



Spirit of Grace

THE MINISTRY OF DENNIS
& BENEDICTA POLLOCK

Herald

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Quiet Days

The older I get, the more I find myself appreciating the apostle Paul's insistence that we aspire to lead a quiet life (1 Thessalonians 4:11). Young people, and especially young men, don't normally list quiet living as one of their major aspirations.

They often thrive on excitement, drama, adrenaline rushes, and constant change. Even conflict may be preferred to quiet, routine, uneventful days. But as you grow older, the years of drama and trauma, and conflict and pressure begin to take their toll. If you are sensible you begin to see the wisdom of the quiet life that Paul advocated. Love for

heart-pounding adrenalin surges is replaced by love for a quiet moment with a cup of tea, or a great book and a comfortable easy chair.

Of course there is still plenty of sufficient drama and pressure in my life, due to our ministry overseas. Dealing with long airport security lines, connecting flights that leave you barely enough time to rush to your next gate, fourteen hour flights crammed in tiny seats, jet lag, and evangelistic and conference meetings with all sorts of variables that can potentially cause problems can test me to the limits of my endurance. This kind of stress and pres-

sure I gladly accept for the glorious privilege of serving as an ambassador for Jesus to the nations. This comes with the territory, or should I say, the calling.

But when we are home and have some time to catch our breath I always seek out the quiet life. I quickly fall back into the same comfortable routines that have become such an integral part of my life in Christ. Exercise in the mornings, watching the news over breakfast to see what is happening in our nation and in the world, constantly reading the Word of God and writing articles gleaned from my time there, having morning Bible studies with my wife, Benedicta, and talking about the progress of the ministry and our latest hopes and dreams, having tea-time with the Lord around five pm, playing praise music in the background and talking to Him about my life and ministry... These are things I

have done so long it would seem almost immoral not to do them.

And then there are Saturday nights. Somehow, sometime many years ago I developed the habit of watching old black and white movies on Saturday evenings. Ben and I do several things to make the night special. I put some scented wax on a wax-warmer to add a special fragrance to the house.



The electric lights are turned off and we light our living room by an oil lamp and a candle, as in days of old. We put on a movie from the 1930's through the 50's (movies made from 1960 on do not qualify). And I will make coffee and have a special dessert, usually strawberries over a low-carb waffle or muffin, with whipped cream on top. No Brad Pitt, Angelina Jolie, Jennifer Aniston, or Tom Cruise for us tonight. We will spend the evening watching actors like Joseph Cotton, Cary Grant, Ava Gardner, Ingrid Bergman, and Humphrey Bogart. These movies reflect back to a time light years past, a time when the good guys always won in the end, and even the bad guys wore jackets and ties, while they plotted and executed their nefarious schemes. It seems like the perfect way to close out the week.

Quiet Days



To many, our life would seem extraordinarily dull, apart from the missions ministry that we do. Yet for us it is just right. We delight in the ministry and we thoroughly enjoy the quiet, simple times as well. One of the most amazing things about the life Jesus calls His people to, is the joy in the Holy Spirit He gives us as we follow Him and begin to develop the routines and the lifestyle that flow out of our walk with Him. We dare not demand that others adopt our particular habits or routines; yet we do maintain that aspiring to a quiet life is indeed a good thing. If we must be loud, if we must voluntarily place ourselves into danger and potential conflict (and sometimes we must – even as Paul did) let it be for the name of our Lord Jesus and not for any thrill-seeking, adrenaline-loving impulse on our part. And let us not forget to give thanks for ordinary, quiet, pleasant days – days with simple pleasures, days lived responsibly, faithfully, and without conflict. Each such day brings us one day closer to that special Day when Christ shall appear for us and take us to Himself.

Philippines in March

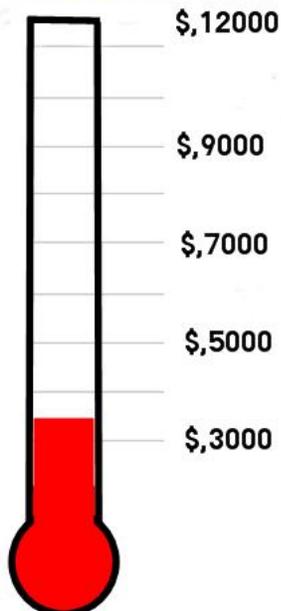


- *FEEDING JESUS SHEEP*
- *EQUIPPING HIS SERVANTS*
- *PREACHING HIS GOSPEL*



This is what our mission to the Philippines is all about! In our morning conference sessions we will be ministering to pastors and church leaders, giving them Biblical insights and tools to help equip them for the ministry of Jesus Christ. In the evening outdoor evangelistic meetings we will be preaching the everlasting gospel of Christ to all who will hear.

MISSION: PHILIPPINES



At the time of publishing this newsletter, we are still in need of about \$8,500 for our projected budget for our mission to the Philippines.

Your donations are needed and greatly appreciated. You can send a check to Spirit of Grace Ministries, PO Box 2068, McKinney, TX, 75070 or you can donate online through PayPal or a credit card.

Because our budget is lean, every gift given makes a big difference in our ability to do this ministry. Small gifts, medium gifts, large gifts—we need them all!

(Initially we had scheduled these meetings for February, but decided to move them to March in order to give our local coordinators plenty of time to prepare.)