



Merry Christmas

From

The Martin & Gracia Burnham Foundation

Support of: Missionary Aviation Tribal Missions The Persecuted Church Muslim Ministries

December 2011

I am writing this from Nipawin Bible College in Saskatchewan, Canada. In our morning meeting, I noticed lots of Tim Horton's coffee cups (Canada's "Starbucks" I guess). There are hockey sticks leaned up against the wall in the hallway outside my little guestroom, and the hint of snow is in the air. I've been on the road, living out of a suitcase, for most of the fall (8 states and 2 provinces of Canada) and how encouraging it has been to see God working in so many places! Here in Canada, everyone wants to talk about the economy in the U.S. and tornados – since I am from Kansas!!



As I travel and tell my story, I encourage those who listen to "Give God What You Have". I often tell the story of the crowd that followed Jesus out into the wilderness and after he had taught them a while, they began to get hungry. Jesus told his disciples to feed them. Well, there was no way the disciples could do that! There were simply too many people! They didn't have the needed resources for that! I so often feel just like the disciples. I see this needy world and wonder how "the

little bit that I have to offer" could ever help.

The story goes on. Jesus said, "What do you have?" "Five bread rolls and 2 fish from that kid over there. But what are they among so many?" We **WISH** we could be the solution but what we have is just so little. Jesus said, "Give that lunch to me." In that moment, Jesus performed a miracle. The whole crowd was fed that day with the boy's lunch! Jesus was responsible for the miracle. The little boy was responsible for handing over his lunch.

Later today, I will encourage the 60 or so students here at Nipawin to "Give God your lunch!" Just offer God what you have – or what you are – and watch Him do great things with it. Can I encourage you readers to do the same? Give God what you

have...whatever that looks like in your life. God can use anything. And He can use anybody. Just give what you have to Him and sit back and watch what He does.



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Do you wish to have your name
removed from our mailing list?

Do you have a friend who would like receive these mailings?

Send us a message through our website

www.graciaburnham.org

"Contact Us"

"Send a Message"

Welcome New Friends...

To those of you who have signed up to begin receiving our foundation mailings, WELCOME! To those of you who have wondered why the mail outs have been so "random", let me share one of my favorite sayings with you ...



It is my honor to have each of you aboard. Thank you for your interest in the **Martin and Gracia Burnham Foundation**.

Upon my return to the U.S. after our hostage situation, many of you were generous in giving to us. Someone wise encouraged me to start a foundation and that is what we did. When you give, we pass 100% of your tax deductible gift along to ministries that we have a heart for, that work in these areas:

- **Muslim ministries**
- **Tribal evangelism**
- **Missionary aviation**
- **Our suffering brothers and sisters around the world.**

We have some wonderful stories of how God has used the money you've given to meet needs in these very areas. You make us who we are and we appreciate your support through giving and through your prayers. We welcome your comments and questions at: (816) 866-0406.

Your Gifts at Work

Our last foundation board meeting was held at McCormick Armstrong in downtown Wichita. McCormick has been so very kind to us...storing and shipping my books to events and printing the foundation mailings. Thank you, Jake!! May God Bless you for your kindness to us!

Here is where we sent the money that you so generously donated.

- \$20,000 TransWorld Radio Project Hannah
- \$18,800 Ibaloi translation fund
- \$9,000 Agusan Manubo NT Printing Project
- \$6,500 Tausug translation assistant
- \$4,700 NTMA Bolivia Flight Program
- \$2,000 Prison ministry in Manila
- \$2,000 Contingency training for pilots



The Ibaloi translation team getting some work checked!



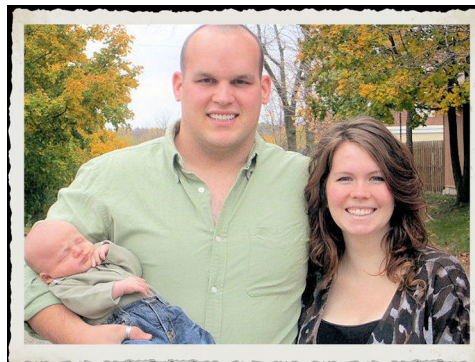
An Ibaloi baptism

Thank you for your part in making all of this possible. The Martin and Gracia Burnham Foundation would be nothing without you. **Whatever good comes from it is because of you. We just watch in amazement. And our hearts are glad!**

Family Matters



Welcome to the World! Felix Logan Hedvall joined our family on September 30, 2011. He is the son of my daughter, Mindy, and her husband, Andy Hedvall. I love this little boy! Thank you, God, for such a precious gift! Andy continues his studies at New Tribes Bible Institute in Waukesha WI.

