



# STEPHEN & LAURA HOLT

GATHER UP THE FRAGMENTS THAT REMAIN THAT NOTHING BE LOST

JOHN 6:12

FALL 2007

## PRAYER LETTER & MINISTRY UPDATE

Dear Praying Family and Friends;

"It is of the LORD'S mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness." (Lamentations 3:22-23) God's mercy and faithfulness to us has indeed been great as we have experienced no serious mechanical problems regarding our truck or trailer. On Thanksgiving Day, God's faithfulness returned us safely to DeLand, FL where we will spend several weeks preparing for the next phase of our deputation journey. We can not adequately express our gratitude for your faithful intercession.

During the last six months, June to November, our deputation travels have taken us through 11 states and two Canadian provinces, driving over 16,500 miles and burning 1366 gallons of gasoline, and presenting the Lord's work in 40 churches. We were especially blessed to have many of our first meetings in Southern New England as this afforded us several precious days with our families in Connecticut and Rhode Island.

**MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS:** "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." (Romans 10:13) On Sunday, October 7, I showed our DVD presentation at Wood River Baptist in Wyoming, RI. However, due to time constraints, I did not preach that morning. As we were preparing to leave for the afternoon, a woman took Laura aside and explained that an 11 year old girl was visibly moved by the pictures of the children in our presentation. This woman then dealt with the girl concerning her own need. Praise the Lord that even a young child can understand and respond to the Gospel and be gloriously born again! Please pray for Ashley's spiritual growth.

While at Gospel Light Bible Baptist in Rochester, NY, Pastor Vince Giardino called on me to counsel a 19 year old man who responded to the invitation following Brother Giardino's morning message. It was my joy to show him from scripture the answers to his sincere questions. That morning, Steve Lopresti understood his need and called on the Lord Jesus Christ to redeem his eternal soul. Two more precious fragments gathered - Praise the Lord!

We were privileged to participate in 4 mission conferences in October and November. These were a special blessing affording us valuable ministry time in these churches. We taught Sunday school, junior church, AWANA class, and spoke at two Christian academies. During a conference at Calvary Baptist in Middletown, RI, Laura was invited to teach an art class in their Christian school. We are always grateful for the opportunity to teach the church youth and optimistically hopeful the influence will help those young lives see the value of loving and serving our Lord.

The three foot by six foot scripture sign on our trailer continues to arouse quite a range of responses; everything from thumbs up and smiles, to lewd gestures and scorn, to bewilderment. Late one night while at a very dark gas station in Pennsylvania, a young man pulled his truck alongside ours while we were in the trailer preparing dinner. We assumed he had just left the bar next door to our stop and wandered in our direction intending to scoff at our scripture sign. *It is not wise to assume!* We soon learned that this young man was a brother in the Lord. Having seen our sign, he wanted to meet us. We enjoyed some wonderful fellowship together, albeit brief, as we both had needed to put many more miles behind us. How sweet of the Lord to send this encouragement our way.

S  
I  
E  
R  
R  
A  
L  
E  
O  
N  
E

A MINISTRY OF  
HELPS IN  
WEST AFRICA

Bible Baptist Church • 872 Glenwood Road • DeLand, FL 32720 • (386) 736-9274 • Pastor James W. Knox

(386) 740-7113 • holtfamily1611@gmail.com • www.gatherthefragments.com

**NEWS FROM SIERRA LEONE:** In mid-November, Earnest Bai Koroma was inaugurated as the new president of Sierra Leone. Although from the opposition party, the transition has been relatively peaceful and the country remains stable. We are grateful for your prayers regarding this concern. We ask that you continue to pray for Pastor Michael Mansaray and the church in Freetown as they are still trying to secure a building in which to meet.

**PRAYER LETTER:** We have many administrative duties to attend to while at our home church; cleaning up our mailing list is one of our priorities. We appreciate your patient understanding regarding inconsistencies some of you have experienced with receiving our letters and sincerely apologize for any omissions.

Please be sure to occasionally visit our web site at [gatherthefragments.com](http://gatherthefragments.com) as we continue to post pictures from our 2005 survey trip as well as photos taken during our deputation journey.

**UPCOMING SCHEDULE:** We will be at home in DeLand, FL for nearly eight weeks. Special thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Steve McGehee for generously allowing us to park our trailer in their back yard. In late January we resume our traveling. This phase of the ministry, approximately 11 months, will have us in the Alabama, Texas and other south western states, Utah, Montana, Idaho, Minnesota, as well as four Canadian provinces.

We have heard positive feedback concerning our DVD presentation and hearts are being stirred for the spiritual needs in Sierra Leone. We are pleased to report that our support level has increased and as of the end of November we are at approximately 40% of our necessary funding. We are now making plans to leave for Sierra Leone in mid-2009.

Thank you for your faithfulness in prayer; we truly appreciate each one of you.  
By His Grace;

*Stephen and Laura Holt*