



Dr. Cork and Ruth Albright

Missionaries to the Netherlands

December 2009 – January 2010

Ruth's Notes from the Heart

This month my entire Prayer Letter will be about my heart for the Dutch speaking people. I have grown to love and appreciate the people Cork has known for the past thirty plus years. We are treated like family by so many of them. Edward and Elly Kuiper are one of our family's fondest friends. Edward turned 57 in January and we were invited to be with his family to celebrate this special occasion. This yearly invitation continues to mean so much to us. Not only does this mark another year of life and love in Edward's service to our Lord, it is also a reminder of the many years our Lord has used us in winning the Dutch to Christ in the country of Holland. Edward appreciates the impact Cork has had on his family as well as his own life. Edward and Elly was the first couple to help Cork start the church in Roermond. Their friendship is still growing deeper and deeper as the years go by. There are so many Dutch people that have been a blessing to our family and we thank God for each and every one of them.

For Christmas we were able to obtain some very nice Christmas music from an area church here in Belgium. We gave ten of our neighbors a copy of this Christmas CD wondering what kind of response we would receive . . . if any at all. One neighbor couple, Frans and Madou, had a very positive response, thanking us for our thoughtfulness. This is just another small step through an open door the Lord has given to us in gaining their trust to share the Gospel with them. They know why we are here . . . yet they are careful not to allow us to share the Gospel with them.

We also invited two other couples from our neighborhood to see our festively decorated house. We enjoyed spending the evening with Jos and Jeanne and Martin and Madeline. We have been frequently invited to the home of Jos and Jeanne. I have privilege to call Jeanne my friend yet not my sister in Christ. We see how the Lord is using yet another small step through yet another open door allowing us to gain their confidence and friendship. It is exciting to get to know people right here in our own neighborhood. In starting our previous four churches five or more years has often been needed to gain the trust and confidence of our neighborhood allowing us to present God's plan of salvation. This hopefully will have a positive affect when the time comes to start a church here in Opglabbeek. Please pray with us that our contacts will accept our invitation to attend the Bible Studies and Prayer Meetings that are conducted in our home. It is certainly true that God will bless the efforts of His children as we are testimonies for Him where we live and work.

Cork continues to preach in each of the Dutch speaking churches he has started in Holland. It is a real joy to see how the Lord is using him to be such an encouragement each time he preaches. I am still teaching Sunday School to the children in Valkenburg; making some lifelong friendships with the precious Christians there.

I will close by saying that I love being married to Cork Albright as we serve the Lord together here in Holland. We are looking forward to seeing what He has in store for us in 2010!


Cork's Ministry News

With the dawning of a new year comes a sense of hope, excitement, and a tinge of apprehension. Will my desire to honor God in all that I do be fulfilled? Will goals and targets be met? Will this year bring joy or disappointment (from experience I can say probably both)? Will doors open up to start a new church in Opglabbeek? Will lives be changed? Will our churches continue to be established and leaders trained in our Bible college?

I want to see God at work. I long to be surprised by God, overwhelmed as I see Him at work in my life and in Ruth's life and in my kids and grandkids and in the lives of people around me. How though, can I ensure that 2010 is a year in which I grow and develop? How can I stay motivated to minister when I'm tempted to throw in the towel? I have come to the conclusion that a key to seeing God at work in my life and ministry is perseverance; keep on keeping on. I may have God's treasure in an earthen vessel as my outward man continues to perish but I am encouraged that the excellency of the power to keep on keeping on is of God (2 Corinthians 4:7, 16).

If 2010 is to be a year of faithfulness, commitment, discipline, patience and hard work then I genuinely believe I will be amazed at the wonderful things happening all around me. Guus Ramaekers is already amazing me as he keeps on keeping on in systematically distributing tracts to every house in Valkenburg. New folks are visiting the Baptist Church because God is blessing his efforts. With fear and trembling he is preparing himself to teach the "Pillar Course" beginning in March as he endeavors to reach the lost for Christ. Tanja de Vries amazes me too. She has already read through her Bible several times. And again this busy mother of two working a part-time job and teaching Sunday School has begun that wonderful journey of discovery as she keeps on keeping on reading her Bible. Lucy Ostin has recently lost one of her grown children to cancer. She is an amazing saint of God being the first to arrive at church each Sunday to help with setting up the building as she keeps on keeping on while God comforts her in her grief. Paul van Deurse started over after the fire took his family and destroyed his home. He is now married and raising a new family. It appeared that he again would lose his home but this time to the bank who at first was not willing to refinance his loan. Paul believes God intervened; the bank gave him the loan at a reduced interest rate. Amazingly Paul has persevered in his service to God by leading the song services and being the church secretary. He will help teach the "Pillar Course". The Baptist Church of Valkenburg truly amazes me as they keep on keeping on even though they presently have no pastor. They refuse to faint knowing they have received this ministry from God (2 Corinthians 4:1).

And you amaze me as well with your faithfulness in prayer and giving making our ministry possible all these years. Thank you for your perseverance—keep on keeping on that souls may be saved and churches established in the power of God and for His glory in 2010!

	<p>If in the Bible there's a command, we're going to obey it; if there's an example, we're going to follow it; if there's neither command nor example, we're praying about it.</p>
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