

Ministry Moments

Temera & Wylie

NAIM

NORTH AMERICA
INDIGENOUS MINISTRIES



May 2019

Wylie's Update

There is so much going on that we can engage with our days are full. After a year at Mission Kids, the kids are opening up. Worship has been erupting on the bus ride home. "If I could relive my life, I would devote my entire ministry to reaching children for God!" -D.L. Moody. Family games night which I drove bus for, presents another opportunity for the moms (and dads) of the kids we connect with, to make a connection to the church family.

I was surprised to discover that the Cyrus Youth Centre has been bringing kids to recovery church in Langley. I was able to bring a carload one evening. I witnessed the baptism of two of the guys who have felt the love of Christ.

I consciously begin the day with an awareness that I am broken and in need of the Holy Spirit to empower and use as He will. Using the gentleness and respect model, I want to help people think their way through to good answers. I picked up a hitchhiker as he was on his way to a sweat. We had twenty minutes. We talked about the Creator and the afterlife, residential schools and justice, Jesus and the purpose of the universe. He said he didn't know the Creator, but prayed to him daily. He asked me what I believed. As I dropped him off for his sweat, I asked him if I could pray to the Creator with him, and prayed that S would know the Creator in truth. I gave him a hug and asked him if he would like some of my artwork. It was an enjoyable encounter, and God was right there with us.



Wylie and Mission Kids bus

I wrote last time that a young man out of recovery was getting back on track. Thank you for your prayers for him! "K" was transitioning into his own place and was spending time with our family. He relapsed again and it became a difficult situation where I needed to protect my family, and on the other hand I didn't know if he was dead or alive. The cycle of addiction needs to be broken. He chose Christ, and I am praying for a continued desire for God and hunger for the word in the life of "K."

Another man Shawn found NAIM online. Temera recommended Joshua House to him, and I have been working with him since he came to town. He is a believer who is eager to find support and grounding in his faith after leaving all he has known in a life of addiction, prison, and gangs. He was able to join us on the Men's NAIM retreat and was warmly received by the men. It was an encouraging time for him.

The season of grey cloudy weather is evaporating. Thank you for all the ways you support us.

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Appreciating His creation

Temera's Update

Sitting at the lunch table in the NAIM office I talked about the things that can't be written in a newsletter for reasons of confidentiality. Supporting people during the hardest time in their lives means I go where I never thought I would go. Physically I walk alongside, but it is the conversations that challenge me beyond my own capacity. The pain I see and hear about drains me emotionally. However, restoration is happening and positive changes are being made. Most of all my hope is for God to be known. Please pray that as I minister I would be bold and gracious for Jesus in words and actions and that as I fall to my knees He would fill me up.

InDoubt ministry of Good News Broadcasting asked me to record my first ever Podcast. Years ago, I was part of a recorded interview that left me feeling like words were put in my mouth. Nervously, I decided to go through with this podcast but asked if I could hear it before it was put online. The entire experience from beginning to end was positive as I felt, safe, heard and respected. Please visit indoubt.ca and listen to episode 169 Exploring the World: First Nations Spirituality. The same night it was posted online a First Nations Christian man messaged me to say he was encouraged by the podcast

because there are so few Indigenous Christians that he knows. As the days went on there were other messages, friend requests and phone calls from people that had listened, were encouraged and had learned.

While at Prairie College I gave a seminar and the room was packed full with people sitting on the floor. One of the woman had talked to me the day before with some concerns and questions about culture and spirituality. She was First Nations, but had grown up not knowing her culture. During the presentation, I spoke about the need to have understanding and compassion. As I looked at her I could see that she was dealing with emotions. Later that day she came to me and apologized for breaking down during my presentation. I told her that there was no need to apologize. She said that something had released in her and that it was going to take some time to process all that she went through as she listened. There are many First Nations people that have grown up not knowing or accepting their identity because they were not connected with immediate or extended family. It was such a privilege to be part of this woman's journey as she was exploring her identity as a First Nations person.



Screenshot of InDoubt Facebook post

Prayer & Praise:

Wylie was in communication with a man who was in prison over the winter during which his sister was murdered. He is in a halfway house now, but is no longer staying in contact. Please pray that the Lord would draw him closer.

Preparations for SMI training, placements and many other logistical details are under way for 5 people coming. Please pray for another male to come because we can't send out someone alone. Pray for the SMI'ers to be prepared, financially provided for and that they would seek Him every moment as they minister in the communities.

Ashling has three days of daycare and has grown to enjoy her time with friends. She is running, climbing, eating more and learning more words each day. It was a difficult two weeks of transition for mom and Ashling. Temera is able to get an amazing amount accomplished during this time.

Many donations have come in and the continued contributions mean that most of our 2019 budget will be met. Thank you all for your generous support!

To support this ministry financially, checks should be made out to NAIM and mailed to the NAIM Office. **Donations should be designated for Project #935.**

Donations can also be made online at www.naim.ca/donate