



RUSHMORE NEWSLETTER

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The Shirt Off his Back

By Louis Rushmore

Clearly, one of the most enjoyable aspects of traveling weekly to churches of Christ that may be interested in world evangelism is making new friends out of brethren who we have not met previously. Bonnie and I never cease to be humbled by the generous hospitality extended to us everywhere we go; in some instances, brothers and sisters even give up their master bedrooms for us. In any case, we are always treated regally and with unrestrained kindness. No words of thanks can adequately express our appreciation to these brethren.

Certainly only antidotal evidence, but it seems that half of the churches are enjoying a fellowship meal during our visit with them. Even if not hosting a potluck meal, brethren treat us to the best of either home cooked meals or supper out. It has long been my conclusion that brethren (including Bonnie and me) paint the town red with a small brush and little paint by enjoying good eats together. This course of action, naturally, has its tolls, especially on Bonnie and me as much as we find ourselves on the road; however, neither Bonnie nor I would want to miss the culinary extended hospitality toward us.

Nothing puts the capital "H" in hospitality like the kindness showed to me March 30th prior to Sunday morning Bible class and worship. Bonnie and I are so used to traveling weekly from four to eight hours away that we thought we could pack our clothes in our sleep, devoting little thought to the motions of loading the car with equipment, books and luggage. Yet, over the years past, on occasion, we have forgot-

(Continued on page 3)

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GPS

By Bonnie Rushmore

Several months ago, when Louis & I agreed to work with World Evangelism, we decided to purchase a Global Positioning System to aid in our travels as we visited congregations throughout several states. This device has proved useful, helpful, frustrating and aggravating during its use. It has navigated us to empty lots and fields and has successfully directed us through major cities and to church buildings that we have never visited before. Since we purchased an outdated model (to save money), we soon realized the necessity of updating the maps. After learning how to use this tool and updating the maps, it has proven to be worth the money spent.

During the month of March, the G.P.S. directed us to churches in Adamsville and Hillsboro, AL; Imboden and Biggers, AR; Saultillo, MS; Cleveland, TN and Faulkner University in Montgomery, AL. While at the Faulkner University Lectures, I was privileged to attend a Ladies' class taught by Cindy Colley. During her lesson, she referred to the usefulness of a G.P.S. system and suggested God's Peace and Security as another definition for it. After reflecting on her statements, I realized some great biblical truths that one can glean from such a correlation.

The Bible is God's Peace and Security for each of us. If we regularly update our lives with God's Word, it will safely guide us to our ultimate destination—heaven. When we fail to update God's Word in our lives, we will find ourselves lost in the chaos and uncertainty of this world. Just before Jesus' Ascension to heaven, He instructed the apostles that He was leaving them with peace and not to be troubled or

(Continued on page 2)

Trip Talk

By Louis Rushmore

March 2, Bonnie and I spent the day with the Adamsville (AL) church of Christ, where it was my good pleasure to make PowerPoint presentations about Bible Archaeology, Beverage Alcohol and Evangelism, plus present a special map class for youngsters. Of course, I have made presentations without the use of PowerPoint (most of my 35 years preaching), but in Adamsville, I had the first occasion to start out with PowerPoint (the first slide) and because of *technical difficulties* proceed without the media presentation. Every so often, I revisited the remote to no avail. A preacher really needs to be versatile.

March 3-5, Bonnie and I manned a booth for World Evangelism and Voice of Truth International, and took in a few lectures, at Faulkner University in Montgomery, AL. We distributed over 100 copies of my book, *Beverage Alcohol*, while there. It was our good pleasure to personally meet brother and sister Dean Kelly; Dean writes for *Gospel Gazette Online*.

Wednesday evening of **March 5**, we along with Wayne and Janet Barrier plus L.D. Willis met with the Mayfield church of Christ in Slatton, MS. Brethren Willis and Barrier addressed the saints that evening about World Evangelism.

