



THE ANDERSONS

Looking Out For Enemies

Tin Man, Dorothy and Scarecrow are walking through a dark forest.

D: *I don't like this forest. It's dark.*

SC: *Of course, I don't know, but I think it will get darker before it gets lighter.*

D: *Do you suppose we'll meet any wild animals?*

TM: *We might.*

SC: *Animals that eat straw?*

TM: *Some, but mostly lions and tigers and bears.*

Together:

Lions and tigers and bears, oh my!

Perhaps this is the strangest beginning for a newsletter you've ever read and is probably a first. Most start with a quote from Scripture, not the Wizard of Oz. Oddly enough, it sums up our observations of the first three months of our second term, with a couple of minor set and character changes. There really isn't a forest. It's just darkness. Spiritual darkness. And we're going to change tigers and bears, to foxes and wolves.

Since our return we have been very much aware of the darkness and the powers of darkness that have increased activity in Mongolia. In spite of reports of the growing numbers of people professing Christianity, the reality is it really does seem as if Scarecrow got it right: "it will get darker before it gets lighter" and yes, there does seem to be an increase of predators seeking to destroy the church in Mongolia.

Lion references should be fairly obvious. The warning is found in 1 Peter 5:8. "Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour." **Shamanism** has sunk it's lion-fangs even deeper in Mongolian society (see Page2).

Matthew 10:16 and 7:15 are equally applicable to life here. Those who go out in Jesus' name, whether national or



LIONS AND TIGERS AND BEARS? IN MONGOLIA? OH MY!

international workers, find themselves needing the wisdom of God and "dove-like" innocence. Unfortunately, in the short history of the church in Mongolia there are already false prophets, wolves who disguise themselves as sheep. Too many church leaders preach a message of **syncretism** (page 2 again) which deceives and leads astray.

For those of you who are part of our prayer focus, **pray:Mongolia**, you probably picked up a clue from the reference to "foxes." For those who aren't, (if you're interested read page 3 of



MERCY - THE NEWEST ANDERSON



SAME CITY, NEW APARTMENT



THE ANDERSONS

“Behold, I am sending you out as sheep in the midst of wolves ...”

Matthew 10:16

the newsletter!) here is why we've changed to foxes. Thinking of Solomon's oft quoted warning to be cautious of "Little Foxes" (Song of Solomon 2:15), we've found that it's the accumulation of little things that can ultimately discourage. We have faced many "little foxes" since returning to Mongolia, including sicknesses, allergies, car problems, terrible traffic, computer problems, and all the other little daily challenges of living life as strangers and aliens in a strange land.

In the end we covet your prayers during these days. Pray we'd each have wisdom and grace to deal with the many enemies we may find in the Land of Oz.

“... SO BE WISE AS SERPENTS AND INNOCENT AS DOVES.”

SHAMANS AND SYNCRETISM

As this newsletter was being written, we had a conversation with a young woman named “Haliuna”. She has been our househelper for several years, and has become a good friend of our family. She told us how her hometown (a small village called “Barun Haraa”) has become a stronghold for shaman activities, and that the shamans are pushing for every family in Mongolia to have a shaman in the family. She also told us that she just found out the apartment she is now renting was previously used by a shaman and she asked Bernie, “How should I pray?” He explained to her that as a Daughter of God she has spiritual authority and that she should verbally proclaim this in her home.

We are finding that the resurgence of shamanism in Barun Haraa is not an isolated incident, but is happening across the country. A “church leader” from one of our churches in another city recently left her church, her

home, her husband and everything she professed to believe to become a shaman in another city. This is another evidence of what may be **the** major issue facing the Mongolian church today: *syncretism*.

Syncretism is the fusion of differing and even opposing beliefs and practices. The predominant religion of Mongolia (Buddhism) is syncretistic by definition. Therefore, it stands to reason the “smorgasbord” approach to faith is common occurrence. Many people in the church have made a profession of faith in Christ, but have never renounced their old Buddhist or Shamanist belief system. We need great wisdom to know how we are to minister Christ to people like this.

Pray for wisdom for all who are working with the Mongolian church. The need for discipleship and leadership training has never been greater or more urgent. Your partnership with us is greatly needed and appreciated!



The rise of Shamanism in Mongolia has also brought an increase of alcoholism. Vodka consumption is a part of many Shamanistic rituals. Haliuna told us that many of the people in her home town are not only enslaved to the shamans, but also enslaved to the bottle. Pray for the people of Barun Haraa.





Prayer: *Only* the First Work?

Our conviction of this only grows stronger. As we've returned to Mongolia to face all that we are up against, it seems that we must also take the next step in our understanding of prayer. It is not just the first work - but perhaps even the second and third.

