

BE OF GOOD CHEER AND CLING TO GOD'S PROMISES!

"These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world." John 16:33

We were stranded in Northern Montana, thirty-six miles short of the US/Canadian border, for a little over eight weeks. And throughout the "undesirable" aspects of being broken down, we have much to praise the Lord about. God made it possible for us to keep most of our scheduled meetings—all of which He provided for and met every planned and unplanned need. He led us to a local church in the town, where we broke down, and they graciously provided us with transportation to get around town. The Pastor there allowed us to present our ministry to his people and preach; afterward, they voted to take us on as their missionary representatives in Brazil. We also received some love offerings, which immensely helped towards the inevitable expense of our breakdown, and we want to say "thank you" to those who gave towards this aspect of our journeying. And thank you all for your prayers on our behalf. We are grateful to God for putting us in your hearts. Amen!

During our breakdown in Northern Montana, we attended the Northwestern Macedonia World Baptist Missions Orientation Conference in Buffalo, Wyoming. It was an honor and great blessing to be among fellow church-planting servants of the Lord. Our hearts were recharged through Holy Spirit-filled preaching and God-honoring fellowship. We were again reminded of the great need for laborers in America. Please join us in praying for more laborers going into His harvest. God wants "every nation" to hear of His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Also, while we were stranded, two thousand and eighty miles from family, Donna and I celebrated birthdays. Not how we would've liked, but we managed and thoroughly enjoyed our time together on each occasion; praise the Lord. Our wedding anniversary was next. Our children back on the East coast had reserved a place and planned for us all to get together and celebrate this special milestone in our lives. However, those plans also had to be canceled. We drove our truck out of the shop two days before our anniversary, but it was a three-day journey back to the East coast. So we commemorated our 40th anniversary, sitting next to each other in the cab of our truck all day!:)

We're reminded of an old saying, perhaps you've heard it too, "Either we are entering a valley, passing through a valley, or coming out of one." In John's epistle, we read Jesus' words forewarning us that "In the world, ye shall have tribulation:" (Jn. 16:33). Our recent "valley" was certainly frustrating; fifty-eight frustrating days, to be exact! But. Through it all, we determined to "be of good cheer" and cling to God's faithfulness, believing in His promise, "I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee" (Hb. 13:5), and encouraged ourselves in Jesus' words, "I have overcome the world" (Jn. 16:33b). He is faithful! Whether we are entering our valley, in our valley, or coming out of it! In Christ, we have no reason to be cast down by our tribulations! Trust Him with yours!

Next, in North Myrtle Beach, SC, we were trapped in Hurricane Ian! ...

Scott and Donna Allen

