

news from the revival fellowship in the americas

May 2007

Brotherly Love

For those who missed the Virginia Camp over the Easter weekend, we had an excellent time of fellowship and talks. I have taken a number of thoughts from the different speakers and combined it in this article.

What comes to mind when we think of the word, 'love'?

When we examine the word 'love' in the Greek, three different words are associated with it. Phileos - love in a brotherly friendship way, Agape - unconditional love, Christian love, giving without the expectation of receiving anything in return; the higher love. Eros - a word never found in the Bible, represents a more lustful love. Phileos is a word we find in English in words like Philosophy - the love of wisdom; Philanthropy - lover of mankind, which today is generally associated with generous donations of money for charities, etc. In the Bible, the word Theophilus, at the beginning of the book of Acts, literally means "lover of God". The word for 'Brotherly Love' in the Bible is Philadelphia and is one of the seven churches that John writes to in the book of Revelation. Philadelphia was listed as the best church without any criticisms or warnings.

Rev 3: 7-13 ¶*

And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write; These things saith he that is holy, he that is true, he that hath the key of David, he that openeth, and no man shutteth; and shutteth, and no man openeth; 8 I know thy works: behold, I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name. 9* Behold, I will make them of the synagogue of Satan, which say they are Jews, and are not, but do lie; behold,*

I will make them to come and worship before thy feet, and to know that I have loved thee. 10 Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth. 11* Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown. 12* Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is new Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name. 13 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches. KJV*

The seven churches in Revelation were churches that were in existence at the time John wrote the Book of Revelation. Each church had specific attributes, warnings, and exhortations, and we can learn from their mistakes and look towards their redeeming qualities as we continue the work of the Lord in our own fellowships. Philadelphia, the church of Brotherly Love, has an open door set before it because it had faithfully kept the word of God even-though it was small in power. When temptation came upon it, it held its ground with patience. As its name suggests, the members shone forth love for one another, as Jesus had commanded.

*John 13:35**

By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another. KJV

It is encouraging to esteem this church as a model for us all. It is not the largest or the most sophisticated church. In fact we see that it is small in power, but yet the door is wide open to it. We, as a fellowship, may feel at times that we are small,

but we hold fast to the word of God and even though we face trials and temptations, we stand our ground. In standing our ground, we never lose the most important aspect of the Gospel, to love one another and care for those in our fellowship. As Peter stated:

*1Peter 3:8**

Finally, be ye all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren (philadelphos), be pitiful, be courteous: KJV

There are many things we can consider when looking more deeply into these important passages. One important thought is that we put others before ourselves and our own personal needs. If we really want to establish good relationships among members in the fellowship, we need to seek first to understand then to be understood. The next time we find a brother or sister going through a difficult time, consider what it might be like to walk in their shoes. One person explained it this way:

"If you walk a mile in another person's shoes, you are a mile away from them and have a new pair of shoes."

In the scriptures, God pleads for all of us to live peaceably among each other, to be unified of one mind and one spirit. Unfortunately, we have many examples in the Bible of brothers fighting with each other. Cain killed Abel; Jacob stole Esau's Blessing, and the battles that followed. Isaac and Ishmael (father of the Jews and father of the Arabs) are still at war today as foretold 4000 years ago. As many that have grown up with brothers or sisters can testify, often times there is family strife.

Jesus even predicted:

Matt 10:36

And a man's foes shall be they of his own household.

KJV

So, what hope is there?

Mr 10:27 And Jesus looking upon them saith, With men it is impossible, but not with God: for with God all things are possible. KJV*

The world needs a spiritual rebirth, a change of heart and mind to overcome the fleshy tendency to fight and harbor grudges against each other. We learn to forgive the faults of others and not be so quick to look at the speck of dust in a brother's (or sister's) eye. Jesus reminds us that if we forgive not our brother their trespasses, how can our heavenly father forgive us?

When we truly walk in the spirit according to the word of God, we walk in love, joy, peace, patience, gentleness, meekness, kindness, faith and temperance. When we walk in love we look to our brothers and sisters and think the best for them. We advocate for them, encourage them, and draw alongside them. In building this community of believers we can support one another in our prayers. In doing so, we see the fellowship develop and grow, and the Lord blesses the fellowship with increase (not just in numbers, but in so many other ways). Trust the Lord always and rejoice in His love for this is the great hope and joy. This is what brotherly love, or agape love, offers each of us, as members of the body of Christ.

Pastor Mark Lindal, Canada

Canada Update.

What a great month for Canadian Revival. Jim Sinclair from Adelaide, Australia dropped in for a visit and left us with a testimony book full of miracle healings from the Lord. It is an excellent resource to look at and show visitors, as well as an inspiring lift for anyone in the fellowship.

On to Ontario where we held a first meeting of the Ontario Revival Fellowship. Jim Sinclair was there following up on a few contacts he had and caught up with Rejoy Isaac who is on a work term in Waterloo (an hour outside Toronto). As it happens, the Lord had me on work in Ottawa, so it was not too much of a stretch to change my plane ticket so that I could support an outreach in the Waterloo area.

