

Making Disciples International

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28 March 2014

Dear Friends,

This weekend marks the end of a wonderful chapter in our lives with Mission Encouragement Trust, 1992 – 2014. We now begin an exciting new chapter with Making Disciples International, USA. We have deep peace that God has ordained the change of one season into another. Change is a natural phenomenon but requires spiritual discernment in terms of timing and nature. How thankful we have been that God leads ... we have just followed in obedience as best we know how. Of course what “has been” will always be the foundation of “what will be”! John described it this way:

“That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of life — the life was manifested, and we have seen, and bear witness, and declare to you that eternal life which was with the Father and was manifested to us — that which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ. And these things we write to you that your joy may be full” (1 John 1:1-4 NKJV).

Future ministry is always based on what has been added into our lives through the journey with Jesus so far. We have the life of God manifest in us. We have seen, borne witness and heard – and now this is what we will be declaring in the new discipleship ministry. The essence of discipleship is to be transformed to transmit.

In recent months, as we have been winding up the charity side of MET, we’ve spent quality time in prayer, waiting on the Lord. It is interesting how in crossing one finishing line we’ve been prepared by God for a new race! We’ve needed time and space to allow our hearts to reflect and our bodies to be recharged. A slower pace has helped!

DISCIPLESHIP IN ANGMERING

This month we have had the privilege of leading four evenings of prayer at St Margaret’s Community Church,

Angmering, UK. The first two evenings were **16 / 17 March 2014** and we taught on “waiting on the Lord to hear what is on His heart”. This weekend, **30 / 31 March 2014**, we will teach intercession—taking our place as priests before the Lord. We have enjoyed rich fellowship with this small congregation. God has spoken as we have waited together to hear.

ISRAEL

Two weeks ago, as we separately emerged from times of prayer, I asked Mintie:

“Is God saying anything to you about Israel?”

“Oh yes”, she replied. “We are going soon!”

I chuckled—that is what God had spoken into my heart too: “Get ready to go!”

The following day dear friends in Worthing came round to our home for a quick visit. As Frank put an envelope in our hands he said: “This is for Israel”. It was the seed money for a ministry trip to Israel. He had no idea because we had not shared with a soul. We never tire of God’s sweet way of leading step by step. We have made ourselves available to God – we are ready to be called upon. We are now booked with Easyjet out of Gatwick, 18 – 25 May 2014.



We will be spending the week with Rita Kotze – our dear friend who lost her husband last year and has been battling cancer. The great news from Rita is that against all odds the doctors have declared that her body is now free of cancer. This is a miracle – it was only a year ago that there was little chance of recovery. But God

We will also visit with other workers in the Galilee region. On this short trip we will not be going down to Jerusalem. We are waiting on the Lord for clarity about a longer stay in Jerusalem, Israel February / March next year. We still sense that we are to be an

encouragement to God's called-ones there. But, that will require a longer stay. Pray with us about this. If you would like to invest in this trip and the ministry of encouragement, please see below for details about giving.

DISCIPLESHIP IN NORTH WALES

We are leading a discipleship training weekend at St John's Church, Llandudno, 27- 29 June 2014. The theme provided is: "Flourish". The weekend preparation is already in our thoughts and prayers. How does God want to minister to the dear people of that congregation? We wait to hear.

NEW DISCIPLESHIP BOOK – Biblical meditation

It has been a challenge to be settled enough to write chapters with any sense of consistent flow and quality. But, we have got a good outline and the content is slowly finding its rightful place. Biblical Meditation has been Mintie's life message and so she is providing most of the key material. I am adding structure and stories that can help make the teaching live. It is a joint effort. In April we hope for some quality hours of writing.

SOW WHAT? DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS

We have had the joy of leading one group in our home for 11 weeks. One lady wrote: "It is difficult to put into words the pleasure, challenge, help and love I have received from you both during our weeks studying Sow What? The parable will never be the same again and I hope, with the Lord Jesus' help I too will never be the same again."

I (Jan) have also recently had the privilege of kick-starting another group in London. We are hearing that Sow What? discipleship groups are springing up all over the world. Praise the Lord. I am very willing to help if you would like to set up a small Sow What? discipleship group in your area.

A GOD-SURPRISE

Just when you think all is "new" God takes you back to the beginning and resurrects something old! In this last week we have sensed God speaking about purchasing another motor caravan – "to be ready". In a very practical sense it will be a blessing – especially when we travel to different locations for ministry, and of course, for holiday. It is always easier for us not to stay with people as we prepare our hearts to minister. There are often too many lovely distractions. Added to that, Mintie now has the cutest puppy called Tikva (Hebrew: Hope) – the latest addition to

our discipleship team. She is an extrovert people-loving Cavashon – King Charles Cavalier / Bishon cross. She will travel with us – so, again a motor home makes that possible.

It is an incredible story – far too long to record here – but we arrived in Worthing in 1995 with a bookcase, fridge-freezer and a motor caravan – plus a very small amount of money in our bank accounts. Those were the days of pastorally visiting missionaries in Eastern Europe – spending months away in our van. Eventually, as our ministry changed to retreats for single missionaries in 2002, the selling of that first motor caravan became the down payment on the first house in Worthing (another God-thing – all without salaries). From there, God provided our beautiful home in Ferring – no mortgage and debt free. Des, of course, extended it. It is the Lord's – we are just stewards. Now the UK equity release scheme will provide funds from our property to pay for another motor caravan! The house swallowed up the first motorhome and now gives birth to another. What a bizarre and glorious story that demonstrates God's commitment and love to all who "step out of the boat" into His provision and total care! Pray with us for wisdom and the right van.

GIDEON'S ARMY

When ministry focus changes, inevitably there are changes that take place in financial support. From a mailing list of 450, 150 have committed to new partnership with our Making Disciples ministry. It reminds us of Gideon's army – reduced for greater victory! Partnership is reflected in warm fellowship, prayer, and regular or occasional giving. We continue to trust the Lord for all we need both personally and for the ministry. God has always been faithful – He will always be faithful.

FINANCIAL GIFTS

UK: Internet banking:

Mrs Janice E Whitmore / Miss Wilhelmina M E Nel,
Natwest, Sort Code: 54 41 54 **Account No:**
54123720

Donations by cheque:

Payable: Mrs Janice E Whitmore and mailed to our home address (top of page)

UK taxpayers: It is possible for you to make your donation through Stewardship to enable the tax to be reclaimed. This increases your gift by 25% approx... Please email MintieNelMDI@aol.com or telephone for details.

USA **USA: Checks still payable:** "Grace Project" designated Whitmore / Nel personal / ministry. **Mail to:** Mark Campbell, 502, Seventh Street Unit 301, Rockford, Illinois 61104 Email: campbell@barnabas.org

RSA: **RSA: Direct deposit only** by internet transfer or bank deposit: **W E Nel** (This is Mintie's account), Standard Bank, Hatfield, Pretoria. **Sort Code:** 011545 **Account No:** 01 193600 2

