



November

2008

Dear Pastor, Family and Friends,

Wow! Fifty thousand miles, twelve months of travel, and I have laid my head down to sleep in 26 states and who knows how many beds! And through all this, I couldn't begin to count the blessings! Please allow me to share some of what I've experienced this last year.

I have rejoiced to find churches on fire for the work of the Lord, and I have enjoyed participating in their camps, vacation Bible schools and soul winning ministries. I have been challenged to live more righteously because I realize my nation is only going to be as righteous as God's people choose to be righteous. I have more fervently prayed for revival and for the leadership of the United States. I have learned to wait at the hands of God for His provision and protection. When I have left a church humbled to receive from those I know are struggling, the Lord reminded me He often used unnamed widows to provide for His servants - it was He that kept their cruse of oil filled each day. I have seen answers to prayer. I have been reminded that, when I think no one on earth knows where I am at this moment, God knows and He cares. Deputation has been a time of learning more about my God - it has been a proving ground, for me and for Him.

The Lord has also given me clear direction for this next year. As of this writing I have 71% support - a tremendous amount in one year, but not enough to allow me to go to language school in France in January. When I first realized my plans for 2009 were not going to be fulfilled, I began to wonder if I had worked hard enough; where did I fail? Then the Lord reminded me of a request I had asked of Him - please don't let me go until I'm prepared to go. I believe there is more for me to learn while continuing deputation. One of the ways the Lord has provided to "sharpen my sword" is through linguistic training. At the approval of my pastor I will begin taking courses in January through Baptist Bible Translators Institute (BBTI). While the name of the school implies translation work, that is only part of the training. The focus is to help me to learn another language and another culture. My base of operations will change from Colorado to Texas during this time. I am grateful for your prayers for me this last month as I have sought God's direction.

Thank you, too, for your prayers for my co-laborer, Kristine, and her dad. The HALO traction was removed, and Kristine reports her neck is doing well. After thirteen weeks she is thrilled to be able to resume 'normal' activities like driving and laying flat in a bed. Her dad has tolerated the cancer treatments and has even been able to continue working. Praise the Lord for His mercy and care!

I pray your Thanksgiving holiday will be just that - a time to reflect and thank the Lord for His goodness!

By His grace,

Becky Pope