We started at the Research in Motion (RIM) campus, home of the world famous Blackberry phone. This is where Rejoy and Lynn work. We made some flyers and hit the streets to witness and invite people to the meeting. We had a few good witnesses and left information with them.

The Sunday meeting saw seven people get together at a room we booked at the local recreation centre. Rejoy played guitar (wow has he improved!) and Jim gave a good update on testimonies. We all shared communion and then answered a few questions.

Alice, who was baptized by Jim a few years ago, was especially pleased she made the trip (about an hour drive) to be at the meeting and finally meet everyone.

We will keep this small group in prayer and look forward to seeing many of them at our summer camp in Victoria this July.

Speaking of Summer camp - now is the time to make sure you register.

1. Email Names, ages, special diet needs to: revival@shaw.ca 2. Pay-

ment and registration is at: <http://members.shaw.ca/revival/camp.html>

More details on the camp will be posted to that website as the time gets closer.

Skype Meetings: We had another successful combined Skype meeting with Boise and San Pedro this past Wednesday. Combined Skype meetings are being held on the first Wednesday of the month and are a great way to increase the size of the fellowship. Any other Wednesday, our Canadian meeting is broadcast over Skype and visitors are more than welcome to join us. Skype ID: mlindal

God Bless,
Pastor Mark Lindal

Greetings from Boise,

The Lord is a Good God working in our lives. The daily/weekly miracles and answers to prayer confirm that we are His people and He hears our prayers. We continue to witness to friends and co-workers with enthusiasm. We are waiting for the Lord to prepare their hearts for the planted seed to take root. There is Joy in speaking the Truth and giving people hope. We have planned outreaches coming up and expect good things for the Lord.

In Christ,

Bobby Moses

Pennsylvania Report

Greetings to all. April was another great month in the Lord. We had our East Coast Camp during Easter weekend and it was excellent as usual. The theme was brotherly love and that was evident for the whole weekend. Our new sister in the Lord Li was able to go to camp and she had a fantastic weekend. She saw what being Spirit-filled and in fellowship was all about. Dur-

ing the weekend she was in touch with her husband and letting him know about all the good things that were happening. She even saw her daughter get a great healing from a hurt ankle during the weekend. She came back really excited and really wanting to grow in the Lord and be a part of the fellowship. She recently gave her testimony and you could see the joy and excitement in her. I had a chance to sit down and talk to her husband after we got back from camp and he knows that what we are saying is the truth. He hasn't received the Holy Spirit himself yet but with Li's enthusiasm and testimony it is only a matter of time.

I have also been in constant contact with Silvanus, the gentleman from Jamaica, who is still quite keen on receiving the Holy Spirit. In one of the last emails I received from him, he asked if I was scared like him when I was seeking for the Holy Spirit, as this was uncharted water for him. It was good that I could share my testimony about coming to the Lord and let him know that we have an excellent pilot in Jesus Christ to guide us. I am still hoping he will be coming up this way in June, so we can get together and hopefully get him baptised and Spirit filled. Will keep you posted.

We are also getting ready for the Spring Fling that is held in Danville the first weekend in May. It is a big street fair that is held in the downtown area and a good outreaching opportunity. We will have a booth selling refreshments and will have the hall open for complimentary tea and coffee. The weather is forecast to be good, so we expecting to talk to a lot of people.

In closing, all the saints here are diligently praying for our sister Evelyn and family in Fresno. We know that we worship a miracle working God and we expect nothing less.

Pastor Carlton Tharps

"Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us," Ephesians 3:20, KJV.



Virginia Camp 2007

Greeting from the Athens Fellowship,

We had a great time at the start of this month at camp in Virginia. We had visitors from all the fellowships in the US, from Canada and from the UK. We woke up on Saturday morning at camp to a very unseasonal and beautiful snow. (see photo)

We chose "Brotherly Love" as our camp theme and heard many inspiring talks regarding this profound and important part of our Spiritual lives.

Some of the points that came up were:

- Yes you are your brother's keeper.
- Love doesn't get mad even if it's wronged.
- Help your brother by asking him how he's doing.
- Fear and misunderstanding are the opposite of Love.
- We grow when we extend ourselves beyond our limits.
- Prefer each other in Love.
- Our common bond is the Spirit.
- Our testimony is God's testimony.
- Be involved, love the Brotherhood.
- Give and expect nothing in return.
- The root of bitterness can cause the whole tree to die. Forgiveness will cure this effect.
- Provoke each to good works. Heb 10:24. It's about building up. Not breaking down.
- Brotherly love doesn't build up your ego. It builds up the Spirit.
- Brotherly love is not an option but a commandment. Jn 13:34

Possibly the most enduring thought that I took away from camp was the principle that we read in Mathew 5:44-48 regarding loving and blessing our enemies and those that wrong us. Just like many other things in the Bible it's

the opposite of what we're taught in the world. It must have been perplexing for people to have heard these things for the first time 2000 years ago, but as Spirit filled people today we can apply this principle to our lives and it's one of the things that makes us so different from the rest of the world.