Sunday morning, **March 9**, Bonnie and I worshipped with the Imboden, AR church of Christ, where I made PowerPoint presentations about Bible Archaeology and Evangelism. Several books on Beverage Alcohol were distributed while there. The kindness and hospitality showed us in Imboden was unsurpassed. That evening I made a PowerPoint presentation about Evangelism for the Biggers (AR) church of Christ. Thoughtfully, these good brethren scheduled their monthly fellowship meal to coincide with our visit.

Sunday morning of **March 16**, Bonnie and I worshipped with the Red Hill (MS) church of Christ where I made the Bible Archaeology and Evangelism presentations. That evening, we worshipped with the Elliott (MS) church of Christ where I made the Evangelism presentation. Uniquely, we were able to spend the afternoon between services in Winona, MS where we live, instead of being several hours away from home and returning late at night. We happened on the fellowship meal of the Elliott church that night following worship.

Wednesday, **March 19**, Bonnie and I participated in a singing at a nursing home in Indianola, MS and met with students of Mississippi Delta College in Moorhead, MS, where I made the Bible Archaeology presentation and gave away *Beverage Alcohol*. Between the two events, we were guests for a home cooked meal by sister Madelyn Gibson.

March 23, we worshipped with the New Antioch church of Christ in Hillsboro, AL, where I made the Bi-

ble Archaeology and Evangelism presentations. Having no evening appointment, we drove toward home, stopping to worship in Baldwyn, MS with the Hillcrest church of Christ. Just as my dear friend and preacher, Tim Childs, informed me that I was not going to be speaking that night (because the eldership had not rendered a decision on my offer only a few minutes earlier), one of the elders announced to the congregation that I would be speaking. Hurriedly, I, with the help of other brethren, scurried to the car to retrieve my equipment and set it up in the auditorium (during the singing of hymns). The computer had not even finished booting up by the time brother Childs was done introducing me. A few introductory words later, I proceeded to show the slides about Bible Archaeology. A preacher really needs to be versatile. Afterward, brother Childs (on preacher's pay) introduced Bonnie and me to a new, local Mexican restaurant, and it was superb (not to mention the good fellowship).

March 30, Bonnie, Betty Choate and I worshipped in the a.m. with the East Side church of Christ in Cleveland, TN, where I made the Evangelism presentation. That night, I made the same presentation to the Central church of Christ in Cleveland, TN. We stayed two nights in Cleveland (Saturday and Sunday) with a family from each of the two congregations; brethren went out of their way to show us unparalleled hospitality. Happily, on our journey home the next day, we stopped by the new location for GBN; brethren there gave us the grand tour, and it is impressive. It was good to see brother and sister Jim Dearman again, with whom we attended Memphis School of Preaching so many years ago.

We do a lot of traveling to bring brethren updates on World Evangelism, encouraging them to continue their moral and financial support of this good work, as well as encouraging brethren to do more when they can—for the cause of Christ and the salvation of souls. Brethren graciously help us with our travel expenses, and we secured \$410 more monthly support in March. We still need to raise thousands more monthly for the evangelistic work to which we have dedicated the balance of our lives, besides the \$6,000 or more needed for our October 15 departure for India and Myanmar. Regarding the extensive travel we are doing, and will continue to do stateside and abroad, it's a good thing that I am traveling with **my best friend** (Bonnie). Please pray for us. 📖

(Continued from page 1 GPS)

afraid (John 14:27). As Paul closed his letter to the Thessalonians, he requested that the Lord of peace give peace to the Thessalonians (2 Thess. 3:16).

Just as we had to learn to use the GPS properly in order for it to guide us to our destination, we must learn to study the Bible in order to have a peaceful, secure life in this world. Paul admonished young Timothy, "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that

needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth (2 Tim. 2:14). A proper understanding of the divisions of the Old and New Testaments and knowing to whom the individual books of the Bible were written will aid one in studying the Bible. Many morally good individuals have read the entire Bible on numerous occasions. Yet, God is not pleased with them because they failed to study the Bible for the purpose of attaining knowledge and then apply that knowledge to their lives (Matt. 7:21-24).

