

# Making Disciples International (UK)

[www.makingdisciples.co.uk](http://www.makingdisciples.co.uk) August 2017

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In our discipleship group on a Friday morning, we are learning how to pray *corporately* - laying hold of God *together* to hear wisdom – and in response seeking a heavenly intervention into specific turbulent and troubling situations. It is a fruitful discipline of tuning both mind and spirit into God. It is like tuning in the radio to find a station free of static interference. We have called the series “Lord, teach US how to pray”. Our thinking, influenced often by the media rather than the Bible, needs tuning in and aligning to God’s Word, His ways and His desires. There is no secondary path for a disciple of Jesus. We are seeking to humble ourselves before God to listen – to hear His timeless and life-giving counsel. What is God saying? *Much*. How does God want us to respond to the “hot potatoes” of today? *With clarity and compassion*. Is God silent? *He wants to reveal Himself and His mind to His people*. Does God have a plan? *Definitely yes and we can share in it*. **When God’s people rally to His voice as the ONLY voice and obey His commands, we will avoid - even overcome - the promised calamities and curses of “every man doing what is right in his own eyes”.**

**2 Chronicles 7:16** "I have heard your prayer, and have chosen this place for Myself as a house of sacrifice. **13** When I shut up heaven and there is no rain, or command the locusts to devour the land, or send pestilence among My people, **14** if My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land. **15** Now My eyes will be open and My ears attentive to prayer made in this place. NKJV

He is speaking to us – often through the Word, the gifts of the Holy Spirit, vision and our senses. Having heard, we then pray according to His instruction and watch Him effect relief, help and victories. We are experiencing a fresh anointing of the Holy Spirit gracing our deeper searching of God’s Word, resulting in manifestations of His power – signs, wonders miracles and healing. It all begins with humility, prayer and a determined seeking of Gods face. **Pray for us as we continue to disciple God’s people, teaching them how to be strong, courageous and overcome in these evil days.**

## Precious reunions in May in the USA

In May, we travelled to Illinois, USA to visit long-term supporters of our mission work. Many, now in their latter years, face all the challenges of waning health. For years, they have loved, prayed and generously given, and it was



time to go in person to give back and encourage them. What a special time of engagement, recalling together different missionaries we have served on our shared spiritual journey. Many still feel they are on the mission



## Mintie, Reuven Yanit Ross, Jan, Dottie Mark Campbell

field with us as we go out to refresh and encourage. It is part of their outreach into the world. We not only came home with a few extra pounds around our middles, but hearts buoyed with fresh assurance of love and joy. There were many highlights. A touching few days in Shelbyville

with **Patsy Svenson, Jim and Margie Macari (page 1)**, an amazing weekend with the **Monroe Community Church**, special times of fellowship with **Mark & Dottie Campbell**, and four days in Rockford with our MDI colleagues, **Pastors Reuven and Yanit Ross**. Utterly uplifting and we did not want to let any of them go. They are in our hearts. **Give thanks to the Lord for His provision for the trip, our Illinois supporters and friends, and the personal boost.**

### **Debriefing of missionaries**

We look forward to two missionaries (one married, one single) coming our way for debriefing in October / November 2017 - each for a week. In different ways, they have come to the end of a particular season in ministry and desire to spend time reviewing it with God. The "Debriefing at the Cross" program we use gives time to talk of the victories, blessings, failures and disappointments. It helps the debriefed assess how the lessons of that season relate to the new season ahead. We listen, guide their focus and pray with them. They will stay in the self-contained annex of our home and what a blessing this is proving to be. We have our own small retreat centre! **Pray for the timing of each visit. We will share specifics nearer the time.**

### **On a personal note**

It has been a tough year for **Mintie** health-wise. Her frame is weaker and overall strength has been diminishing. She has an inner longing to visit South Africa to visit her family and friends but it is, yet, unclear how this can happen. It would probably be her last visit "home" and therefore has special meaning. **She would appreciate your prayers.**

In July, we went on holiday in the motorhome to Ireland. We absorbed the beautiful green and open countryside and appreciated the good weather. It did us good! We spent the last weekend of the trip with a Christian Community in Northern Ireland – on retreat. One of Jan's lifetime friends, **Amanda Northey**, is a member of the Community. Following the Northumbrian Community's rhythm of prayer and communal work, we blended in with the group. It was stimulating on all levels. We met two couples who had been missionaries in Nepal and Europe and found much in common, as we exchanged mission field stories. We will be keeping in touch, concerned for their post-mission care.

As we drove home from Holyhead, Wales we had also planned a reunion with another missionary friend, **Christine Roberts** in Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire. Christine is South African and works with a mission school close by Johannesburg. It was icing on the delicious cake - a joy to be with her again and listen to how God is leading. Christine

participated in several of our retreats for single missionaries.



**Christine Roberts, Jane Gascoyne, Jan & Mintie**

### **Encouragement in Holland 23 Sept – 6 Oct 2017**

Taking the motorhome, we are looking forward to visiting missionaries in **Holland in September/October**. We have visited **Jellina Braaksma and the Storm family** (South African missionaries) before, but it will be the first time visiting **Annie de Steege**. Annie came to us in the UK for a week of debriefing when leaving Benin, her country of service. She has retired back in Holland and we would like to follow up on her progress. As always, we will prepare in prayer and the Word, seeking first to bring a blessing from the Lord. However, we will also gather gifts for each and **we need your help**. Depositing a monetary gift into our ministry account is, by far, the best way – or by cheque sent to our home address if you are in the UK. We still have facilities to receive donations in the UK, USA and South Africa. Here is our website link where you will find details of how to give: [www.makingdisciples.co.uk](http://www.makingdisciples.co.uk) Click on the "HOME" button. Donations via PayPal are possible too, in Sterling or Dollar. **Thank God for the supply of all the finances needed to bless His people!**

**Thank you for your prayers** - they undergird and keep us true to the Lord. **Thank you for your gifts** - they release us to serve as the Holy Spirit leads. From the ministry fund this year, we have been able to send significant financial gifts to workers in Israel and South Africa to meet pressing personal needs. You are a blessing to God.

**Much love, Jan & Mintie**