Praise the Lord, we all had a very good time together in Virginia.

Back in Athens we're continuing to preach the gospel faithfully. Surprisingly here in the Bible belt people just find it amazing to hear that what's in the Bible isn't what they

hear in their church. We have been having lots of fun outreaching and trying to convince people that God's word hasn't changed since 2000 years ago.

We ran into a guy recently who had been to several meetings in the past and was impressed by our testimonies. He has been thinking about us and wants to start coming along on a more regular basis. He has a fiancé now who we also met and hopefully we'll see some more of both of them soon.

Steve and Angela from Australia are

still with us. Steve hopes to finalize some things this week with his job hunting. That would enable them to stay here long term and help with the work in Georgia. We pray that we can report good things next month regarding that.

No more for now.

Many Blessings to all the Saints.

John Lawson

20 YEARS IN FRESNO – A TRIBUTE TO THE LORD!

In June, 1978 both David and I experienced the power of God through receiving the Holy Spirit that changed our lives forever – PRAISE THE LORD! We were baptized by full immersion and began our walk with the Lord. We had both been through unhappy marriages, met through mutual friends in Adelaide, and got married in February that same year just before hearing the gospel a couple months later. I grew up in Nebraska, USA and then during my first marriage we ended up moving to Australia. I really liked Australia and after being there a few years never had any desire to live in the states again. David had always been fascinated with America and knew he would like to visit one day.

Shortly after we got married and without discussing this with me, he went to the American Embassy in Adelaide and got papers to immigrate. I was shocked but just said there was no way I was going to live back there again – I loved Australia. Little did we know that 9 years later the Lord would move on us and have us settle in Fresno. People have always asked – why Fresno? So many things happened through those years and in 1986 at a Convention in Melbourne we met Tish, a basketball player from Fresno State. She had gone to Hobart to play basketball for 6 months, was witnessed to and came to the Lord. Basketball wasn't number one in her life anymore – the Lord was. As she began witnessing to her friends in Fresno, they too came to the Lord.

In October 1986 we had the opportunity to travel with another couple from Adelaide and visit my relatives in Nebraska. Tish was back in Fresno and Pastor John suggested we come through Fresno and check things out. By this time Bobby Moses from San Jose had come to the Lord in Adelaide (when he was hitchhiking around Australia) and was back in San Jose. We came through Fresno and spent a week here and during that time David baptized 3 more girls from the basketball team in our motel pool, and they received the Spirit too and were really thrilled. Bobby was also able to come to Fresno during that time to meet everyone and for fellowship. With what had happened during this time here, David felt obligated to help them get established in the Lord and I knew exactly what that meant – he would be happy to move there – he was always ready to be used by the Lord wherever he could. I did not share that enthusiasm at the time and never considered moving an option – I felt the Lord had taken me to Australia to come to know Him and I was happy there! On returning to Adelaide I became very convicted about my selfish attitude knowing we were in a position to move and live in Fresno but I didn't want to – the Lord had other plans. I was so convicted and upset that I finally realized the only way to have any peace about the situation and know what the Lord wanted us to do, was to pray and fast. David knew how I felt so there was never any pressure from him – he just prayed and waited. After being in turmoil for a few weeks, I finally decided to fast and during that day the Lord revealed so much to me as I prayed and read the scriptures. It seemed that every time I opened the Bible, the answer was there - we're not here to please ourselves but to serve the Lord and serve others and that whatever we give up for the Lord, He'll bless us with so much more! I knew the answer and I had a peace about it but couldn't imagine us doing that but knew that if that's where God wanted us, then He would make it possible and provide all things for us. When I mentioned to Pastor John what the Lord had revealed to me during this time and I knew the Lord wanted us in Fresno, he said "If you know that's what the Lord wants you to do, you better do it!" And that's how we continue to walk in the Lord – If God says it, do it!

So the next few months were extremely busy with getting ready to move, selling the house, finishing our jobs, and getting everything organized. It was not an easy time to leave family, friends, and what was then an easy way of life

with our good jobs and our house nearly paid for. The exchange rate was definitely not in our favor and my family discouraged us from making the move as the economy was bad, jobs hard to get, etc. but we knew this is what the Lord wanted. So on May 2nd, 1987 we arrived in Fresno on a hot Saturday night with four suitcases - a few boxes with personal things were being shipped. We had met Bobby in Adelaide when he came to the Lord and kept contact with him and he had moved to Fresno shortly before we arrived to help support us and the new group here. When we arrived it felt like home even though we were staying in a motel.

