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When God Shows Up

by *Thurleen Bain*

Wow, what a month! We knew that God was up to something...*AND DID HE SHOW UP!* Hikiwan may never be the same!

A great mission team from 1st Baptist Church, Harrisburg, IL, led by Brad Vinyard came to Hikiwan. They were here last year just four days after the leap-year tornado devastated their town and eight lives were lost. They made a huge impact on the church. While they were here four young people prayed to receive Jesus. The church baptized five on Easter Sunday!

In the time since they were here, Brad had a leg amputated, fought a severe infection, more surgery, and had just gotten his new prostheses (a fancy man-made leg) a few days before the team boarded the plane to Arizona. We picked them up in Phoenix and arrived in Hikiwan at 2:30 AM.

Ken received Disaster Relief Training so we could borrow an AZ Southern Baptist Disaster Relief Shower Trailer for the teams use. (the double/wide is currently being used by a church family while their home is being rehabbed). The team slept on cots in the church.

On Thursday before the team arrived on Saturday night, the contractor doing the demolition to renovate homes in the village, came over and told Ken that there were some useful 2 x 4's and plywood decking. We could have it, otherwise, it was going in the dumpster. We told him that the reclaimed wood could be used to build a much needed house for a family that is new to the church. The contractor, who is a Christian, brought all the remaining used wood to the church.

Brad had wondered if he would be able to work on any of the maintenance projects around the church. All of the nails had to be removed from the wood. Brad and Laura almost filled a five gallon bucket with the nails they pulled!

VBS began on Tuesday after school. A few kids came, then fifteen more walking over from the Rec Center...twenty-three on the first day! The team did an awesome job leading the VBS!

The kids were attentive to Brad's Bible lessons all week. We could tell from some of their simply profound answers that they had indeed accumulated truth from successive VBS's over the years we've been at Hikiwan. If only we could get them into church! They did neat crafts and played fun games.



A huge indication of God's hand at work was when the Baptist Indian Fellowship came on Saturday for their first ever missional outreach, which they chose to begin at Hikiwan. What a wonderful day! Native American Believers ministering to other Native Americans on a mission field! Pastor Carl from Mesa Indian church and Joe from Harrisburg cooking hamburgers while sharing their stories of Christ's work in their lives just as fast as they could talk. Then as Brad presented a Bible lesson it was evident that a beautiful transition of ministry from Anglo to Indian in presentation was taking place.



We took the team back to the Phoenix airport to catch their midnight flight back home.

The question begged an answer, how do we handle all these children if they decide to come to church? We do not have adults to teach enough Sunday School Classes and maintain both decorum and interest at the same time.

Ken and Pastor Gary Ramer got their heads together on the spot to find a way to *re-invent* "church!" the decision was to suspend Sunday School and even church as we know it for a time, and go to a Children's Church, *only*, to teach the children. The handful of adults agreed that they can learn as the children do!

Sunday there were several of them who came to church. They walked right up to the front seat without being told. They listened and responded. When Pastor Gary gave an invitation, most of the kids jumped up and went forward! **Nine kids made professions of faith!**

Matthew 28:19-20 tells us that we are to go and teach. As we do church in a new way, we will teach and train them as they become little missionaries to their homes and community.

GOD IS UP TO SOMETHING! Lord, help us to get in on what you're doing...

What do We Mean by the Term "Profession of Faith"

by Ken Bain

Christians search for ways to express what has happened to them that transitions them from a life without meaning to a purposeful life that will continue eternally even after their body dies. So to define the term, "Profession of Faith," let us consider what I believe is the simplest, spot-on Scripture that tells how to make your life-change.

Consider the Scriptures...

...because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. Romans 10:9 ESV

Let's examine the passage:

- **If you confess with your mouth...**

"Confess" is a legal term that means "agree with, or come into agreement with." The Greek word that is here rendered *confess* is also used in numerous other New Testament passages as "*profess*" (to proclaim) which clearly links the to the phrase, "with your mouth."

- **That Jesus is Lord...**

In olden days, most people were governed by a king or lord. To understand Jesus' Lordship, one must know what Loyalty to a king is. The subject would bow low before the

king. In doing so he would "present his neck" in submission. The subject would yield his very life to the wishes of the king.

- **And believe in your heart that God has raised him from the dead...**

It's not merely that Jesus miraculously came back to life *three days* after being brutally beaten, crucified, and totally drained of his blood. (Any of which would have been more than enough to end his life). When Jesus took the Cup at Gethsemane, he saw your sin, mine, and the sin of all the whole world in it. He realized that when he drank from it, he would be separated from his Father. But LOVE compelled Christ, and in order to purchase our redemption, He willfully died...he bore all that sin, dropped it into Hell, and triumphantly rose from the Grave! Our victory is that he arose! Hell couldn't hold him! But *you must believe* it in your heart!

- **YOU WILL BE SAVED**

...if you profess Jesus as your King in a way that others will know it, and you believe in the depths of your being, that God has brought him back to his perfect life from being separated from the Father...because of your sin.

Ministry Needs / Hikiwan needs

As the Word says, "You have not because you ask not"

Several partners responded with donations of various amounts. Most were not specific about how to designate their gifts. That has been a real blessing that has allowed freedom to use funds where they were most needed. For instance the Mission Team from Harrisburg installed a cooler on the church annex building AKA the "Man cave" but the material costs were unexpectedly high.

Now here's what happened with the requests from the last Newsletter...

VAN Green Valley Baptist Church is repurposing a 15 passenger van to Christ Fellowship Community Church. And the timing is perfect! Thurleen and I will pick it up this week. It will allow us to pick up the village kids for Easter. They won't have to ride in the back of a pickup truck!



10' STEP LADDER Ladder has been made available by a church in AJO, AZ. New vents with gravity louvers are here.

ELECTRIC HEATER REPAIRS Heaters have proven to be non-reparable...funds will be a start toward new heaters.

LADIES REST ROOM New lavatory, sink and faucet installed...Commode has been replaced at \$105.

WATER HEATER Installed...cost an extra \$100

VAN OPERATING FUND An estimated \$75 to \$100 per week will be needed from partners to fuel, insure, and maintain the church van. ...a small price to double or triple attendance.



Who will help us build a simple little house for the precious family now living here? Water runs through it when it rains. We have used this picture for 6 years to describe the poverty. Now another family is trying to survive here in it.

Hindrances Overcome

Thank Goodness the influenza is gone. Both of us came down with the flu right after arriving in Hikiwan. It was very difficult for more than a week. We didn't even leave the 5th wheel so not to spread it around. Recovery took weeks, but now feeling "normal" sure is nice. And Ken's kidney stone is now apparently almost dissolved after more than three weeks. The enemy sure has been a nuisance. Its good to know that our Lord is in charge.

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At home, you can help fulfill the Great Commission. Join us in taking the Good News of Christ to Native Americans.

- Be our prayer partners
- Contribute financially

You can give through the North American Mission Board for accountability with deductible receipts.

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Atlanta, Georgia 30368-6543

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For more immediate help to kTb Ministries: (direct gifts may not be recognized by IRS as deductible)

By Direct Mail: Ken and Thurleen Bain, kTb Ministries
In Arizona PO Box 13143
(OR) Casa Grande, AZ 85230
In Illinois PO Box 542
Vienna, IL 62995

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"If God has called you to be a missionary, don't stoop to be a king."

Charles Spurgeon