

August 2017

In Step with the Reeds

"...encouraging one another; and all the more, as you see the day drawing near" (Hebrews 10.25).

Hi Everyone!

"HOW ARE YOU?" "I'M FINE." Typical North American greeting, wouldn't you say? Recently, we were reminded of a possible interpretation of that in the form of an acronym: **F**eelings **I**nside **N**ot **E**xpressed! ☺ Ain't it the truth!!! Oh, to have 'safe' people in our lives who want to explore with discernment and compassion our "FINE" responses!

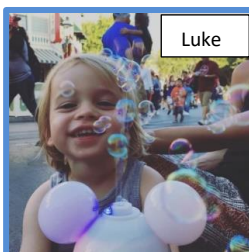
We recently read this great little book entitled, **Them, the Richer Life in Caring for Others**, by John Certalic. We highly recommend this read in that God has called **all** of us to be "care-givers." One of the most basic and difficult practices he encourages in the book is that of truly **LISTENING** to another. When we resist the urge to "fix," we will listen to "understand" more than to "be understood."

The author suggests that we need remember only two questions when we want to inquire into the life of another that will honor the person. The **first** is one we ask ourselves, "**WHAT MUST IT BE LIKE TO BE THAT PERSON?**" Then other questions will naturally flow from that, like: "What's the worst part of it for you? And, "How are your friends and relatives responding to you? Or, "Where is God in all of this for you?" The **second** question we can ask is pretty simple. It's a follow up question that most of our grandchildren have down well..."**WHY?**" or "**WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT?**" or "**CAN YOU GIVE ME AN EXAMPLE OF THAT?**"

These are just a few thoughts from this book that may encourage and challenge you as they have us. **Please pray that we will be those kind of listeners to our missionaries!!!**

On another note, the Lord has clarified our Fall plans. For two weeks in October we will invade North Carolina to attend a "Pastors to Missionaries Conference" and to connect face-to-face with five other ACTION couples who will be in the state at the same time! The conference is very encouraging for us, and a great place to network with hundreds of other missionary care-givers from around the world! Visiting the ACTION couples is "icing on the cake." One is on furlough. Two are headed out. Two work from the area.

We will cover a lot of ground, traveling from the Smokey Mountains to the Outer Banks, so **we would appreciate your prayers for safe travels and significant conversations**. Also, we had enough work-funds to cover the conference cost and airfare, but need help with a rental car and basic traveling costs. **If you would like to help us with these expenses, you can donate online, or send a check to the address noted in the box below. Thanks so much!**



Luke



Treble

To donate on-line, **hold control key down while clicking HERE** ,
OR

Send a check or money order marked, **Travel Work Fund for John & Georgie**,
TO:

Action International Ministries, PO Box 398, Mountlake Terrace, WA 98043-0398
(Tel. 425.775.4800)

ACTION website: www.actioninternational.org

Thank all of you who prayed for us as we traveled north for family reunions in Washington and Canada this summer. We had an amazing time together; introducing one of our little grandsons, Treble, to his aunts, uncles and second cousins! Unfortunately, Adam, Kristal and Luke couldn't join us this year, but we were able to celebrate Luke's 3rd birthday just before we left!

We continue to regularly connect with many of our missionaries via Skype, Email, WhatsApp and Facebook. Catie Smith, a missionary to the Philippines, recently blessed us when she joined us in CA for several days! It was only in March when we visited her ministry in Iloilo! We got to take her sailing, thanks to some good friends here who invited us all to join them for the day! We're looking forward to hosting Erin Johnson (Philippines) next month for a few days! We love our "face-to-face" time with our folks, both with them on their fields and here at our home!!



John's chaplain ministry with Segaar Company continues to grow ever more significant as he builds friendships with the men. He listens to their hearts' concerns for their families, and more of them are reaching out for his help.

Together we reach out to their families. **Please pray for us,** not only as we seek to turn their eyes to Jesus and the Word, but also for diligence and retention as we continue to learn Spanish (these old brains need help!) ☺

We appreciate each of you SO much! Thank you for supporting us as we support others! We pray that you will continue to grow in God's grace and truth as you LISTEN, first and foremost, to His voice in your life, and then, in turn, to the soul-talk of those around you! God Bless You!

Embracing the Journey with JOY!

John and Georgie Reed

