



On the Wings of Prayer

“Because thou hast been my help,
therefore in the Shadow of thy wings
will I rejoice:” Psalm 63:7

John Joseph Hawkins November 23, 1933 - March 11, 2011

The past few weeks, I had the privilege to spend a few precious moments with missionary Joe Hawkins. After a lifetime of service in the Amazon region, Joe had a burden to start one more Bible Institute for the indigenous people of north western Brazil. Planting churches and training pastors is what I think of when I think of Joe and Elaine Hawkins. So much has been done and yet the next generation must be reached. There is still much left to do. On my last visit to the hospital, Joe was ready to enter eternity. He was waiting for the last of his children to arrive and bid him leave. His last words to me that day were “Pray that the Lord will take me home tomorrow, I want to go.” He closed his eyes, exhausted from those few words. As I held Elaine’s hand to pray, Joe reached out his hand... So close to Glory. I can only imagine the reception he received. There is no greater work in this world than serving Christ. Joe and Elaine have left us a legacy of faithful service and fruit bearing. Joe has finished his course. Let us finish our own.

John Peeples
IBFI Mission Director

March 2011

- **Frank and Amanda Smith (England)** are expecting their first child in October. Congratulations! The Smith’s are busy traveling to churches to raise needed support. They request prayer for Amanda’s pregnancy and financial needs due to extra medical expenses.
- **Mark and Tricia Haynes (Navajo Nation)** report 42 saved during the church services and 69 during Vacation Bible School for 2010. There were 32 baptized. The Lord continues to pour out His blessings. Three more were recently saved due to the soul-winning program. You are invited to visit their website, www.streamsinthedesertaz.com.
- **Daniel and Michelle Jones (Mexico)** will be starting furlough in September, 2011. During their time in Mexico, they have personally started five churches. Through the Bethesda Fundamental Baptist Church there has been an additional nine churches started. The Bible Institute has trained 60 graduates (30 of these are serving the Lord in full-time service in five different countries). The Institute has 40 students who are training for the ministry. Bethesda Fundamental Baptist church supports 68 missionaries. Praise the Lord!

- **True and Diana Hawkins (Brazil)** want to thank everyone for their kindness during the home going of Joe Hawkins. There were over 100 campers this year for youth camp. Classes have begun at the Bible Institutes. Men and women are being trained for the ministry. The Hawkins' request prayer for the nationals as they take on more of the responsibilities in the ministry there.
- **Larry and Regina McKinney (N. American Indians)** are making some needed repairs on the church building. The work is in need of a van, so more children can be reached for Christ. Please pray for the Indian people that their hearts will be receptive to the gospel.
- **Melissa Houston (Mexico)** will be taking over the responsibilities of a new children's Bible Club. There will be some added expenses involved for supplies and benches. Melissa will also be the Children's Director for the younger children at family camp this year.
- **Ron and Kathy Valerio (Dominican Republic)** are making plans to return to the field in April. The Lord has blessed their time on furlough. They have had the opportunity to give updates on their work and plans for future works. They are grateful for answered prayers concerning some financial needs.
- **Charles and Connie Nixon (N. America Indians)** had a hernia repaired in February and a second stroke. He has been in rehabilitation therapy to help regain his strength. Please continue to pray for his recovery. He is at home, but requires the use of oxygen at night.
- **Daniel and Tammy Coates (Guatemala)** have a young man, Andres de Paz, that was trained in their institute working with them now. He has been a blessing in the church. During soul-winning this year. The Coates' have seen fifteen come to the Lord.
- **Leslie and Alba Priday (Honduras)** are preparing for youth camp in April. Plans are being made for a good turnout of teenagers. The Ladies' Conference was a blessing this year with 57 ladies in attendance. Mrs. Martha Johnson was the special speaker.
- **Ted and Karin Johnson (Medical Leave)** had a good report from the doctor. Ted's blood pressure is under control with medication. He is gaining more strength in his right arm and leg. The work continues in Mexico with Bro. Sergio making plans to start a mission work in the town of Parral.

The Mission Store this year will be May 19, 2011. This is a special blessing to our missionaries. Please plan to be a part by contributing items and gift cards.