On Sunday we held a meeting in one of the girl's apartments and there was another new team member there. She was very quiet and I was telling her some of my testimony and asked her if she wanted to seek for the Spirit. She decided she would but only if I would pray for her in another room so we did and she received! Praise the Lord - more confirmation for me that we were meant to be here. David baptized her in the motel pool. We only had to stay at the motel 5 days and had found a house to buy in that time and also a house to rent for 3 weeks before our paperwork went through on our house which the agent said was record time then. The Lord provided in every way as while we were renting we had time to buy some things and have furniture, including a piano to be picked up on the day we moved. So we held the meetings at the house we rented and then the house we bought.

Unfortunately the school year finished here in May and none of the team members were from Fresno and all went to their various homes around the states. During that summer only a couple were able to come to meetings a couple times so it was usually Bobby and us for our meetings then. We handed out pamphlets for our Revival Meetings and then decided to tell people it was Bible studies as they asked how many people came along. We had hoped to have jobs after we got settled but the school year was over and as I had applied to do accompanying for choirs in the schools like I did in Adelaide, had to wait until September. I filled in the summer working with a couple college graduates who started a house cleaning business. I was sure glad when I could finally sit at the piano for my work. David continued to look for jobs and applied for many which never worked out and then he realized he had prayed about working for himself so just decided to get pamphlets printed up to do Handyman work, bought a truck, tools, etc. and we both went around our neighborhood doorknocking to see if anyone needed work done and witnessed as we could as well.

That first day David got work and we also had some good witnesses. One guy who seemed interested in the Lord walked over to our place one day and as we went to sit on our patio in the back yard he took a gun out of his pocket and put it on the table! We realized then we were definitely dealing with a different society - California is like another world compared to the quiet Nebraska country life where I grew up. We knew "where sin abounded, grace did much more abound." And God was working!

When college resumed in the fall some of the girls came to a few meetings and then gradually got caught up with basketball and their studies and we didn't see them again. We continued to preach the gospel and gradually things began to happen. We had a Christmas camp on the coast that year with those in Santa Barbara and San Pedro.

Jim Seixas had moved to San Pedro where he is from by then. He had come to the Lord while working on the Gold Coast in Australia. Ward Young (now pastor here) also came to the Lord in Australia while hitchhiking near Townsville, had moved to Santa Barbara from Canada to be in fellowship, and then moved to Fresno the following year. It's amazing but several people in our fellowship now came to the Lord traveling in Australia or while living there. Also a couple young guys from Auckland, N.Z. came over to stay 6 months here to outreach and during that time we saw a lot of baptisms but most did not stay.

Ward witnessed to a young guy, Marshall - not long out of jail and he came to the Lord and had an amazing testimony of being set free from drugs, alcohol, and healed of a lung condition! Through him many heard the gospel and would come and check things out and some came to the Lord. To support Marshall we would go to his Narcotics Anonymous meetings and of course to witness. One night David had the opportunity to get up and say a few things and that Jesus was the answer to being set free from drugs, etc. Several were upset about that and had him banned from saying anything else at the meetings and later we found out some were waiting outside to do us harm after a meeting so we didn't go back again. Praise the Lord though as through David getting up and talking about Jesus, Pete Estrada was there and came to the Lord, then 6 months later his wife Eileen, and we gradually saw many miracles with others starting to come along too. Marshall ended up back in jail for a short time for an offense before he came to the Lord but witnessed to so many there and as David was able to hold meetings at this county jail on Friday nights we saw about 30 guys receive the Spirit so it was very exciting. Unfortunately none of them stayed with us when they got out - even Marshall eventually left.

During our early years here at different times there were 2 large groups from Australia who came over to spend a couple weeks here to outreach and several new people came to meetings and we had lots of contacts. Praise the Lord, as we continue to preach the gospel, the Lord adds to the church and now there are fellowships in Pennsylvania, Georgia, San Pedro, and Idaho as well as a few individuals scattered around the states who came to the Lord. Over the last several years that David has been involved with Brazil, the Lord has increased their numbers from about 170 to over 800 now. Praise the Lord for His many blessings and provision! It's a wonderful life living for the Lord and serving Him!

Your sister in Christ, Alice Elliott

April was full of doing the Lord's work and also enjoying some fun activities. Eight from Fresno and three from San Pedro were able to go to the Easter Camp near Richmond, Virginia and it was a great time of rejoicing and fellowship! We thank the Georgia fellowship for organizing it all and it was great to catch up with everyone on the east coast again as well as the visitors.

We had a prayer and fast one weekend which is always good to draw aside from the world and we also had an outreach that Saturday morning. Right near the end of the month our sister Evelyn became very ill with a flesh eating bacteria and the saints gathered several times for prayer and there was also a fast. Praise the Lord, He is working mightily and we are seeing improvements daily in her life threatening situation. Her 5 year old granddaughter, Chloe Fontes received the Spirit a while ago and was baptized this month too. A couple of nights some of the teenagers got together for fellowship and then for an evening of bowling.

This month we also had a car rally. Jeff Hershberger put much effort into preparing Biblical clues which would lead cars from one saints' house to another. The rally was to finish at the home of Dave & Melissa Rodriguez for fellowship. Only one car successfully solved each clue and was directed by the last clue to go have fellowship at the Rodriguez home. It was a good time of fellowship. Jeff received many phone calls to solve the clues. Those who went to the wrong house found a message... "There was 99 and then there was you." Meaning "You're lost!"

