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**NAIM**  
NORTH AMERICA  
INDIGENOUS MINISTRIES

## SPRING 2023

Dear Faithful Friends,

The crocuses finally are pushing through the cold ground, signaling the start of spring. It has been a long winter and the sun seemed to hide away most days. Today the sun is shining and we feel the warmth bringing life to the ground.

This describes the spiritual struggles and heartache of our territory. Once again, we have mourned deeply the loss of dear friends. Twelve funerals in the first three months is

unprecedented. Many question when will this death toll end? In the midst of our sorrows, we have seen heartwarming answers to our prayers.

Last fall one of our sister's husband walked out on her and their precious daughter. Deeper he sank into alcoholism and destructive choices. Standing beside her, our hearts broke for them. She called out for help in January and the fellowship helped pay her way to a week-long grieving seminar, "Healing the Heart," up north. She came back

determined to begin her walk with Jesus again after a 15-year absence. Step by step we see her trust in her Heavenly Father being restored. One day we were on our way to Kamloops for a meeting she had set up for the legal separation mediation. On the way, she turned and said "You know, I really don't want to go to this meeting. I don't feel like God wants me to." When she talked through her reasons for setting it up she confessed her heart was full of anger. She asked the Father for forgiveness and the next thing we knew...her cell phone was ringing and the mediator would not be available for the meeting. Wide-eyed she thanked God for answering so quickly. She longs to let go of control and trust Jesus in this journey. In October she lost her Father and in January she lost her Uncle who was also close like a father. Can you pray for her as she grieves these losses? In January we began a Bible study comparing Ruth (Naomie's grief) and Philippians (Paul's joy). She loves the redemption that is flowing out of her grief. Other women have joined. One other sister, who also walked away many years ago will be joining us next week. Please pray for this ongoing restoration.







Bobby began coming to fellowship in February when he came home on the weekends. He shared how he came to know Jesus years ago in prison. He too was achieving as his spouse had declined into the drug world and his 12-year-old son, Raven was grieving the loss of his mother. He brought Raven with him to fellowship. We were doing kids club at fellowship so Raven joined in. I could see his keen eyes grasping for the truths we shared. He seemed to enjoy the fellowship time. Bobby called to say he led Raven to the Lord. WOW! Sunrays among the cold days.



So what's ahead? Plans are in the making for a return of Bush Camp for the first week of July. We are excited! We are praying for the group coming from Perth Bible Church in New York. We need a few more counsellors to come. Also pray that all the food buying plans and transportation logistics. Most of all pray for our kids and

all the parents who will be joining the camp to come to Jesus. Please ask the Father for many to find their way to Him.

In August we will celebrate our 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary. Such a great honor to have walked this long side by side. Thank you for all the years you prayed and stood behind us. Blessings!

We also are planning to see you in the fall for a furlough trip. We have heard from a couple in Navajo land who will potentially come to help the fellowship in our absence. We long to see you but we also want to strengthen the fellowship. Please pray with us. This is dear to our hearts.

Finding joy,  
*Mark and Babe*



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