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September 201

Dear Friends,

The following is a testimony of D. L. Moody and his witness for Christ. Once when D. L. Moody was attending a convention on evangelism, he did more than just talk about it. He asked a friend, who was a gifted musician, to meet him on a street corner at 6 o'clock one evening. The musician stood on a box and sang a song. When a crowd had gathered,

Moody spoke briefly and then invited the people to follow him to the nearby convention hall. Soon the auditorium was filled with spiritually hungry people, and he preached to them. D. L. Moody did not wait for people to come to him, he went to them.

When Jesus saw the masses, He was **“moved with compassion” (Matthew 9:36)**. He said to His disciples, **“The harvest truly is plenteous. . . . Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that He will send forth labourers into His harvest” (Matthew 9:37-38)**. And He sent the disciples out to preach the good news of His gift of salvation.

The harvest is truly plentiful here in Cairns. Being near the end of the sugar cane harvest, it is easy to visualize the message of Matthew 9:37-38 as we look out across the ripened cane fields. The white silk tassels at the top of the ripened cane glisten in the sun and move gently back and forth in the wind and seem to say, “Come, we’re ready, harvest us.” While most folks in Cairns do not physically say, “Come, we’re ready, harvest us,” there are many people who are quite ready to receive the Good News of Jesus Christ. We must, like D.L. Moody, go to them and prayerfully reap the harvest that is waiting.

Aroha, Elizabeth and Maurice Tahana’s 17-year-old daughter, was saved on Sunday, August 21. Elizabeth and Maurice are rejoicing in the salvation of Aroha. Please pray for Aroha as we disciple her and bring her along in Christ. She faces the many challenges of being a teenager in an ungodly world.

Please be in prayer for our youth camp that is coming up the week of September 19. We presently have 20 teens signed up to attend the camp along with several parents. We’ll have two preaching times each day plus evening devotions and heaps (as they say here in Australia) of good, clean Christian fun.

Further prayer points:

1. Coastline Baptist Church: growth, new Christians to become strong and faithful, souls to be saved.
2. Monday night Bible College classes—there are currently four people attending.
3. Weekly soul winning and letterboxing outreach.
4. Discipleship lessons with Shaun & Jess Pout, George Donnelly, David Vo, the Keletos, the Aroha Tahana, Elizabeth and Maurice Tahana, Momo Seakea and Gaye Willie-Gavera.
5. The chaplain ministry at Redlynch State College.
6. The salvation of Matt Eldridge. Matt has been attending our church for several weeks now. The first Sunday he came was the first time in his life that he had ever walked through the doors of a church. Matt has neither Bible background nor Bible knowledge. He is coming from ground zero as far as spirituality is concerned. He listens intently to the messages and is eager to learn more about the Bible and Christ. Please pray for Matt’s salvation.
7. The salvation of James Quinn, Alisha’s husband. James will be leaving for duty at sea with the Navy in a few short weeks. He has asked for some books and gospel literature to take with him as he is away at sea. James, like Matt, had never been in church before coming to our church and also has neither Bible background nor Bible knowledge. Pray for James’s salvation.
8. Pray for George and Lorna Donnelly. (I wrote about them in our August prayer letter.) George was saved July 16. They are moving at the end of September to Tasmania. We are sad to see them go as they have been so faithful and have grown in Christ in the short time they’ve been with us. Pray that we can help them locate a good, Bible-believing church in Tasmania. We’ve not yet been able to locate one.

It is estimated that more than 25% of the world’s population have never heard of Jesus’ love even once. As Christ’s disciples today, let’s not just talk about the need—let’s pray and go. Truly the harvest is plenteous. Thank you for your faithful support, your prayers and for standing with us. Thank you, too, for rejoicing with us as we seek to hold high the cross.

In Christ,

*Alan, Sandy & Selina*

The DeLongs



Ripen Sugar Cane Fields



Elizabeth, Aroha and Maurice Tahana on the day Aroha trusted Christ.

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