Many thanks to Jeff for preparing this day. We clapped to Jeff for all his efforts and his response was to give God the glory - a great example for all to follow. I Corinthians 10:31... "whatsoever you do, do all to the glory of God."

The Fresno Convention will be held November 22nd – 25th – celebrating 20 years in Fresno! Praise the Lord!!!

Greetings from San Pedro,

The month of April has been a time of coming together for fellowship-pressing in for brothers and sisters with dire needs. Thank the Lord our God for His power and might. Along with our much beloved Sister Evelyn, my father, and Tammy's Mom have been diagnosed with cancer. We've been praying for God to move in a mighty way and heal their bodies. Praise the name of Jesus Christ as He said He would not leave us comfortless because He has sent the comforter. The past weekend we enjoyed the Richards family for some great fellowship. We also have had a new person, Gretchen who is praying to receive the Holy Spirit and is looking to get baptized. She has been to two meetings so far. The San Pedro Saints have enjoyed the return of Margret as she is excited for fellowship. We're all praising the Lord as we see Him move in San Pedro. We here believe God for His goodness and blessing, Yours in Christ, James Seixas

April report from Brazil

Hi brothers how are you all? Revival in Brazil is keeping going well, many wonders, and miracles. This month we baptized 71 people in Fortaleza. Praise to the Lord!!!!!!!

This month our series of messages were talking about the church itself. We tried to tell people that God loves the church, and also we should love and protect the church as much as we can.

Sometime we think that all the persecution that we suffer came from the devil or from the others. We know that most of time that cause problem to the church is ourselves, so we understand that we have to make a promise to ourselves to protect the church. In the church we have rights and obligations. We think that the

main obligations that every member of the church should have are these.

To Protect: The unity of my church acting with love toward other members.

To Obey: the guides, they care for our souls.

To Share the responsibility for my church by praying for growth, inviting people to come and giving good attention to the visitors.

To serve at the church, attending all activity.

To support not only spiritually but financially also.

Tonight was tremendous, God worked miracles and wonders among the assembly. One Lady came to the church for the first time. She is grandmother of one of our brothers, brother Robson. She had one very big evil tumor in her left leg. She went to the prayer line and we prayed for her and in that moment the tumor went away. Praise to the Lord God, because of this marvelous miracle, 19 people were baptized. Gloria a Deus, Gloria a Deus, praise to the Lord God because He is mighty!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Gadelha assembly is well; José and Fabiana are doing a great work there.

In other villages the Revival is well.

The project is well.

This is the news from Brazil. God bless you all. Pastor Esteves

European Monthly Report

Editorial:

Be ye transformed ... (Rom 12:2)

To be transformed we need a transformer. The dictionary gives the following definition regarding a transformer:

An electrical device by which alternating current of one voltage is changed to another voltage.

Sometimes we hear the term "Jesus transforms lives" which is not totally correct. He made the Holy Spirit available as a "transformer". It is our own responsibility to use this transformer.

Jesus said to Peter in:

Luke 22:32 -- when thou (Peter) art converted, strengthen thy brethren. Conversion is an entirely different process. The dictionary gives the following definitions regarding a converter:

An auxiliary device that permits a receiver to pick up frequencies or channels for which it was not originally designed.

A device that converts alternating current to direct current or vice versa.

Thus a **converter** is a device that changes **one entity to a different entity** and a **transformer** is a device that makes changes **within the same entity**.

So, when we are converted we are changed from nothing into something, useless into useful and it is our own responsibility to keep on transforming from good to better, ad infinitum.

In many, so called, charismatic churches there is no recognition of this vital difference between "conversion" and "transformation". There is no recognition that without this initial conversion everybody is totally useless for God and God's work. **Ro 8:9 --- Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.**

Paul the apostle clearly recognised this vitally important point when he

wrote in:

Php 3:8 Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ,

This confusion about conversion and transformation causes countless problems. The Holy Spirit takes a backseat, baptism becomes an "extra" and useless emotions and worldly spectacles take over.

AND--- often the people who have been "converted" don't go on to "transform" but get stuck in an environment where their eternal future is very doubtful.

In addition to all this, even if a person is converted and he stops transforming there will be very poor judgment about anything to do with God and his plan.

Rom 12: 2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

So, summing up:

Only our willingness to forget about the world, its religions and charismatic movements and to keep on transforming as a continual process will give us sound judgment. If we don't do this we will "rationalise" all sorts of wrong things and end up going nowhere.

Ps Piet Visser.