"I USED TO THINK THAT PRAYER SHOULD HAVE THE FIRST PLACE AND TEACHING THE SECOND. I NOW FEEL IT WOULD BE TRUER TO GIVE PRAYER THE FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD PLACES AND TEACHING THE FOURTH."

JAMES O. FRASER

You Are Working With Us!

If this is true, then your participation with us for the Kingdom in Mongolia is vital. We have made a very tangible way for you to partner with us through the **pray:Mongolia** initiative. All we are asking you to do is to gather a small group of folks who are interested in the work here who will commit to praying together for one hour per month. Let us know who you are (you may contact us through our [website](#)) along with when and where you are meeting, and you will receive monthly media and requests to assist you in your prayer times. Your partnership with us in this way is vital and we hope that you will join with us!

Check out the latest [video on Leadership Training](#).



JONATHAN

JOANTHAN IS BEGINNING HIS SECOND YEAR AT THE EVANGELICAL INSTITUTE IN GREENVILLE, SC. AFTER SPENDING ALL SUMMER WORKING, HE'S ENJOYING TIME AWAY FROM THE "9-5 DRAG" AS A SECOND YEAR STUDENT. WE MISS HIM TREMENDOUSLY, BUT ARE GLAD TO KNOW HE'S IN GOOD HANDS.



CORI

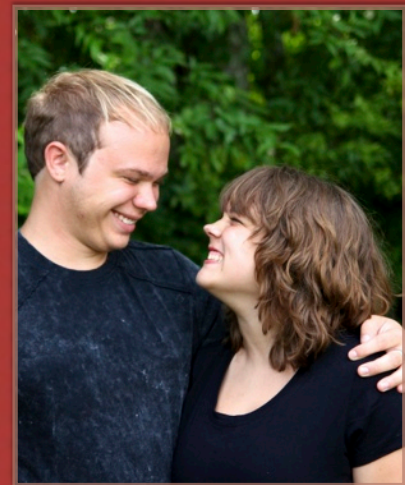
CORI JUST STARTED HER SENIOR YEAR OF HIGH SCHOOL. (HOW DID THAT HAPPEN?) SHE'S STUDYING HARD FOR HER S.A.T.'S, WORKING HARD AT UBEAN COFFEE HOUSE AND SOCIALIZING HARD WITH HER FRIENDS IN MONGOLIA, FRANKLIN AND AROUND THE GLOBE. SHE IS DEFINITELY AN ACTIVE TEENAGER, AND SEEMS TO BE ENJOYING HER FINAL YEAR OF HIGH SCHOOL.



BERNIE AND RENEE'

AFTER TAKING SOME TIME TO GET BACK INTO THE SWING OF THINGS HERE, BERNIE AND RENE'E' ARE EASING BACK INTO MINISTRY WATERS. RESTARTING STUDENT AND WOMENS' MINISTRY AND DISCIPLESHIP, ALONG WITH THE WORK OF LEADERSHIP TRAINING SHOULD KEEP SCHEDULES FULL THROUGH THE COMING WINTER MONTHS.

THANK YOU FOR PARTNERING WITH US!



CURRENT PRAYER REQUESTS

1. THAT ALL FOUR OF US WOULD MAINTAIN A CONSISTENT AND PASSIONATE RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS
2. FOR OUR PHYSICAL HEALTH
3. FOR JONATHAN TO HAVE A SPIRITUALLY PROFITABLE YEAR AT BIBLE SCHOOL
4. FOR CORI TO FINISH HER HIGH SCHOOL YEARS WELL
5. FOR THE RAISING UP OF MONGOLIAN LEADERS (PARTICULARLY MEN) WHO WILL LEAD THE CHURCH WITH POWER HUMILITY AND GENTLENESS.

How You Can Support Us

GCF Support - Your regular giving to the **Great Commission Fund** is what keeps us along with 800 other C&MA Workers on the Field. We urge all of our partners to make this a giving priority.

Outfit Fund - You may designate money to "**Bernie and Renee' Anderson - Outfit Fund**" and this money will be used for items needed for the rigors of daily life in Mongolia. We had several large, unexpected expenses when moving back here. Your help is greatly appreciated!

Work Special - You may designate money to "**Bernie and Renee' Anderson - Work Special**". This helps us to fund the ministry we are doing in the city.

You may give through your local C&MA church or send your designated checks to the following:

Christian and Missionary Alliance

**P.O. Box 35000
Colorado Springs, CO
80935-3500**

You may now also **give directly to our support**. If you are interested in our work and would like to participate with us financially, [you may do so online](#). Donations here will be to the Great Commission Fund and be **used for our support**.

We Greatly appreciate your partnership with us!