



Apples

Damsons

Peaches

Tomatoes

Peppers

Figs

~Harvesting Fruit~

## In the Daily with Diane

September 2011

This past year as our Sunday School Class has been reading through the New Testament, it really stood out to me how all of Paul's letters say pretty much the same thing: a greeting, his thankfulness for those to whom he's writing, his confession of praying for them, a challenge in some area (always!) and how God has prepared a way for them to meet that challenge.

This morning in my reading in 2 Peter 1, Peter writes *"So I will always remind you of these things, even though you know them and are firmly established in the truth you now have. <sup>13</sup> I think it is right to refresh your memory as long as I live in the tent of this body..."* In chapter 3, Peter refers to Paul saying, *"He writes the same way in all his letters,..."* So why does this matter?

Recently while I was working in So. California and preparing to speak at a church, I realized that my message almost always has the same theme, just newer examples. That theme is God's faithfulness, His love, His gifts, how He calls us to use those gifts for the benefit of the whole body and YES, You have a gift from God too - no matter who you are! The following are just some of the recent examples of this theme in and around my life!

Most missionaries really don't do administration very well; they could but they would rather be doing just about anything else. Many missionaries are very good leaders but would rather not be in a leadership role because of the admin tasks that come with it. Over the years InnerCHANGE (IC) could have expanded into several other cities/countries, if only there had been someone willing to lead the work. During the past year, IC has been doing some re-organizing. We are growing, and being able to steward the workers well and for the long-haul is one of our values.

One result of this re-organization is a new job for me - using my gifts/talents/education/passion for administration - to bless the whole Body. The title is Director of Operations. What that means is I now get to work with not just one or two of our teams, like Cambodia or Romania, but all 14 teams ☺, in Human Resources and all things financial: documentation, tracking, reporting, setting up, monitoring, etc.,- all things I LOVE to do. I will still be doing one on one mentoring with IC missionaries in areas such as support raising, field preparation, cultural and conflict resolution.

And this is Biblical - In Acts 6, Steven and six others are chosen to *administer*. The result was "So the word of God spread. The number of disciples in Jerusalem increased rapidly..." v.7. My hope is for more of His people to be able to be about the work of praying and spreading the Gospel with freedom, using the gifts and love God has given them.



**From GA. To the Ends of the Earth**

**Other Changes:** Yesterday morning at 5:30am, I was talking with Abigail in **Romania**. Abigail is the last IC missionary in Romania and has been there without teammates for almost 18 months. We have been trying to find others to join Abigail but this hasn't happened. She is leaving Romania September 5th, returning to the US to discern which IC team God is now calling her to join. While listening to Abigail share about the growing youth program at her church, the consistent weekly prayer gathering, and how her church sees themselves as being her "sending" church to a new team - again I could see God's faithfulness. IC's and Abigail's time, work and love in Romania have not been in vain. What we could not bring about through adding new teammates, God has chosen to continue through His Romanian people. Thanks be to God.

**Cambodia** is also without InnerCHANGE American staff and will be for the next 12 to 18 months. Our Cambodian staff are now strong enough to stand on their own with help as needed via email, skype and an occasional visit from the Asia Regional Director.

And **ME** - For the last 10 years, I've been a diabetic - taking both pills and insulin shots. Oct. 7th 2010, my blood sugar was high for the 3rd morning in a row and something changed within me. I'm not sure why, as this wasn't the first time my blood sugar was high for several days but something did change. And a confession, I've prayed several times that I would wake up just skinny one morning, and then I'd start eating right. This time I decided to just start eating right and exercising and change has started to happen. I stopped taking insulin shots in January and then pills as well in April. I still test my blood sugar every morning and even without any sort of medication it's lower than most of my good days before eating healthy. My taste buds have changed too. I'm really enjoying eggplant, squash, cabbage, zucchini, tofu (truly amazing!)... and I feel GREAT!

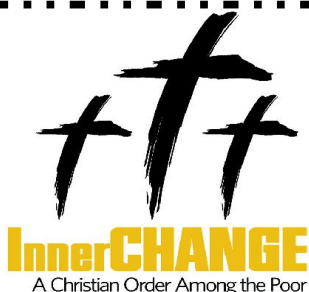
What freedom it was to travel recently and not have to worry about medication and refrigeration, etc., and to even have some wiggle-room in the airplane seat (though I'd still rather not be in the airplane at all!). Oh and it's not a "diet", it's just daily life.

**My mom** is still doing well. Her knee replacement is now old news and rarely gives her a thought any longer. Thankfully, I think we are pretty much done with harvesting and canning all the fruits and veggies from our trees, vines and neighbors. Maybe in my next letter I'll share about how living in Cambodia really prepared me for living in rural GA.

**With Delight in the Daily, Diane**

~Ways to Pray~

- 1) Those suffering loss due to Hurricane Irene.
- 2) Abigail and her transition from Romania. For those Romanians in her church still carrying the Light.
- 3) Balance in all things - between work, helping my mom, being involved in our local community. Working with 14 teams means that work is happening 24/7/365 due to time zones.



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