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Mount Currie Ministry Moments

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INDIGENOUS MINISTRIES

Wylie's Update

For decades I have been wary of Word Faith and some of its excesses. But in seeking God's perspective and sufficiency, over my own insufficiency and weakness, I am digging deeper to take Jesus at His word. I am encouraged by the powerful things God is doing through others, and I am continually brought back to not missing the first step, which is nearness to Him accompanied by His word.

Over New Years, we helped host a youth group from Vancouver, and brought local youth that wanted to join. It was a wonderful getaway for the youth, with a peaceful relaxed family atmosphere in a cozy ski chalet, fun and games, music and devotionals. The youth enjoyed sledding down a long hill, BB gun target shooting, food, and learning new skills. The youth spent time with us a couple more times as well as we brought them out of town for sledding.

One friend is having wiring installed in his home after going 35 years without. We were able to help with groceries and mattresses during this transition. Bibles have been gladly received by a couple of different women. After prayer, one of them reports healing so as to be able to be mobile again to gather with others, and able to find artistic energy. Over a dozen packaged Christmas goodies were given out. New numbers of friends are seeking detoxification and rehab for alcohol addiction. Before getting firewood with a friend, we prayed that as he turns from wrongdoing, that God would help him with the anger in his heart, that his desire to be sober would be answered with strength by God, and he would find the ability to trust Him. Language class is on again, bringing opportunities to learn, research, converse, and relate to others.

One friend is not doing very well health wise lately. After bringing him to the clinic, I put my hand on him as I prayed for his health and ability to trust God. Then he said, "I think God heard you!" I prayed with another friend after spending the afternoon together. He said he hadn't prayed in awhile. I told him I think God misses you. He said, "I know, I felt the tingles when you said Amen."

Temera's Update

Local ministry involves much of my extended family, especially nieces and nephews. Being with children has always been a joy of mine. Seeing them learn something new, feel safe and be able to express their emotions is important to me. Just this week I restarted my healing from trauma (EMDR) work with a psychologist. When my step dad was in the hospital I had stopped and did not have the energy to restart. It is exhausting to work through pain I experienced as a child and teenager. When I revisit these moments of trauma, I am amazed at how quickly the feelings of fear, shame, sadness and hurt come to the surface. In these past moments of trauma I made decisions such as I will never ask for help or need someone; I will not trust what people say they will do; I must always work, work, work; I am stupid; I am lazy; I am never good enough. My psychologist explained to me that when children are expected to act as adults they will fail because they are not developed enough to do adult things. Sharing these personal experiences is difficult but it is a reminder of what many First Nations people are living with or have lived through. In order to survive our people had to stuff emotions; work through extreme physical pain; endure abuse and not acknowledge it; face trauma over and over again. Be strong is what we were told if we cried or were scared. Being strong usually reaches its tipping point.

As I spend time with children I celebrate who they are and engage in what is important to them. On Christmas Eve it was difficult to celebrate without both my parents and things have changed for my family. What joy to see almost all my nieces and nephews that I have poured into come for our family dinner. Some had to travel through winter snow driving conditions. I am always grateful when a teenager or young adult chooses to spend time with me. Christmas is not an easy holiday for many and my goal for the last 25 years has been to create a place and time of celebration. My extended family, including these nieces and nephews, have endured much pain. What a pleasure to feed my family delicious food, see their joy as they unwrap their gifts and laugh as we play games.

At the end of the holidays I was putting away decorations. Ashling said, "Don't put away the nativity scene." It was a new gift from my nephew. A child was over for a play date and she said, "what is the nativity?" Ashling was able to explain each of the characters of the nativity to her. Just recently I was driving a young girl home and Ashling was repeatedly singing a song about love. In the stanza she likes to sing it does not mention Jesus but how love will carry us through the storms in life. The little girl's older brother died from suicide and recently she had to move in with her grandmother. She speaks with a strong lisp but she started singing the song with Ashling over and over again.

One of my young nephews, actually a third cousin I think, was visiting. I started talking about my birthday and that we are going to make sushi for my party. He said he wanted to come. I told him I have invited him in the past but he has been away the last three years during my birthday. He then told me he would skip out on his sport or whatever was happening so he can come to my birthday dinner. As soon as he got home he told his mom about it. He is only 8. Melt my heart.

Going forward please pray for preparation for RSR and that God would draw the children that He wants to be there. Often times I am stopped by parents that tell me their children can't wait for RSR or children saying that they are coming to RSR. This year I want to be better at recruiting local help which means I need to communicate ahead of time. Thank you for your support, prayers and care.



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