



Greetings to you, our dear friends in the Lord! This month we take a break from updates on our ministry to share with you some feeding words of comfort, inspiration & commitment. In the past 2 weeks we've learned to count our blessings & thank God for our health as 2 of our children had short hospital visits for surgery. There's nothing quite the same as lying in a hospital bed & realizing that you are utterly at God's mercy! We were very touched by the kind & loving nurses & doctors who worked tirelessly through long days to care for their patients! Some of us adults have also been battling sickness in the past few weeks & during times like these it's so necessary to strengthen our spirits with God's Word! The Lord promised: "My grace is sufficient for thee; for My strength is made perfect in weakness...for when I am weak, then am I strong." **2Cor.12:9a,10b**

Trying Times = Good!



An elderly man asked a boy to go with him into the woods to cut down some hickory trees to make axe handles. They soon came to several young hickory trees. The boy said, "These trees would make good axe handles. Let's cut them down." The old man said, "These trees in the lowlands have been protected from the storms which rage higher up. Let's go to the heights where the trees have been rocked back & forth by fierce winds. Those trees have been hardened by the tempest & they will make much stronger axe handles!"

Those who have been exposed to difficulties, rocked to & fro by the temptations, but who have not yielded to them, are made stronger. We can be "more than conquerors through Him that loved us!" (**Romans 8:37**).

Job said, "When He hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold" (**Job 23:10**).

Making us Stronger!



The Lord makes you stronger with each victory. It's sort of like inoculation: He gives you small doses so you won't catch the disease, so you will constantly gradually build up your resistance to it. Whereas, if you are never tested, never given a small dose, you will never be able to take the big dose.

In the Middle Ages, because assassination by poison was so common, kings & important men used to take small doses of poison every day. They'd start off with a very tiny portion, just a few grains, & keep taking a little more each day, until they gradually built up a resistance, so that if somebody gave them a large dose, it wouldn't be fatal.

It's kind of like the Lord does with us: He gives us a little more each day to test us, to try us, to build up our strength & resistance. He inoculates us with a little more serum of sacrifice & trial & trouble & battle each day.

He's trying to make you stronger every day & make you able to give a little more, sacrifice a little more, suffer a little more, fight a little more, & grow a little more.

--David Brandt Berg

Comfort in War-Torn Regions



(Sent in by fellow missionaries from The Family International that are ministering the Gospel in war-torn parts of the world:)

There are a handful of refugee camps in our area, which we visit regularly. The conditions in the camps differ, but none have very high standards. Sometimes as we sing, people break down & weep, & afterwards crowd around to thank us for coming. Our songs help them forget what they've been through, & to remember that there is still joy in the World! It's a heartbreaking sight!

2Cor.1:4 Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we

may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God.

Does Jesus Care?

Does Jesus care when my way is dark
With a nameless dread & fear?
As the daylight fades into deep night shades,
Does He care enough to be near?

Does Jesus care when I've said, "Good-bye"
To the dearest on Earth to me,
And my sad heart aches till it nearly breaks,
Is it aught to Him? Does He see?

Oh, yes, He cares; I know
He cares,
His heart is touched with my grief.
When the days are weary, the long nights dreary,
I know My Savior cares.
--Frank E. Graeff



Changing the World!

Sometimes we're discouraged & think, "Well, who am I? What can I do? The world's problems all seem so hopeless & impossible! It looks like there's nothing one person can do to change things for the better, so what's the use of trying?" & we're tempted to just give up & let the world go to Hell, which it seems to deserve!



Well, you may not be able to change the *whole* world, but you can change *your* part of the world. If you have changed one life, you have changed a part of the world, & you have proven that there is hope that it can *all* be changed! If you even change *your* life, you've changed a whole universe, the universe of your body & the sphere in which you live! The place & the very atmosphere around you will be changed if you even change yourself by the power of God's Love!

Change the world in which you live--your life, your home, your family--& you've changed the world, *your* world!
--David Brandt Berg

Hot Topic



Lord willing we will be making our next missionary trip to Brazil pretty soon...our target departure date is June! Thank you for your prayers & support in this endeavour. If you are able to help in any way towards this upcoming trip, please do!—we sure need your help & will really appreciate any support you can send our way towards this mission trip!

New Riovision Web Site!

We are excited to announce the launching of our new web site! Check out our home page at www.riovision.org

Missionary Base

This month we were able to help the following missionaries who passed through our base:

- Tim & Joy (from Thailand)
- Pandita (from Thailand)

(God bless you dear missionaries! Our prayers are with you!)

Special thanks to:

- All the wonderful nurses & doctors at the Anaheim Memorial Hospital, CHOC hospital & Garden Grove hospital. 2 of our children had operations this month & the loving care & selfless devotion from the staff of these hospitals was so very special to experience! Thank you!
- Linda at Camelot Golfand for the mini golf passes

Once again we want to sincerely thank you for your interest & support in our Foundation & our goal to change the world with God's Words & love! We appreciate you very much.

Sincerely,

For all of us here at Riovision