok, where he found a job and got married. At first his life improved a little, due to the initial excitement of all the new changes. But as time went on, his wife started arguing with him over his excessive drinking, smoking, and gambling. Irritated, he would beat her in return. Before long their marriage was on the verge of collapse, and Soonthorn was longing to get out of this horrible marital mess.

One day a Christian lady invited both of them to attend a free English class and Bible study at a nearby church. Curious to learn more, they agreed to go. During the Bible study the teacher took Soonthorn aside and shared the gospel with him. As she spoke, Soonthorn realized that every word she was saying applied directly to his own life. He was so convicted that right then and there he prayed to receive Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior. That same evening his wife, who was listening intently as another teacher explained the gospel, also decided to receive Jesus Christ!

As Soonthorn and his wife grew in their obedience to the Lord, He delivered them from all their ungodly habits. Their marriage was completely transformed, and Soonthorn declared that his love for her had grown so much that he wanted to marry her all over again! Today he serves as the pastor of a large church in Bangkok, leading other Buddhists to the same transforming peace and holiness that only Jesus Christ can give.

"Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders labor in vain." Psalm 127:1 みかか

Worry free monthly payments

Your monthly payments to Faith Mission (FriedensBote), Inc. can now be made efficiently and economically by using the preauthorized system we call the **Automatic Donation Plan (ADP).**

Save Time - no monthly cheques to write **Save money** - no postage or cheque expenses No more delays if Canada Post goes on strike

By using the ADP we will be able to apply your gifts more quickly and more efficiently. For your convenience, this service will continue until you notify us otherwise. Simply complete the back side of the enclosed pink form and return it to Faith Mission (FriedensBote), Inc.

You will receive an official tax-receipt for your total annual contribution at the beginning of the following year.



Office Hours

Tuesday 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Clothing sorting & baling: Thursday 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. & 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Bags or boxes of clothing may be dropped off at the "DROP-OFF" door on the west side of the Faith Mission warehouse building. This drop-off room is opened 24 hours a day, emptied on a regular basis, however, if you have more than a few bags or boxes, please call ahead to arrange delivery.

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PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE CLOTHING DONATIONS OUTSIDE!

Volunteers Welcome! If your Youth Group, Bible Study group, or Ladies' Sewing Circle would like to volunteer for an afternoon or evening (Monday-Saturday), please contact the office to make arrangements.

Faith Mission (FriedensBote) Inc. solicits your gifts for the purpose identified in this appeal. However, if the project for which the gifts are received has been fully funded or cannot be completed for reasons beyond the control of the charity, the board reserves the right to use such funds for other similar projects.

Board of Directors

Faith Mission (FriedensBote) Inc.

New Mailing Address: 425 Roblin Blvd East Winkler, Manitoba R6W 0H2

Phone (204) 325-4086 Toll-free Fax (866) 478-0345 Email: info@faithmission.ca <u>www.faithmission.ca</u> Office and Warehouse located at **NEW LOCATION - 425 Roblin Blvd East**

I would like to receive the Bi-monthly Faith Mission Newsletter regularly.

- □ Please add my name to your mailing list.
- □ Please change my address as indicated below.

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Faith Mission (FriedensBote) Inc. is a nonprofit, registered charitable organization based in Winkler, Manitoba.Faith Mission was incorporated on May the 16th, 1994 in the Province of Manitoba

Purpose of Faith Mission

- to provide humanitarian and spiritual aid to the people of former Communist communities of the world.
- to call others to pray for the suffering people in the world.
- to provide information about the people of the former Communist communities to fellow Christians in North America.

The **Faith Mission Newsletter** is printed bimonthly and mailed at no cost to those people who have supported us in the past or to those who request information about Faith Mission.

> Banking Information - Access Credit Union Box 1060, Winkler, MB R6W 4B1 Account Number 19940-9