



Seth Thompson <mrsetht@gmail.com>

FW: Bennett Praise Update Jan 2017

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To: Seth Thompson <mrsetht@gmail.com>

Sun, Feb 5, 2017 at 5:04 PM

From: david.swmi@gmail.com [mailto:david.swmi@gmail.com] **On Behalf Of** David Bennett
Sent: Saturday, January 7, 2017 8:11 PM
To: David Bennett
Subject: Bennett Praise Update Jan 2017

Dear Family and Friends in the Great Commission,

Thank you so much for your faithfulness to our Lord Jesus Christ throughout 2016. Because you care for lost souls, and for your missionaries, many people have come to know Jesus Christ in this past year. For the first time in their lives, Christmas now means much more than gifts, colored lights, and time off work. These people now know the Christ of Christmas, and you played an important part in that.

One of my greatest blessings of the year came from a report I received from Pastor Bimal in North India. After many years of ministry with hearing people, he now has a deaf congregation, as well as a vocational sewing school for the deaf. In November, he was able to lead a deaf man, named Biswajeet, and his hearing wife, to Jesus Christ. This couple is of Bengali background and have been Hindus. Two days after their salvation, they cleansed their house of their idolatry. Their son, Joy, has been saved, and both the father and son were baptized on December 5, 2016. The wife was not able to be baptized as yet because of severe health problems. Please pray for Pastor Bimal and his wife, Mala, as they work with these Bengali Deaf people in North India. They are living and walking by faith, trusting God to meet their needs as they serve Him faithfully in God's harvest.

Another blessing of this year came from Puerto Rico. As you know, we had a tremendous ministry to the Deaf Nation World Expo (DNWE) in July, with 98 professions of faith in Christ and thousands of pieces of Gospel literature and DVDs distributed. One of our team members was Paula Van Natta, a Baptist World Missions missionary to Puerto Rico. She has been working with the deaf for the past few years. Paula came on our DNWE missions trip and was inspired to do mass evangelism among the Deaf of Puerto Rico as well. SWMI provided hundreds of DVDs and other materials, along with ideas and encouragement, for her to be able to distribute more than 500 Gospel DVDs to students and parents at a Roman Catholic deaf school in Puerto Rico. Another of our DNWE deaf team members flew to Puerto Rico in order to help Paula with this outreach. It was a joy to partner with these folks in this evangelistic ministry. Please pray that God would use these DVDs to reach the hearts of Puerto Ricans, both deaf and hearing, for Christ.

I, David, recently returned from a two-week trip to Newfoundland, Canada. I assisted in filling in for veteran missionaries Lebron and Libby Williams at Grace Baptist Church, which is just 7 months old. Besides preaching, I spent approximately 70 hours in personal discipleship during those 2 weeks. What a joy it was to see the spiritual growth of several of their members during that short period of time. I love working with new church plants. I thank God for the burden of the Williams to start a new church in the town of Corner Brook, Newfoundland. Please pray for souls to be saved. They also need a younger missionary couple to come alongside of them for the long term to grow this church and then to turn it over to a national pastor.

Vicki, my wife, was in the country of Burkina Faso, West Africa for a onth in Nov/Dec. Our daughter, Charity, and her husband, Jason, are new parents to our newest grandson named Joseph Levi Rishel. He weighed in at 8.2 pounds. What a blessing they are to our hearts. Vicki enjoyed herself profusely, ministering to our daughter and her family at that time. Thank you for your prayers for Vicki.

From Dec. 26-31, I held a Deliberate Discipleship Retreat at Sand Mountain Bible Camp. God worked mightily in the spiritual lives of those in attendance. The age of the attendees ranged from late 20s to mid 60s. Discipleship is my heartbeat, and God is truly expanding my horizons in this area with opportunity after opportunity to teach on the subject as well as to actually disciple people everywhere I go! I have 3 Deliberate Discipleship Retreats planned for 2017.

We are involved in many other ministries, as well. Please continue to pray for the filming of the FROM CREATION TO CHRIST series for minimal language deaf people around the world. I did a full day of filming last week for a SWM series entitled "BOOTCAMP FOR DEAF MINISTRY." You may already find some material for the BOOTCAMP at bootcamp4deaf.com. My aterial should be added in the week ahead.

I have one specific short-term prayer request. My car has 330,000 miles on it and one cylinder has recently gone bad. Due to the amount of traveling that I do, I must replace it very soon. I had to fly to New York City in January instead of drive since the car was not in shape to go anywhere except around town. A reliable vehicle is desperately needed. Your prayers on behalf of this request are much appreciated.

I am in New York City now, speaking in 3 churches, as well as assisting one church in a two-week evaluation of their present ministries and where they should be headed in the next 10 years. Pray also for me during this great opportunity to help these churches. On Tuesday, January 10, I will be speaking to a pastor's fellowship about the subject of discipleship. Your prayers are coveted here as well.

Again, thank you for your faithfulness in 2016. Thank you, too, for partnering with us in 2017. May God bless each one of you for your part in this worldwide ministry.

Your Servants for the Cause of Christ,

David and Vicki Bennett

Hebrews 6:10

Director SWMI

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Making a Spiritual Difference in the World of the Deaf for the Glory of God