

Southeast Caribbean Dispatch

June 2009

Here it is the end of June already; boy has this year been fling by for us. What about you, has this year been a busy one for you? We are out of our house and are staying with friends till we depart for our new home in Barbados. We sold one of our cars, and will be selling our van right before or after we leave. We have stored some of our personal items and the rest are setting in crates ready to ship. We just got back from Arkansas and Oklahoma and Indianapolis, visiting friends. We also picked up books from College Press and are shipping them down to Guyana, S.A. Kenroy is starting a library for them.

We have several prayer requests. We are having trouble finding good health insurance for Kandi. We will be doing a lot of traveling between now and the time we arrive in Barbados. Our support is still coming in but very slow, and that our work permits come in soon.

Our spiritual leaders are now in place and they are the Elders and Evangelist from Tyler Street Church of Christ, and the Elders and Minister of Diamond Christian Church. We will be reporting to them regularly on our work in Barbados. They will be continually praying for the success of God's work for us in this mission.

I am so thankful for this new beginning. When one door closes, another door opens. Change is not always easy for me, but sometimes necessary, and in our best interests. I am so glad that God offered me an opportunity to change for the better. I trust Him because He knows the future and He want what is best for me and you. I pray, "God, Help me, my family, my friends, my fellow Christian family members, to make wise decisions, to trust in God's guidance, to follow His lead, and to know what is His will is versus the tricks of Satan or our own selfish desires." May (I) we always do His will and walk in His way. I know God will bless us and He will be glorified when we do.

I will never forget the day in junior high school when I went to the gymnasium to view the list of those who made the basketball team. Several of us went excitedly to see who was on the list and who was not. There was my name at the very bottom of the list, the last one picked. I had finally been one that got picked! The feelings of exhilaration were beyond description for a fourteen year old. Those who didn't make it were sad and downcast. Most of us growing up either landed on "picked" or the "unpicked" side of life. I often hear others say, "I never got picked for anything. I wasn't very good in sports or music," that was me most of the time.

God has opened this mission door and choose me to walk through it. He has said, "You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit - fruit that will last" (John 15:16). It is awesome to be picked by the God of the universe and to be on His team. When God chose you and me, He knew what He was doing. God doesn't always pick those who have the greatest skill, the greatest aptitude, or even the greatest personality. However, He always has something in mind for those He picks. There is one thing He requires of you and me when He picks us. We are to be fruit-bearers. We are not to be fruit-makers, but fruit-bearers. Our goal should not be to bear fruit. Our goal should be to know the One who chose us and makes the fruit. When we really know the one who chose us, fruit will be a natural by-product.

Today, as you begin your workday, consider where you will drop some fruit. It might be by praying for a co-worker. It might be by simply greeting someone cheerfully during lunch. It might be by leading someone to the Savior today, or helping someone in need. Share your fruit freely.

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Blessings in Christ,
Orvel Griffith

Kandi's Kaments

Watched the news this evening and it was about the homeless people around the country from all that lost their homes in these economically challenged times. We have been saying that we are homeless....but not like them. We have a wonderful Christian family that we can depend on (and we are) to keep a roof over our heads for the time being. We are just truly grateful that God has gone before us and prepared the way for us. In selling our house and then making it feasible for us to rent back until we were ready to move out. What a wonderful blessing that was. Now the body of Christ is really doing what God asks all of us to do for each other. I ask you to look around your own neighborhood and see what you can do to help someone out. There are lots of shelters that could use some volunteer help right now. Be a blessing to someone else today, and you will be blessed.

Waiting on the Lord,

Kandi