

Oct. 18, 2017

### Dear Friends:



A strong hint of fall is in the air – even here in northwest Florida! We are scratching our heads and wondering where the summer went. Lol. However, a HUGE amount has been accomplished

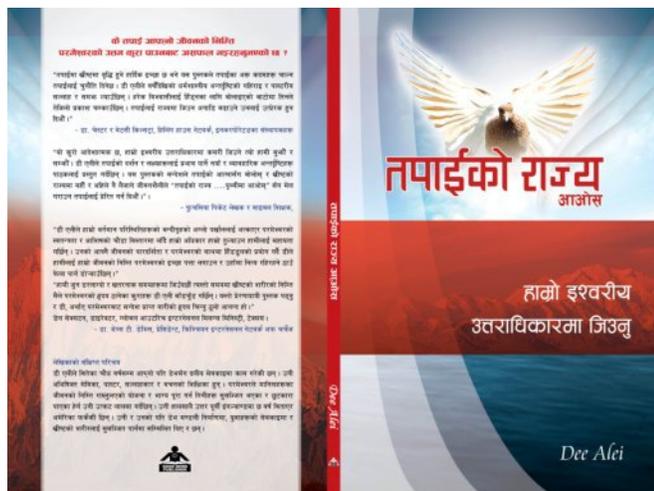
in the 6 months since we arrived, so maybe that explains it!! Our hands and hearts have been focused and active on many levels.

Someone posted something on Facebook recently that asked if you could hit a button and rewind your life to do it differently, would you do it? The instant answer for us was unequivocally, “No way!” We’ve realized how precious we count our life experiences and all that we have walked through, even the things that were difficult, traumatic or tragic. Our lives have been made RICHER by everything we have faced and navigated. And, truthfully, there has been so much blessing that it seems to have overshadowed everything else anyway! No matter the details of our lives, whether for better or for worse, the Lord remains good, He remains faithful ... and remains our all in all.

This might be something for each of us to consider – why we would, or would not, want to live our lives over again in a different manner. Hmm? We are all inherently flawed, and we’ve all stumbled and made mistakes. But God desires to redeem both us AND our mistakes, precious friends. Have we seen strength, wisdom, transformation and/or blessing eventually come out of those mistakes? And if not, perhaps asking the Lord why not might be helpful in putting our lives on a path to experiencing more of what He has purposed and ordained for each one of us. It’s just some food for thought and prayer!

### Nepali Printing and Distribution

The Nepali translation of Dee’s second book, Thy Kingdome Come, which some Christian leaders have humorously called ‘Kingdom 101’, was completed over the summer. The actual publishing of this book in Nepal was completed just recently and it is now in the process of distribution. The publisher in Nepal, who is also a key pastor in Kathmandu, has stated that he believes this will be an important, life-changing resource for the pastors and church leaders in his country. Many copies will be given away for free to these pastors and leaders to strengthen the Church there. We rejoice in God’s goodness to the people of this nation, and thank those of you who had a part in helping with the printing costs.



### Asia Ministry Trip

Some of the summer was taken up with making travel arrangements, securing visas, preparing teaching material and handouts for translation, and lining things up for the house/dog sitters who would be staying here while we were in Asia. Some of this entailed hurricane supplies and plans – just in case!

Many of you know that hurricane Irma was heading for us just as we were preparing to leave, and so things were a bit touch and go at the last minute. In the end, the storm veered slightly to the east, and we were able to leave as planned. We had been invited by a friend who has been traveling into this country from the U.S. for a number of years, and felt the pastors really needed some marriage ministry.

The trip was grueling - 40 hours of travel each way encompassing 5 different flights. But it was so worth it!! We did several marriage seminars for pastors and their wives while in the country, along with some ministry at a local church. At the end of each seminar, we prayed prophetically for every couple, releasing more of God and speaking things into their lives and marriages that we felt the Lord wanted to seed or bring to life.



**The first seminar group - in a large city**

The Lord was so faithful, and many lives and marriages were changed. In between, we saw some of the country, learned more about its history and some of the spiritual issues, and prayed strategically for a nation that became very dear to our hearts during the time we spent there. A

number of people became so incredibly dear to our hearts also. We definitely plan to return in the future. The nation is 99% Buddhist and many Christians are still persecuted. We have been careful not to directly identify the country for this reason.

Some of the highlights of this trip included testimonies from the pastors and their wives at the end of the seminars. Some of the testimonies left us in tears, and all were quite powerful. There were some key concepts and principles which seemed to be empowering and life-changing for many. But there were also very special, unique kinds of things shared, which SO impacted and touched our hearts!