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Events for the year 2007

17-20 May

Euro Convention 2007

Rotterdam, Holland
2e St Janshof 16, Rotterdam

Enquiries: Arend Valkma,
E-mail: arend.valkma@revivalfellowship.nl

28 July - 4 August
Summer Camp, in Germany

Jugendbildungstätte Wasserkuppe
Wasserkuppe 10
36129 Gersfeld-Wasserkuppe

Enquiries: Paul van Wijnen,
E-mail: paul.van.wijnen@revivalfellowship.nl

24- 28 October

Autumn Camp, in Czech Republic

Enquiries: Ps Jara Prouza
E-mail, jara.prouza@centrum.cz

Greetings to all the Saints

Apologies for the lateness of this report, the Spring camp in Hungary took up the first week of April.

We have had a good time in our assemblies and are pleased to have had **two** people being born again in Dordrecht, **seven** in Rotterdam and **one** in Almere. Things are moving forward in Almere with a few young families making plans to move there in the near future to help get the assembly established.

Pastor Ben gave a talk this month about how special Noah was because He did all that God commanded him to do – and so should we. God speaks - do it! We shouldn't choose to do some- and not do other things. *I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel; Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ. Gal 1:6-7.*

Do we hold fast to the perfect plan God has given us? There is one gospel but unfortunately, just as in Bible times; there are many different religions around who preach their own ideas. Remain separate from these and do things exactly as they should be done and therefore please God, not people. The gospel we have received should not be changed. Stand up every day and be thankful to have been called out of the world and placed in this fellowship.

Look after what has been given you as only a few people have what we have.



Baptism in Rotterdam

What Else Has Been Happening



Holland

Prayer and fasting is a good time to take an honest look at ourselves and focus on God and the promises that are ours. We may go through periods where we allow worry or doubt to overtake the rest that God has given us, but we know that when we remain faithful, we can always have peace within, regardless of what we are going through. Things will always work out with God's help. *Is 58:7.* The world demands a lot of our energy and attention, so it is good to make time for God and not be constantly running around busying ourselves with the cares of life. We came together in Rotterdam to pray and three brothers gave short talks.

Edwin spoke about remaining sharp. Jesus remained sharp, clear and always spoke with authority. *Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. 2Cor 13:5.* Prayer and fasting is a good time to get back in tune with God. We have to make time to pray as this makes a difference in our walk. Count your blessings and with thankfulness place your problems before the Lord, knowing He will sort them out. Remaining active in the assembly brings happiness and vision. Support the weaker among us by helping them become strong. Don't doubt what is written in the Bible.

Ps. Piet spoke about healing. All healings we have can be credited to God. *And they departed, and went through the towns, preaching the gospel, and healing every where.*

Luke 9:6. Sometimes people worry about whether they should go to the doctor or not, or whether it is alright to take medicine. We have been created in a way that our bodies are very good at healing various illnesses we get. God has also created many things in nature that help us remain healthy and of which many medicines are made. So,

there is room to use medicine and we don't have to feel condemned when we do. Healing is a promise for the believer. Do well and it will be good with you. God cares for His creation and cleanses us spiritually and physically.

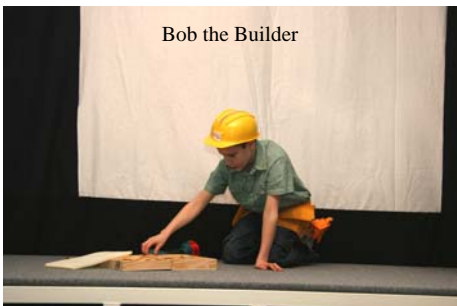
Arend spoke about how we walk with God. Sometimes we get into situations where we have to make a choice to be led by the world or stand on God's promises. Consider your actions. We are born again and have the spirit of God within us. Our old limitations have been left behind so don't go back to them. In our new life we have healing, hope and comfort. God gives us the answers to all our questions. Do what you have to do and let God work. *...He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. 2Cor 9:6.* Don't accept limitations. Overcome now! God is here to help us. Remain black and white as God is.

Rotterdam

Greetings brethren. This month we had seven people being baptized and spirit filled, with the Bible evidence of speaking in tongues. We ended our month with our annual Kids Night. The children from the crèche, Sunday school and Bible class, with a little help from some older ones, put on the play 'A Real Hero'. The story is about a child who is looking for a real hero. His mother reads the story of Peter the apostle and the child soon realizes that only through the power of the Holy Spirit can you truly mean something to God and this world and that this story is real and not fantasy. With the script, songs and shadow puppets, the performance was rewarded with 28 visitors who all heard the gospel. We had many visitors in March. One Wednesday night meeting we had ten new people and six were baptized and spirit filled. There was also a lot of witnessing going on at the usual outreaches and door knocks.

Everyone is busy about the Lord's business and that is saving souls. One Saturday night we had a dinner

Acts 3:8 And he leaping up stood, and walked, and entered with them into the temple, walking, and leaping, and praising God.



night. Ps. Ben and Louisa visited the assembly in London and bought back greetings from the brethren there. They had a great time of fellowship and went to a concert and a meeting in Stanmore. It is great to have the same gospel in Christ Jesus. The unity that we have is very important for the furtherance of the Kingdom of God.