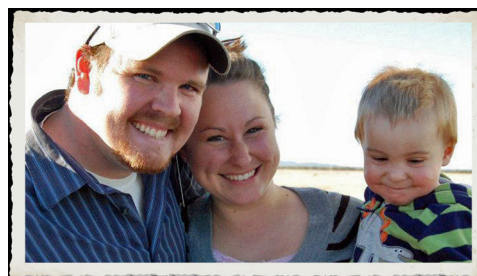


Felix, Andy & Mindy

I bought a cute little book yesterday that plays 10 different Christmas songs. When you push the picture of the trumpet, it plays "Joy to the World" and so on. I thought it would be perfect for Tristan, my 19-month old grandson.

And I decided to **take it to him in Botswana Africa!** Yes, I plan to spend Christmas there! Tristan belongs to my son, Jeff and his wife, Sarah. Jeff flies King Airs for Flying Mission Services. Be praying for this young family. They are so busy !!

By the way — if you know of any King Air pilots or King Air mechanics who are looking for the adventure of a lifetime, they could sure use help in Botswana. Contact Flying Mission at: www.flyingmission.org.



Jeff Sarah & Tristan

Calvary Bible College is our alma mater. It is where Martin and I met and fell in love. We got married in their beautiful chapel. Now my son, Zachary, is a student there. He loves it and is learning so much! It is even stretching me a bit when he texts things



Zach - kneeling on right side of photo

When you start your day with nothing and you end with even less.... Well, I've been **THERE!** I know that feeling of being at the lowest there is to be. The end of the song, though, is so meaningful....*Raise your hands and the hands that have been emptied, God will fill them once again.* I've been there, too! Thanks, Zach, for using your talents to encourage your Mom and bring God glory!

like: "I know you're busy but when you get the time could you send me a quote on why evil happens? Thanks Mom!" Like I know any better than the next guy why evil happens!



Zach is in Calvary's music group, **Evidence**. I've gotten to see him perform on a few occasions. My favorite song of theirs is "Raise Your Hands" by Heather Sorenson. *Raise your hands. When you're high upon the mountain and you know that you've been blessed. Raise your hands.*

Speaking of Dads...

Imagine my surprise when I got a letter from the National Center for Fathering asking me to contribute a chapter for their book, ***“The 21-Day Dad’s Challenge”***. I wrote back and said, “I’m a woman. I’m not a father. I think there must be some mistake.” But they really DID want me to write a chapter for their book!

I sent in my contribution entitled, “I’m Sorry. I was Wrong!” Other chapters were written by men like Josh McDowell, Tony Dungy, Chip Ingram, Randy Alcorn, Carey Casey, etc. The result is a very encouraging book on parenting.

If you know a father and you are having trouble thinking of a Christmas gift that he will really appreciate, consider ***“The 21-Day Dad’s Challenge”***. I got copies for the young fathers in my family (my son and son-in-law.) You can order them from your local bookstore or through Focus on the Family.



The one family member that I haven’t mentioned yet in this letter is the one that got this family going. My sweet husband, Martin. What a legacy this man left for me and my children! Martin was a kind and gentle man. He had a great sense of humor and I often hear people say that one of the things they miss most about him is his laugh. He laughed a lot – and he laughed loud.

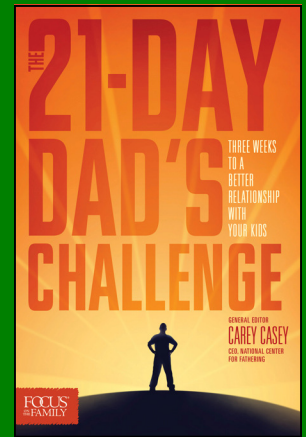
Martin loved his ministry and he was always ready to fly for our New Tribes missionaries any time they needed the plane. Some of those flights involved holidays, as I recall. Medical emergencies aren’t planned around a rigid schedule.

One such day was the day he was asked to be “Candy Man” in a tribal village at their Christmas party. We flew into the village and at game time, Martin put on the “Candy Man” shirt ... a white t-shirt with pieces of hard candy sewn all over it. Martin ran around with about a hundred little bare foot tribal kids running after him grabbing candy off the shirt. We laughed so hard at the good time that he was having with those kids!

During the party, we got a call from another tribal village that peace and order had fallen apart there and the missionary family needed to come out. Martin left the party and flew in and evacuated the family to town. I never heard one word of complaint from him. He was such a servant. Ready to do whatever needed to be done. I love that about him.

Wishing you a new year filled with
opportunities for service,

Gracia



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name removed from our
mailing list, you may use the
enclosed envelope to do so.
Thanks!*

For Donations
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