- + One pastor shared that he had never received any paperwork when he and his wife got married. Although he had married many people as a church leader and signed their papers, he always felt sad and "less than" because he had no papers. Because we had each couple share vows with one another as part of a renewed marriage covenant, and gave them the opportunity to sign and date their copy of the covenant, he felt that he finally had the paper for which he had so longed! He said he finally felt that his marriage was valid after 12 years of wrestling with it. Of course, we were all left in tears by his story.

- + In the highland location, we found out that none of the seminar participants had ever been in a "seminar" or "conference" setting before. So they had no idea what to expect. Coupled with the fact that they were all from different tribes, backgrounds and areas, and most did not know one another, it was very stiff and awkward at first. They were also locked up and inhibited, some obviously fearful, some quite glum. However, with some intercessory prayer and direction from the Lord concerning the barriers, we soon saw a marvelous breakthrough among this group! By the end, we were seeing a group of people happy and free, continually laughing and joking with one another. The Lord accomplished such a beautiful work of His Spirit, that it left us in awe, and so thankful for His goodness and faithfulness.

- + We were advised beforehand that hugging is not part of the culture there, that people don't hug or touch or show affection openly. Christians included. So imagine Dee's surprise when one of the pastor's wives, a lady who had seemed one of the most stoic and undemonstrative, came up and gave her a fierce hug at the end of one of the sessions. It was so incredibly touching - a very small thing here, but earth-shaking there.



**This precious couple wanted us to see them in their traditional dress**



One of the couples joking around

+ One couple rode 7 HOURS on a small MOTORBIKE to come to one of the marriage seminars. Their hunger and willingness to make such a sacrifice so touched our hearts. They were not young, either!!

+ One lady testified that she was so discouraged, she had been ready to leave the marriage. She shared that she did not want to come to the seminar, that she only came very reluctantly. But she soon began to realize, she said, that it was ALL for her. She felt JUST FOR HER! Her husband shared that he thought he had family life down pat and everything was fine, but through the seminar he realized it was a long way from fine. They both felt their marriage had experienced a new beginning. By the end, their countenances had both changed radically (like night and day), providing clear evidence of the precious work God was doing in their lives and in their marriage!

+ An older woman shared that her husband had always been very shy. But during the course of the seminar, he held her hand in public for the first time EVER, and even KISSED her. She was thrilled, and felt her husband was being "transformed" before her very eyes.

+ Another woman shared that when they were first married, some words were spoken over them in the ceremony. But this was the first time, after 20-something years of marriage, that they had made vows to each other "from the heart."



The seminar in the highlands

+ A middle-aged pastor shared that this time was like a "honeymoon" for him and his wife - that they had not slept in the same bed together in 18 YEARS! Their house is small and there are too many people living in it. We watched his wife just come alive during the seminar ... changing from a rather distant, unhappy-looking woman to a radiant and beautiful woman with a big smile on her face.

+ A wife married for 47 years glowingly told us in private that she feels like their marriage has been renewed and "filled up" once again. She made us promise to come to their home when we return.



Praying over every couple at the end

On the return flight from Qatar to JFK, which lasted 13 ½ hours, we were blessed to have as a seatmate a very humble and solid individual, who is the pastor of a moderate-sized church in Nigeria. We all felt that it was a divine appointment. We have since heard from our new friend during his time here in the states, and we are all praying about some future possibilities, ministry-wise.

## Upcoming Ministry in the Caribbean November 22<sup>nd</sup> - December 6<sup>th</sup>

Travel arrangements are made, and Dee will be traveling with a missionary friend from New Zealand to a certain large island in the Caribbean towards the end of November. They will be heading to the eastern side of the island via the Dominican Republic. We met a precious couple from there this last weekend, who escaped many years ago. They wanted to be sure we know how important it will be to stand against the principalities and powers which rule this island nation before going in. Interestingly enough, the Lord had already pricked Dee's heart about this, so their warning came as confirmation of the need to pray in His authority upfront. If the horrendous difficulty concerning major changes and extra costs levied by the airlines are any indication of the divine purpose inherent in



this trip, it is going to be a very productive one for the Kingdom! Dee very much appreciates your prayers for her and Denise, and for the ministry there, during their time on the island as well. Thank you!!

## Sharing Locally – Church Missions Night



Recently, we were asked to share at the Spanish-speaking church in FWB with whom we have been fellowshiping. They wanted us to share during a Missions Night about our own ministry and about missions in general, as a lead up to their Festival of Nations last Sunday. It was a precious night with a precious group of people! So many shared with us afterwards how different things had really challenged or grabbed their hearts in a powerful way. We are enjoying getting to know this lovely group. We see such a heart after God, such sensitivity to the Holy Spirit, a desire to equip and push members of the congregation forward, and a focus on relationships/sense of family. It's our kind of place!

