

Update from Vern & Holly Dyck

[Dear Friends at WCCC](#),

2009-05-08

It is a joy for us to partner together with you in ministry. We thank God for the privilege of being an extension of your of your labor around the world. In this letter I would like to update you on a number of our ministry opportunities.

In March I was able to spend 3 weeks together with a number of our Pastors. Although we covered many topics of discussion and shared many stories, remembered many good times, the focus of our visit seemed to come back to a recently translated portion of God's Word, found in Hebrews 12:1, 2. The following is the "back-to-English" translation from the (native) language Bible.

Many were those who lived before us who were living believing strongly in the true God. And even though they no longer are in this visible land, even so they are like watching us measuringly, wondering in how we are going to live believing. And for this reason we should live like those who run heartily on what resembles the measured path, without becoming discouraged. So therefore we should do like quickly taking off that which does like interfering with us, so that we might live like being light (light as in having no weight). Look its true. Anything that resembles a weight, any kind of bad that is like stuck hanging down from us, we should throw off as though quickly pulling it off, so that we live like running heartily, so that we live always with endurance (tough livers). 2. And let's think on Jesus as though always looking at him. For precisely with him our faith began. Precisely through Jesus we are able to find strength also to believe completely just like he believed. For when he was hanging on the tree, because he was believing like this: 'Aha, many will find salvation by my blood,' thinking with joy (without a liver), he passed through this terrible evil. Yes he passed through it believing strongly without being preoccupied about that which caused him shame. And now he has sat down there at the right hand side of the true leader God.

During this very precious time we continued to challenge one another to throw off those things which resemble a weight so that we can lightly run the race that is set before us. **What are the tentacles and traps and underlying values** from their culture that work through the flesh to hinder spiritual growth, and cause the believer to get stuck in his journey towards maturity in Christ? **What are the areas** in their culture that are **most resistant** to the influence of the Word of God? How do kinship relationships, social control through gossip, the ‘have-not’ mentality, and the importance of community **effect the clear communication of the New Testament message** in their context and their response to it? These perhaps are some of the “weights” that are slowing down the (native people) in their Christian lives.

Thanks so much for your prayers and financial support that make our ministry here at the Missionary Training Center and with the (native people) possible. This connection with the (native people) is vital not only for the ongoing growth of the (native people's) church but also for my involvement in the equipping and training of missionary candidates. As we move into the month of May, my teaching responsibilities begin to slow and we turn our attention to the graduation of our students and to Jungle Camp. This year though will also include a two week Course Development Seminar when we hope to finalize a framework and to outline the curriculum for our missionary training course in the fall. This will be a huge task to nail this all down and then begin to implement it and yet we are excited as we look to the Lord to better equip our missionary candidates for the current realities of missionary work. Paul wrote in 1 Corinthians 9:22, **“I have become all things to all men that I might save some.”** Our goal here at the Missionary Training Center (MTC) is to help our students learn to become whatever it may take to reach the unreached with the Gospel. The Course Development Team is looking to evaluate and develop a course targeting 4 specific areas of becoming: Becoming a messenger, becoming a light, becoming a member of community and becoming a disciple and disciple-maker. Each area is derived from a very important characteristic of God which provides the rock solid foundation and motivation for everything we do and teach. Our goal is to not only teach our students the theory of church planting, but aggressively seek opportunities and ways to show them how to do it. These continue to be the challenges that lay before us and we really appreciate your prayers that the Lord will give wisdom and direction in the following weeks.

Your friendship means a lot to us. It truly is a privilege to participate together with our heavenly Father as we seek to proclaim the message of our Great God and Saviour to the world. We once again thank you for your significant part in our lives and ministry. We rely heavily on God for His provision through His people and through His church and we thank you for your willingness to sacrifice on our behalf.

Partners together,

Vern & Holly Dyck