Mini-talks

Johan talked about "Who were you? Who are you now? Where will you be?" When we look back at the people we knew in the world, they are still the same. But this is not so with us. We don't live a goalless life as our goal is eternity and we know it is coming. This is our reality. We are now born again, God is faithful and the wall that separated us is now gone and we can communicate with Him. We can now achieve much and it's our responsibility to do so. Freely we have received, so freely give. Stir up the gift within you and keep reminding each other of these things. *Eph 2:11-14.*

Luke encouraged us to trust in God. When we consider that when Israel was trusting in God, things went well and they prospered, but when they trusted in themselves they had war and there was a general decay in their society. The clear message for us is to trust God in everything and then we will also see great things happen within our own lives. *Pr 3:5-8.*

Laurens shared with us the theme of "Who, me?". In Judges 6, Gideon asks God for a sign and God answered, not once but twice. Gideon changed from someone who was uncertain to a man that led Israel to victory over the Medians. We can ask ourselves if we are ready for the battle? We can all do things for the Lord. The moment that we received the Holy Spirit, God answered our prayer and showed us that He is faithful. God has given us a job to do. We can use our testimony like a sword because the truth destroys lies. Let us go forth in the truth of the gospel. *Isa 6:8.*

Almere

Greetings from all the saints in Almere. We had a great month and rejoice in the Lord as we are encouraged and corrected to be more confident and active. We had visits from both Ps. Piet and Ps. Bert at our Sunday meetings. It was good to see them enthusiastic to be with a small group of people busy in the Lord. Ps Piet talked about first judging yourselves, comparing yourselves to the Bible before looking at others. *Mt 7:1-5.* If you want to talk about the gospel to new people you have to be stable in the things of the Lord. The result of being stable is bearing fruit. We were happy to see people coming to the meetings. The first Sunday we had three visitors. They were very interested and wanted to hear and learn more. On the second weekend we held an outreach and door knock. Many people heard the gospel and many contacts were made. One young man received the Holy Spirit. On Saturday evening we had three visitors listening to the mini talks from young brothers from Dordrecht. The brothers talked about remaining focused, not worrying and that we are more than conquerors! On Sunday we had five guests and the young man who received the Holy Spirit the day before, was baptised in obedience to the Lord. He could see from the Bible and from the testimonies of the brothers and sisters present, that it was right to do. Praise the Lord!

It was a great month with prayer and fasting and a lot of talks. We have grown further, becoming more effective and efficient for the Lord!



Baptism in Almere

The Revival Fellowship in:

Switzerland

Hello brothers and sisters.

March has been an exiting month for all of us!

The word of God was strong, as it should be, telling us to examine our walk and to be separate from the things of this world. We heard a talk about "how do I pray, read my Bible, what do I watch, and what do I listen to?" We also heard about weakness as when we are weak we can be strong in the Spirit of the Lord! God has set us free to serve Him and the brethren, through God's love. That is the real freedom.

To give is a mindset! All the tithes we give are for the Lord's work and come from God. He is the great provider. To give from your heart will lead to salvation. We also heard about the Holy Spirit and how we have all the gifts and fruit of the Spirit. Through His Spirit we are able to understand God, His will, His plan and have a spiritual guide in us. The joy of the Lord is our strength.

We can always be joyful and happy about our relationship with the Lord, which is a great testimony to the people around us.

We saw a presentation about the wrong teachings of the Catholic church. We had Kees and Ineke and Johan and Wout visiting from the Dutch assembly. Thanks for the fellowship, we had a wonderful time together.

One young lady came from an outreach. She received the Holy Spirit, spoke in tongues and was baptized by full immersion the same evening. Welcome to our new sister Katharina, praise the Lord!

We finished the month with hearing about the love of the Lord, and to learn, grow and to go on. We have to have the right desire to seek and serve the Lord.

Brethren, God bless you all, please pray for us as we seek the Lord for more revival.

Hungary

Greetings from Hungary, where we are busy with the final stages of organizing camp, and looking forward to seeing lots of you there.

This month we had a prayer and fast weekend. The topics included were: "being single-minded for the Lord, Love, The difference between standing on the Rock of Christ and the sand of this world". We had a presentation on science and the Bible, and a Bible Class children's day at Margit Island and the hall.

We also had a long weekend of preparing and repairing the hall, known as a "teambuilding-exercise".

It was all a lot of fun, and we had two people receiving the Holy Spirit, and one baptism to complete the activities this month.

A big effort has been made by all the saints and we are really looking forward to building up the spirit at camp, to make sure we go along the right direction, in our wonderful new, and almost ready, hall.

God Bless



Margaret Island (also **Margitsziget**, **Margit-sziget**; occasionally **Margit Island**) is a [2.5 km](#) long island ([0.965 km²](#) in area) in the middle of the [Danube](#) in central [Buda-pest](#), between the two city parts, [Buda](#) and

[Pest](#).

The island is mostly covered by park areas, and is a popular recreational area for tourists as well as locals. The island spans the area between the [Margaret Bridge](#) (south) and the [Árpád Bridge](#) (north).