## 2018 International Ministry

Well, the complexion of things has been changing a bit from how we thought it might fall together for next year! The Lord has shifted our focus away from some areas, raised up some new things, and changed the time frame on some others. Right now, it is all in a state of flux. But we are all right with that! We want to be sure that we only go where the Lord directs us, and that it is in His perfect timing.



## Family News

We have lots of exciting news concerning immediate family this month!!

Our son, Justin, and his wife, Sarah, have just recently gotten a contract on their house in Albuquerque, and will be closing on it November 13<sup>th</sup>. Then they head across country to Florida, excited about joining together again with their best friends (on the southeast coast) in life and ministry! They plan to stay with us for a few days on the way, something which we are looking forward to with much anticipation.

Our daughter, Lauren, is due to give birth any day to their little boy. She has already past her due date. Meanwhile, Gareth (her hubby) shot his first bull elk this past week, and did so with a muzzleloader. It is such a milestone and exciting adventure for this British man - he is over the moon! Both he and Lauren are also excited because they will have tons of grass-fed, organic meat in their freezer now for just the cost of the permit, some gas and supplies! We do hope they will share some with Mom and Dad – hee, hee.

Dee will be heading to New Mexico in another week or so to spend time with the family, assist Hayley at a horse show, and help Lauren with the baby. She will also get to spend a little time with the NNMRC folks, whom she has greatly missed and can't wait to see!

Finally, both families are coming here for Christmas this year!! So we will have a house FULL, and it will be both crazy and wonderful!!



**"Gaz" shows off his first ever bull elk.**

## A Few Prayer Requests - *Please join us in lifting up these things before His throne of grace. Thank you!!*

1. For our own nation, that despite the blockades, resistance, and complacency, our mighty God would have His way and do a work of His Spirit in our midst, that His Kingdom would come and be manifest in a powerful way.
2. For Puerto Rico, that the barriers to distribution of the aid sent and held up in the ports would be lifted, the corruption that hinders distribution to the most needy exposed, and for a sovereign work of Almighty God to get debris cleaned up, roads opened and electricity back on line around the island and the smaller islands offshore.
3. For Kenya, which is currently facing much violence and upheaval after a very smooth and peaceful presidential election in early August, but the results of which were later annulled by a court to favor the opposition party, and a new election set for October 26<sup>th</sup>. The situation has become dangerous, and could spiral out of control at any time. There are many precious brothers and sisters in Christ in this country, such as Pastor Nicolas and his family, who are being tremendously affected by what is happening, and could stand to lose much more, including their lives, if the situation worsens.
4. For Pastor Arthur in Mbeya, Tanzania, who must travel to the other side of the country for surgery on his eye. He leaves in a few days. This has been an ongoing situation for quite some time now, and quite debilitating for him, his family and church. While he has trusted God for healing, there has been no change, and he has felt it prudent now to undertake the surgery.
5. For Najeeb and Monica, the young couple in Pakistan, and the orphanage kids God has entrusted them with, as they continue to share the gospel, be a light in the midst of great darkness, rescue more children out of slavery in the brick factories, and get them into school - all of which takes a great deal of money!
6. For Dee and Denise's upcoming trip to the Caribbean, that God would accomplish all He has purposed for this time, for great fruitfulness in strengthening the churches there, and a marvelous release of His grace in the midst of suffering.
7. For mom and baby, as Lauren and Gareth prepare for number three - for all health issues to be supernaturally neutralized, for a quick and easy delivery, and for this little boy to come out of the womb in the power of the Holy Spirit.
8. For the Lord to miraculously provide a home for Justin and Sarah in the Jupiter, FL area which is in their price range, the desire of their hearts, and just what the Lord knows they will need in the years ahead.

THANK YOU, dear friends for standing with us in prayer for all of these needs, as well as the many unspoken ones! THANK YOU for your love and friendship, for your encouragement and support, and for partnering with us in living and sharing the gospel message and equipping the Church for the work of the ministry in areas of the world that many would rather not go.

We thank God for you continually, and pray His grace would rest upon each one of you, sufficient for every need that you might have - spiritual, emotional, physical, or financial.

May His glory be seen more completely in all the earth, as we lift up His Name and exalt Him!!

We love you dearly,

*Dave & Dee*

P.S. Apologies for such a long newsletter this time!!



**Taking a break from ministry at some botanical gardens - those are orchids behind us!**