



Cork and Ruth Albright

Missionaries to the Netherlands

February - March 2005

Ruth's Notes from the Heart

The third verse of "Count Your Blessings" is just a reflection of what I have been busy thinking about since beginning of the New Year. "When you look at others with their lands and gold, Think that Christ has promised you His wealth untold; Count your many blessing - money cannot buy - Your reward in heaven nor your home on high." Many times the blessings God gives to us here on earth are not seen by others as blessings. This makes God's blessings for us all the more personal. I want to count my many blessings - naming them one by one and seeing what God has done for me while looking forward to those rewards in heaven and my home on high! What are some of the personal blessings God has given to you?

Family throb: Angele has purchased her ticket to come home for the summer. She is still working out the details for her trip to Switzerland and Honduras. She also has a decision to make about next year - continue teaching or begin working on her Masters in Education. My, what a big decision to make! Please pray for her. We are so excited for Griz, Amy and our grandkids. Griz has accepted a job in Wilmington, North Carolina. They have moved into a town house and have settled in very well. Now they are looking for a good church to make their home where they can be a blessing. Amos and Christina are doing very well. Amos is still making plans to intern-pastor this summer. He is still praying for the Lord's leading as to which church he should spend this summer helping and experiencing the real work of a pastor leading his flock. Will you please continue to pray for him?

Ministry throb: We had the privilege on March 28 to participant in the very first outdoor market for this year. The Lord blessed us with a very nice day and many stopped by our "booth" to make small purchases. Each received material about salvation, our church and information explaining who we are. We had the opportunity to talk to some ladies at the booth next to ours. We are praying that we will see them join us for one of our church services in Valkenburg very soon.

Praise throb: As I read over the Family throb and Ministry throb section of this prayer letter I am reminded of all of God's blessing involved in those two areas of our lives. God is so good! I am so thrilled to have the privilege of being married to Cork, being a part of this wonderful family and ministering to the Dutch people.

Prayer throb: There is much to pray for in our behalf this time and we thank you for your prayers. Language school continues to be a challenge. My new teacher has brought many new ideas into the classroom and is doing a marvelous job of keeping us working hard. I enjoy this type of teaching. Your prayers help me to keep up with all the new material. Needless to say I am looking forward to our last test in May!

Dutch throb: Here is the chorus of "Count Your Blessings" in Dutch - "Tel uw zegeningen, één voor één; Tel ze alle, en vergeet er geen. Tel ze alle, noem ze één voor één, en ge ziet Gods liefde dan

door alles heen." One of my favorite Dutch words is zegeningen . . . which in English is blessings. It is a great truth in any language!

Cork's Ministry News



I do not want to fail! I remember when we first went to the field, we said we wanted to go somewhere where we could influence influential people. We wanted to make a difference in the world, so we wanted to go where important people were living. Somehow we felt that if we could influence important people we were doing a more valuable work than someone working in the boon-docks with peasant folks. Is that something that God teaches in the Bible?

We later learned that God is not as interested in our results as He is our obedience. Has God called us to practice prosperity evangelism, harvest evangelism or success evangelism? What does God really expect us to do? He expects us to obey. "Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful" (I Corinthians 4:2). Obedience is everything! If He sends us to a place where we serve with no visible results, have we failed God? Not at all. He requires from us faithful obedience. But for some reason, there are those who are driven by a performance orientation, a spirit of competition and cannot quite believe that God would love them unless their efforts produced visible results. A spirit of competition has caused many of us to do things that the Holy Spirit would never lead us to do.

We fail God when we walk by sight and not by faith. We fail God when we trust more in a proven method than in the voice of the Lord. We fail God when we are more concerned about what people think than what God thinks of what we are doing. We fail God when we depend on our ability instead of His Spirit. We fail God when we give up because we do not see results. We fail God when we allow our hearts to become hardened by hurtful experiences and we are no longer willing to trust. We fail God when we fail to get up and start again after we have really messed up.

	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.
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