

De Jong Ministries Update June 2007

Whether you turn to the right or the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you saying, “this is the way, walk in it.” Isaiah 30:21 (NIV). We are excited to share glimpses of how the Lord has answered prayer in the last few months; also share about the networks established with other believers, the news of current events and the anticipation of events ahead.

God be praised. He sustained our family through crises with our grandson Shawn, who was diagnosed with bipolar disorder. Shawn was discharged from the military with a general discharge and some medical benefits. Shawn’s full-time summer job (6 wks), doing maintenance for the school system where Rhonda teaches, is going well. His financial situation is critical. Pray for God to give wisdom and provision in debt reduction. Pray for the right job to open up in the fall.

We rejoice in the safety God gave in our travels March 21 – May 1. We rejoice also in the many opportunities he gave us to network with friends and new acquaintances. In Asheville NC an Ecuadorian American friend, Blanca Miller, who helped edit Sylvia’s book, reviewed the progress of the second edition and gave helpful suggestions. Note – as of June 11 she is editing the Spanish translation of the book, which is nearing completion.

In Atlanta, we enjoyed an overnight with our granddaughter Heather’s family. Her husband Patrick helped us initiate a web site – being set up primarily to make study guides available for *Widows of the Old Testament* and acquaint people with our ministry. We were blessed to renew our apparel at First Baptist’s missionary care center (Charles Stanley’s church). We also enjoyed receiving needed apparel for our friend Daniel Telfort, a Haitian student at Bob Jones University who is prepared to return to Haiti as a pastor and to translate the Old Testament from original Hebrew into Haitian Creole when he completes his Master of Divinity in December. He earned a Masters in Bible Translation last year and was ordained in Boston in May. Pray for God to sustain him with strength and provision as he completes his courses.

March 26 – 27 David participated in Source of Light (SLM) board meetings in Madison, GA. As God blesses SLM’s global outreach, their need increases for volunteers and full time missionaries to serve in the home office – to teach Bible, service computers, grade lessons, and to print and distribute correspondence courses world wide. Pray for God to provide personnel.

We visited with family, friends/supporters in the Augusta area, friends in Virginia and continued north to two supporting churches in CT and NH. They all encouraged us and affirmed our ministry.

Boston is a favorite place to visit. We connected with many friends and enjoyed a day at Emmanuel Gospel Center, where Sylvia served as intern and an associate when she was in seminary. We also saw friends at Evangelical Baptist Center in CT where David has served as interim director, built buildings and was on the board in years past.

We enjoyed Rex and Kim’s family in NJ over Easter. His knee surgery went well. After two days at home Sylvia flew to Kansas City and David, to Portland OR to be keynote speaker for the retirement banquet of Jim and Jean Hodges, outgoing Director of Hard Hats for Christ. While there David rejoiced to make contact with a missionary family he knew in South Africa. Then he joined Sylvia in KC to help James and Kyleen with a remodel project in a large old home they are restoring to live in. Their family hopes to care for foster babies. David also spoke at Carver Baptist Bible College chapel.

After resting at home for two days, we drove to Hickory, NC for their mission conference. It was a most encouraging conference. There was a wonderful time of net-

working with other missionaries and local believers. Sylvia enjoyed meeting Emily Wickham, a member of Hickory Chapel who has also written Bible studies and is looking for a publisher. We enjoyed a visit with Charles and Audrey Ledford, Ray's wife Jen's parents.

Two weeks after arriving home, Joseph Kavuli – Kenyan missionary, Director of Child Evangelism for East and Central Africa, a leader in the Kiteta Church District that we are closely associated with in Kenya – came for a visit. He spoke several times in our area. Next year he hopes to bring his wife and our friend, Benjamin Nzwili, who is his senior pastor. Benjamin took his training under James at Scott. Joseph is already making plans for our trip to Kenya in July/August 2008. There will be more about that in a later news update.

Since Shawn's illness, another avenue of ministry has opened up – to families of children with bipolar disorder. It is amazing how many have shared prayer needs with us after learning about Shawn. Pray for God to use us to comfort and encourage hurting families and help grow their faith in our Almighty God and Jesus Christ, our Wonderful Counselor.

Praise God, *Widows of the Old Testament*, went to press Friday, June 8. and will be ready for distribution in three to four weeks. Sylvia has a huge task of writing a study guide for each of the nine studies in the book. She plans to post the guides on the web site as she completes them. Please pray for the Holy Spirit's guidance for this task and that she will be able to focus on this goal. The price of the book will be \$13.95. It can be ordered directly from www.essencebookstore.com or any bookstore can order it. The publisher is Essence Publishing. We encourage you to use it for women's Sunday School or Bible classes, individual Bible study, or group studies with widows, single or divorced women. If you have questions, e-mail Sylvia for more information. Our next update will include information about translations of the book and about our proposed trip to Kenya in 2008. Thank you for your prayers for us. May God be glorified.

Blessings,

David and Sylvia De Jong

P.O. Box 291 Wooster OH 44691

David@dejongministries.com Sylvia@dejongministries.com

Ministry/project funds can be sent to:

Interlink Ministries Inc.

P.O. Box 460

Apple Creek, Oh 44606

(330) 698-5465

Support funds can be sent to:

Africa Inland Mission

P. O. Box 178

Pearl River, NY 10965

(845) 735-4014