Information from Wikipedia

Heard from the Platform

- We are the light and there is not room for darkness - unless we let it in ourselves.
- To be full of the Holy Spirit means to be saturated with the Holy Spirit.
- Religion creates a grey path between the black and white, which is God's word.
- Wrong is wrong, even if the whole world is doing it. Hold on to what is right.
- Let God be God. Mankind has no right to tell Him how He should be doing things.
- Stand on the promises which God has laid out for us with the expectation that they will come to pass.
- We have all the ingredients to claim the promises of God.
- God's peace is always there; sometimes we just have to look for it.
- Don't ever make a deal with the enemy, he will always be an enemy even if he is a friendly enemy.
- There is only one pleasure in life and that is to enjoy what you are doing at present.
- A guarantee to have a good life in the Lord is to do everything exactly the opposite way to the way you used to do things and also the opposite way to the way the world and its religions do things.
- Noah did not mess around with God's plan, neither should we.
- Obedience creates vision.
- Do not underestimate the power of the Holy Spirit.
- There is no casting out of sicknesses, faith is the only thing we require.
- God is doing his work, if people don't respond that is not God's problem.
- Lot, Abraham's nephew looked for peace in natural surroundings but only found strife.
- Focus on your goal and go for it!
- God teaches us through His Spirit – when we are willing to learn.





Ivory Coast

Dear brethren,
Greetings to you all from the saints in Abidjan, Ivory Coast. We are very grateful for the increase that has been taking place here and for the Lord's healing power upon His children. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those that have helped us since the beginning of the fellowship in 2004. All those that have come over with brother Jan Pieter over the last few years have been a great support to us. We are also grateful for all the prayers of the overseas saints.

This month we had four people being baptised and all received the Holy Spirit as well. One of these is Gifty's nephew. Another visitor received the Holy Spirit and we are expecting her to get baptized soon as well.

The fellowship is growing and everything is going well. All our meetings are being attended faithfully and it is good to see the commitment of the saints. We have also become more organized in outreaching with outreaches being held on Thursdays and Saturdays, 5 pm local time.

A new brother, Jean Baptist, was healed from some mental problems and is now very happy in the Lord. He used to be a Muslim and hopes to bring some of his Muslim friends along to the meeting.

At the end of the month we had three days of fasting and praying for the growth of the church. *Matthew 17:21, Mark 9:29*. We ended the fast at the Thursday night meeting, where two people received the Holy Spirit and one was baptized. It was a great night, the brethren were all together



Baptism in Abidjan

again and we had a happy time. Some shared their testimonies while others were praying for others to receive the Holy Spirit.

During the month of April, I will travel to Liberia to see my son Weston and hopefully bring him back with me to Ivory Coast. As this trip is not without danger so I would appreciate you keeping me in your prayers.

God bless and until next time!

Testimonies



I heard the gospel 13 years ago after hearing about many other religions. I saw that life didn't offer lasting happiness and I felt a great emptiness within. I felt unsure of many things in life and put on a mask for those around me. One day I heard that I could have a relationship with the Creator and was shown scriptures about the Holy Spirit which surprised me as I had never heard of this before. In fact, I had never even read the Bible before.

I knew that I had nothing to loose. I wanted to have peace and happiness, so I prayed and received the Holy Spirit, speaking in tongues. A weight was lifted from my shoulders as the cares of the world left me. I was baptized by full immersion and my new life began. I now have God's power, certainty and happiness in my life. God has done so much for me. It is good to be a testimony for others and to have a purpose in life. There is nothing better than serving God.

Szilvia , Dordrecht, Holland

I heard the gospel 14 years ago. I grew up in a very loving family under the communist system where we never spoke about God or read the Bible. I was 18 when I went to England for a ten month course. By the end of it, I was depressed and suffering from bulimia. I felt that I no longer belonged in the world. When I returned to Hungary, I found a lot of religion had flooded into the country with the end of communism, but none of them could provide me a real evidence of Gods existence. It was at university where I met a sister who told me the gospel. I saw that the Bible was true and that I could have a personal relationship with God.

I wanted to receive the Holy Spirit so went onto my knees and prayed. When I spoke in tongues I knew I had received it. I was so excited and began reading scriptures that made sense. I was baptized by full immersion. I was healed from depression and bulimia. I am now married and we have three children. It is good to know that God is always with us and has given us peace and knowledge. It is a privilege to be part of the Lord's work.

Renata, Budapest, Hungary



Revival Fellowship Holland



Wars
Crime
Sickness
Hunger
Climate
Terrorism
Powerless Religions

It's a sick world who
wants to get off ?



How ?

Repent, get baptized and
receive God's Holy Spirit with the
evidence of speaking in tongues:
become part of God's kingdom

Convention

Coming soon,
from the 17th
til the 20th of
May in Rotter-
dam, Holland

*That's all for this month.
Bye for now,
Karen van Oostende
Revival Fellowship, Hol-
land*

