

the
HENRY family

YOKED TOGETHER FOR THE FIELDS ARE WHITE TO HARVEST

✘ **DIRECTION** ✘

"I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth." (1Corinthians 3:6-7 ESV)

DEAR FRIENDS,

As you know from our last letter we are no longer members of Christar. Starting in January we became independent missionaries serving here in Mongolia. Donations made to us are handled by Sent To Serve Ministries, but they are not a sending agency. We applied for and got insurance coverage for our family, although Barb was denied by the first company, she now has a separate policy with another company. So far, other than these surface changes, nothing has really changed with our being here.

I wish the timing would be different for what I want to share in this letter. I wish I knew the future and could be writing to you to tell you where God has lead us and what the future holds for us. Instead, I'll be asking you to pray with us, that we would know God's leading and what He has in store for us in the future. I wish being a missionary meant that I got automatic direction and assurance that what I'm doing is in the center of God's will and that I wouldn't have to struggle with

indecision and wondering if I'm doing what God would have me to do. So what is it I want to share? Through a variety of sources that I have been reading recently the question has been brought up in my mind over and over again, "Is Jason doing what he should be doing in Mongolia?" Or, "Is Jason using his giftedness to its fullest possible effect for the advancement of God's kingdom in what he's doing?" Although this issue touches on "job satisfaction", it isn't so much that I want to be happy and enjoy doing what I do, although that would be nice. It is more - am I using my God given giftedness and being effective in what I'm doing. To give an example, think of the illustration of the sower. We're all called to sow the seeds of the gospel, to share the good news. Now if you are gifted in evangelism it doesn't mean that more people will necessarily believe and become followers of Jesus, but there will be a greater and wider sowing going on. So while everyone is sowing, those with a sowing gift will sow more; and from a human point of view they potentially will



Bat-Bold

Pray for Bat-Bold one of our employees for the past 9 years. He is married with 3 children. Many years ago he showed a little interest in the gospel and sat in on some Bible studies, but recently has shown no interest.



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For the advancement of God's Kingdom

see more fruit from their sowing, although not always. So in this illustration even being faithful doesn't guarantee "results", but rather faithfulness. If I felt gifted in evangelism, I wouldn't measure my success in the number of new believers, but in my faithfulness to sowing, for

I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. (1Corinthians 3:6-7 ESV)

So what does all this have to do with me and our life in Mongolia? It has now been over 12 years since I first came to Tosontsengel. And while our team and I have had a variety of opportunities to share the good news, to teach seeker Bible lessons and to disciple a few from Guunrick's family, the question seems to present itself more and more. "Is this what Jason should be doing in Tosontsengel?" I want to be found faithful in whatever situation I find myself in, I want to persevere when results are visible and when they aren't visible. Up to this point however, I do not feel particularly gifted in the activities I've been involved with here, including Bible teaching, discipling and evangelism. The more I've been here, the more I think I would be more effective in some sort of support role. I know that I enjoyed and felt effective during the 3 years that I helped volunteer doing back-translation for the Mongolian Bible Society here. This past year I've semi-taught myself accounting and have taken over doing the book work for our company here and feel effective in that area, although it isn't directly a spiritual ministry.

So what would I like from you? Would you please pray with us that God's direction for the future would be clear, that He would open and shut doors and give a clear indication to our family for what we are to be about here in Mongolia. Maybe you're thinking, "if he doesn't know what he's supposed to do there, why is he there in the first place." I've had those thoughts too. Maybe I am in the right place, and this is what God has for me at this time? Maybe I'm asking for too much? I know when reading biographies of Christian heroes I'm impressed with what they've done and how God has used them, but when I stand back and realize that 30, 40, 50 years have been compressed into a few hundred pages I understand I'm just reading the highlights. It's what happens during the other 95% of their life that isn't

written about that makes me wonder. These questions are not something that has come up since we first made the decision to leave Christar. These questions have been with me for several years now. We want to be found faithful stewards of all that God has given us, not just of our money and possessions, but also of our time, gifts and talents. So again, please pray with us that God would be glorified and honored in all that we put our hand to do and that we would discern His will for our future.

In Christ,

Jason & Barb

Here are some business keeping items. At the bottom of the first page you'll find our address as usual but now there is also a personal web site you can visit. There won't be a whole lot of new information there, but it'll be a permanent place to find contact information if you misplace these letters, and there should be some new photos. Also at the bottom of this page is the address for Sent To Serve Ministries. If you would like to give towards our ministry, you can make a check out to Sent To Serve Ministries, with a note saying it is for Jason & Barb Henry, and send it to that address. If you'd like an immediate receipt, please include a SASE with your check. **Finally, if you would like to receive this letter via e-mail or our e-mail updates please contact us and let us know.**

In late November I began a 10 week study on 1 John with the Mongol believers. Each day during the week, we had a short passage to read and 2-3 questions to answer concerning what we just read. On Saturdays we gathered together and shared our answers and went over the lesson together. I thought it was a good time to get everyone involved, something more than them just listening to another lesson. They had to "do their homework" on their own and then share their answers. We hope to start up a similar study in 1 Thessalonians soon.

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