



PRAYER LETTER

August 2008

The following account is told by Rudi Risher:



"It happened in Munich, Germany. I got out of my warm bed, looked through the window covered with 'ice ferns' at the new deep snow. I debated whether I should go to the worship service or stay at home and read the Bible. I would have to walk half a block in the cold to catch the bus. Finally I decided to go, but only because I had to lead the singing. While I was riding the bus, I looked through the window and recognized two people trying hard to make their path through the deep snow. Mr. Trollman was a man in his eighties, who had lost his eyesight. His only guidance was his 78 year old wife, who was lame in one foot. Because they could not afford to ride the bus, they walked three miles every Sunday to church. They were driven by their love for the Lord. I was not able to do anything but blush, ashamed of myself. I thought of the duty which had motivated me--of the weak faith and love I had shown. Without their knowledge and without a word, this old couple had taught me that love for God is the true motive for attending worship services."

When I read the above snippet it caused me to really rethink what was my motivation for serving the Lord? Why do you serve the Lord or go to church for that matter? Is it out of obligation because you are a volunteer in the church or perhaps a leader in the church, it's your turn to be in charge so you go? Or maybe you're serving the Lord and going to church because all your friends are doing it and you don't want to be left out? What ever may be the pretext as to why you are serving the Lord the right motivation should be because we love the Lord and want to be a part of and see His kingdom business advance! This love that we have should be the force that keeps us going and doing the work of the ministry not just our obligation from a commitment we've made!

It is so easy to get caught up in the work of the ministry that we soon forget what is or should be our true motivation, the Lord of the work! This brings to my mind a portion of scripture in the book of REVELATION 2:1-5:

New Living Translation

1 "Write this letter to the angel of the church in Ephesus. This is the message from the one who holds the seven stars in his right hand, the one who walks among the seven gold lampstands: 2 "I know all the things you do. I have seen your hard work and your patient endurance. I know you don't tolerate evil people. You have examined the claims of those who say they are apostles but are not. You have discovered they are liars. 3 You have patiently suffered for me without quitting. 4 **"But I have this complaint against you. You don't love me or each other as you did at first!** 5 Look how far you have fallen! Turn back to me and do the works you did at first. If you don't repent, I will come and remove your lampstand from its place among the churches.

We are encouraged here never to loose our love for the Lord neither for each other. If it is not motivated from love it is all for naught! In 1 Corinthians 13 we have read time and time again that we can even go as far as giving our life but if we don't do it motivated from love it was all for nothing. If we can't see the importance of love from this it's because we don't want to see! Friends let's not get so caught up in the work of the ministry, our careers, our family or anything else that might demand our attention to the point we forget about the Lord Himself and our commitment and love for Him! **Let's always keep the fire burning in the work we are doing but also keep our love aglow for the Lord of the harvest by always putting Him first, taking time to be in His presences as well as His Word!**

Here are some things you can be in agreement with us for the ministry:

1. **Boldness and more open doors to minister the Word freely**
2. **Pastors for our satellite churches**
3. **Buildings for all our satellite churches**
4. **7 new churches partnering with us faithfully on a monthly basis**
5. **200 new ministry partners**
6. **Portable sound system to use when traveling**
7. **SUV vehicle**

Senders and Goers working together,

*Charles & Ximena Dean
Missionaries in Peru*

