



Dr. Cork and Ruth Albright

Missionaries to the Netherlands

April - May 2006

Ruth's Notes from the Heart

I have been blessed beyond all measure during the month of May. As you read in Cork's prayer letter, he received an Honorary Doctor of Divinity from Baptist Bible College and Graduate School in Springfield, Missouri. I received the overflow of blessings that were bestowed on him. Just like the people around Joseph in the Bible ... God blessed those around him just because they were in the right place at the right time.

Family throb: It was a great blessing meeting those in the family whom I had never met before. Being accepted by loved ones means so much to me. After eight years of marriage to Cork, I am still meeting family members for the first time. And of course, Cork was able to meet Melanie, his new granddaughter, for the very first time. Amos told us all about the happenings in his life. He and Christina are expecting their first baby in December. What a joy! Angele will be coming here for three months before the end of 2006. She has a real desire to get to know Hilbert (the young man who lives here in Belgium) better—a long distant relationship is just too hard. She will be able to visit us for three months using a "tourist visa". We are looking forward to having her home again. Griz and Amy are looking forward to Rachael's first day of school which will begin in July. I hope mom and dad can adjust to their baby going to school. Rachael is very excited!

Ministry throb: It is such a blessing to have part in the ministry in Valkenburg. We continue to have our ladies' Bible studies each month. I am enjoying the preparation time. It is still quite a challenge for me to prepare a lesson in Dutch. You can imagine the amount of time it takes me to prepare but it truly is a blessing. And it is always a joy to teach the children their Sunday School lesson each week.

Praise throb: With the excitement of Cork's honorary degree, seeing family again and attending for the very first time our sending church, Sauk Trail Baptist Church in Richton Park, Illinois, there are reasons beyond measure for praising the Lord for the many blessings He has provided. I truly believe the biggest blessing is the fact that I am privileged to be married to Cork! I cannot believe that we have only been married for eight years. Because of these many blessings, it feels like I have known him for a life time. God has been so good to us!

Prayer throb: Please continue to pray that I will become more proficient in the Dutch language. I thank the Lord for the many opportunities He gives me to use this language. Please remember our children in prayer also: Amos and Christina with the growth of their baby, Angele with plans to visit here for a few months and Rachael and her parents as she will very soon begin school.

Dutch throb: Please take the time to look at these verses in English. They will be such a blessing to you! Efeziërs 3:20 & 21 (Ephesians 3:20 & 21): "Hem nu, die blijkens de kracht, welke in ons werkt,

bij machte is oneindig veel meer te doen dan wij bidden of beseffen, Hem zij de heerlijkheid in de gemeente en in Christus Jezus tot in alle geslachten, van eeuwigheid tot eeuwigheid! Amen."

Cork's Ministry News

With a very grateful heart I would like to thank you for your faithful part in our ministry to the Dutch in the Netherlands. Without you the Honorary Doctor of Divinity Degree recently bestowed on me by Baptist Bible College and Graduate School would not be possible. The following is my acceptance speech given at the Baptist Bible Fellowship May Meeting — 56th Graduation held in Springfield, Missouri May 15—18, 2006:

Dr. Randall, Baptist Bible College Trustees and Faculty, Dr. Monroe, Pastors of the Baptist Bible Fellowship, Students, Chancellor Kennedy, Pastor Humbert, friends and family . . . Thank you for your desire to honor me for the 30 years of ministry our Lord has given in the Netherlands. As you know, I am a May 1976 graduate of BBC. Upon graduating, I immediately went to the Netherlands bringing with me the key of knowledge that had been lost to the Dutch. The Dutch have done what our Lord accused the Pharisees of doing in Luke 11:52 when He said: "Woe unto you, lawyers! for ye have taken away the key of knowledge: ye entered not in yourselves, and them that were entering in ye hindered." With the training I received at BBC, I established four local New Testament Baptist churches in the Netherlands, training three national pastors. Two years ago with the help of Dr. Kennedy, Dr. John Rawlings, the Rawlings Foundation and colleague missionaries I started the International Baptist College Europe to train Europeans to start Baptist churches throughout Europe.

I am truly humbled by the thought that you and the college and trustees would honor me in this way for the ministry being done in the Netherlands. I do not feel that I have done anything extraordinary . . . my only desire is to please my Lord by being faithful to His leading and commands. My personal motto is: "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." I gladly accept this honor with the knowledge that the accomplishments and successes in the Netherlands are certainly the result of the training I received at Baptist Bible College. Without a doubt these accomplishments are the result of our Lord's blessing on my efforts. With Paul I would say: "By the grace of God I am what I am: and His grace which was bestowed upon me was not in vain" (I Corinthians 15:10). Yet these successes would not be possible without remembering the many godly Dutch men and women who are today reproducing themselves by faithfully following our Lord's commands.

I am especially most thankful for the two godly women God has given to me as wife: Teri, my wife of 25 years, who is buried in the Netherlands and Ruth, who for 8 years now ministers at my side. Without Teri and Ruth's support and counsel I would not be the man that I have become nor would there be three wonderful and godly children; Amos, Amy and Angele who were raised on the field of the Netherlands and who are today faithfully serving our Lord. I know that missionaries cannot do this ministry alone, nor will they alone be rewarded by God for the churches that are born out of the prayers and finances that make their ministry possible. Hebrews 6:10 states: "God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love, which ye have shewed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister." I have not been alone in the ministry of perfecting Dutch saints and planting Baptist churches in the Netherlands. Pastor Bruce Humbert and the saints of Sauk Trail Baptist Temple, Richton Park, Illinois, who are my sending church, each of my supporting churches, many friends and family, along with the Baptist Bible Fellowship and our Dutch churches, are making what is being done in the Netherlands possible today.

Dr. Randall, thank you for this recognition of my efforts and the granting of this Honorary Doctor of Divinity Degree. May all of us continue to honor our Lord through our efforts to please Him.

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