Sometimes, we exit the highway before the GPS directs us to turn. When that happens, the GPS kindly instructs us to make a u-turn when possible. God encourages us to make u-turns back to him when we stray. Romans 3:23 states, "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." Every individual, with no exceptions, sins (1 John 1:8, 10). God sacrificed Jesus on the cross to take away that sin (Heb. 9:28). When one is immersed in water, all past sins are forgiven (Acts 2:38; Rom. 6:3-5). However, baptism does not keep us from future sins. After Simon the Samaritan was baptized, he sinned. Peter told him to "Repent therefore of this thy wickedness, and pray God, if perhaps the thought of thine heart may be forgiven thee" (Acts 8:22). Each of us occasionally breaks a command of God. God provided us with a way to come back to him. When we make a u-turn in our lives, God will guide us back on the road to heaven.

With regular updates, proper usage and following the instructions of the GPS system in our car we arrive at our intended destination. Likewise, with regular Bible study and proper application of God's Word we will arrive at our final destination. When we adhere to God's Word we will have a life of peace and security knowing one day God will say "Well done...enter into the joy of thy Lord (Matthew 25:21). We all need God's Peace and Security (GPS).📖

(Continued from page 1 Shirt)

ten some essential items (e.g., my shoes when scheduled to speak on a lectureship, my suit and Bonnie's dress in a closet along the way while traveling). Imagine my dumb-foundedness upon discovering on the morning of March 30th while in Cleveland, TN that I left my white dress shirt hanging in the closet back in Winona, MS. Brother Dean Skelton came to my rescue, essentially giving me the shirt off his back. What new heights brethren willingly take hospitality, and how humbling to be the recipients of such kindnesses!

Truly, some brethren major in hospitality (Rom. 12:13; 1 Tim. 3:2; Titus 1:8; 1 Pet. 4:9); they are "fond of guests" (*Strong's*) and have "love of strangers" (*Vine's*). Thank you.📖

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Volunteers

By Louis Rushmore

Our daughter, Rebecca, spent several days during Spring Break (from teaching school) at the World Evangelism offices in Winona, MS. Bonnie and Rebecca expended much energy inventorying the thousands of books in the warehouse and re-organizing them for easier fulfillment of requests stateside and abroad. Rebecca installed computer printer drivers on several computers, and set her sight on re-organizing the Archive room (containing samples of printing done over 45 years of World Evangelism). Items need catalogued, shrink-wrapped and filed. She has her work cut out for her (besides mission trips both stateside and to South America this summer, too). Tentatively, volunteers from the Central church of Christ in Cleveland, TN plan to visit Winona to help with a variety of tasks, ranging from building and grounds maintenance to help in the print shop to help in the office. Volunteers are welcome, and much needed, because the workload far exceeds the capability of the Bates, the Rushmores, Betty Choate, Eulene Ramsey and Theola Burton. Are you willing and able to be a volunteer worker behind the scenes for the cause of Christ?📖

Stay Tuned!

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Honest in the Sight of All Men
2 Corinthians 8:20-21
Rushmore Evangelism Fund
March 2008

Expenses

Beginning Balance		\$1,722.87
Income		
Contributions	\$6,475.00	
Printing Equipment		
Printing/Book Sales	\$564.13	
Travel	\$333.00	
TOTAL INCOME	\$7,372.13	

Auto Expenses	\$1,026.35
Stateside Travel	\$362.30
Foreign Travel (Rebecca)	\$150.00
Equipment	
Office Equipment & Supplies	\$234.90
Shipping	\$125.46
Internet	\$34.95
Printing Expenses	\$378.24
Office Telephone	\$155.47
Medical Treatment	\$606.00
Bank Fees	\$2.90
Medical Insurance	\$0.00
Life Insurance	\$50.29
Housing	\$219.45
Salary	\$2,000.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$2,000.00
BALANCE	\$2,025.82
Ending Balance	\$3,748.69