



The Byrer Family

Missionaries to Alberta, Canada



September 2009

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The month of September took us through Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia. Again, like last month, with few exceptions, the farther North and West we head, the longer the drive is between churches. It is amazing to see firsthand the gaps in Canada where the gospel of Jesus Christ is preached. Saskatchewan, with over 1,000,000 people and at least 10 major cities, I know of only 3, maybe 4 churches in the whole province. That being said, none of these churches have more than 60 members. When you get outside of the major cities there are small towns and farming communities throughout the land and there is no one with the gospel. Our first stop in Saskatchewan was in the Northern town of Prince Albert. I couldn't believe how big the town was, with a growing population of 35,000 souls, and only one church preaching the gospel. Although we were only there for a short visit, we were able to see the town from both the ground and the air thanks to a float plane ride by Pastor Webster.

As we crossed into Alberta things started to get familiar to me. Seeing again the part of the country which God has focused my attention encouraged us all, giving us a glimpse of a glimmer of light at the end of the deputation tunnel. Frankly, if the Lord allowed the financial support to be realized today, we would anxiously be ready to get on the field. In the meantime, we headed to Hinton, Alberta to be a part of a tent meeting with Pastor Davis as he works to get the work established in this needy town. From here we headed to Calgary for a meeting at Old Tyme Baptist Church. The meeting went exceptionally well and the Lord even allowed us to get in on seeing two sinners walk the isle and take that precious gift of eternal life! God is still saving folks in Canada!

While planning our trip to the Vancouver area, I was looking at a cost of about \$400 dollars to stay at a campground when I was introduced to Pastor Goette of Harvest Baptist Church. Praise the Lord for the open door to stay and worship with them along with the opportunity to go into their neighborhoods to take the gospel. While in Vancouver we also went to Vancouver Island to spend the day with Pastor Jay Dempsey and his church family at Lighthouse Bible Baptist Church. The highlight of the day was the baptismal service that evening. Just a little more evidence that God is still saving souls in Canada. Then it was back to the mainland to be with my friend and soul winning partner from Pensacola, Pastor Eric Suh from South Korea. We also had the privilege to meet and have fellowship with Pastor Russell MacKay in Burnaby, BC. The Lord has shown me so much while traveling through Canada. Probably the greatest thing this month is the demographics that make up lower British Columbia. As we travelled in and around the Greater Vancouver area, it was visibly obvious that there are three main groups of people coming to this part of Canada. They are Chinese (500,000), East Indian (250,000) and Filipino (90,000). I only know of one church reaching out specifically to the Filipino community and no Baptist at all ministering to the Chinese or the East Indians. The Far East is coming to the West looking for a new start and a new life. Even though these things can be found in Canada **they will never find true happiness and eternal Peace without a NEW BIRTH in the Lord Jesus Christ.**

William Carey once said "To know the will of God, we need an open Bible and an open map." There is a place in the Northern part of North America that is seldom looked at as a valid mission field yet the souls of the people in Canada yearn to hear the Gospel. Pray for Canada, that God would call out men to come to this great and needy field.

In His Service,
Brother John Byrer

For he satisfieth the longing soul, and filleth the hungry soul with goodness. ~ Psalm 107:9

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