



A Ministry of Arise and Shine Evangelistic Association

April 2018

“Basic Instructions Before Leaving Earth”

It is such a great joy when the Lord opens doors of opportunity to share His truth. When Jesus said, **“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.”** (Matthew 11:28-29) I believe He meant it not only for the saving of the soul, but also for the perseverance of it, until time is consumed into eternity. Several months ago Tina and I were privileged to have a couple come to visit us here in London for two weeks. They and their three children were a pleasure to have the company and fellowship with throughout their stay. One day we went to the park just down the road from the Outreach Centre. While they played with their youngest son John David, I invited the girls Ellie and Katie to come with me to see the ducks and swans on the nearby pond. They were excited to



We pass this man every week and he is always on this bench. He has had a rough life and so far he is not interested in hearing about the saving grace of Christ Jesus. But we trust that the Lord will open his heart to receive from Jesus His “Basic Instructions Before Leaving Earth” Please pray for him with us. I call him the “camouflage man.”

come along, so we started to make our way toward the pond. As we walked I commented to them, **“Lets see if God opens the door into someone’s heart to share His life.”** The girls just smiled back at me and skipped along. (It wasn’t long before God did just that.) I noticed a man sitting on the nearby park bench gazing into the activity that occupied the wildlife on the pond. The three of us spotted a few “Mallard ducks” and Elli “schooled me” on how you can tell a male from a female Mallard by their colors. Just as my “lesson” finished, a woman that Tina and I have known for years walked past and greeted us. She was walking her neighbour’s dog and being a very friendly woman, she noticed Ellie and Katie and asked, **“And who are you two?”** As we talked to her the man on the bench made a comment into our conversation. It was as if he had come out of a deep thought and was urged to speak. He looked at me and said, **“I love your energy and zest for life!”** I was encouraged and asked, **“May I**

sit with you on the park bench?” **“That would be fine.”** He replied. It was very obvious that the Lord had opened a wide door of opportunity for us to share his Word. **“I must be honest,”** the middle aged man said, **“I was sitting here thinking about what life is all about as I looked at all the carefree birds on the pond. When I heard you greet the woman with the dog I noticed something different about you that I couldn’t ignore. You see, my father has just died, and I came to the park to reflect on what life really means to me.”** **“Well I want to be honest with you also,”** I gently replied, **“The energy and zest you see is because of what Christ Jesus did in my soul. He gave me a new life in exchange for my sinful one.”** He looked at me and pointing to the pond he replied, **“When I look at the birds and see how they all intermingle and survive together, I know that God had to be the Creator in order for them to be able to do this.”** **“Yes, I agree,”** I commented, **“And that is why He sent His Son to be the Saviour of His most intimate creation...us”** He looked at me and said, **“Christ must be the only thing that is right in life.”** We continued to talk about different issues of life’s obstacles. (I was so blessed and impressed with the girls. When Elli and Katie realized that God had opened a door to share the Gospel, they immediately sat down in the grass next to the park bench and patiently listened.) The man continued to be very interested in sharing his hurts and fears, as we reflected on some of the same life difficulties that many had that were mentioned in the Bible. **“I respect that the Bible is God’s word for man,”** he said. **“I think it stands for, “Basic Instructions Before Leaving Earth.”** **“Wow,”** I replied. **“I haven’t ever heard that acronym for the Bible before, I like that!”** After we discussed a few more subjects I encouraged him to consider going home and reading God’s Word, and considering the gift that Jesus desired to give him, in the forgiveness of sin. He replied, **“OK, I will, thank you for your time today.”** As Ellie, Katie and I walked back to the playground to their parents I said to them, **“Sorry that we didn’t get to see more of the birds.”** They both replied, **“That’s ok!”**

Our Itineration Stateside: Tina and I are excited about our 2018 trip to the United States, and have figured out our itineration schedule for the most part. If you would like to have us visit with you personally or a church group, we would love that! **Email us (below) and we’ll make it work!**

- April –** (Tallahassee FL/North Carolina/Illinois/Pensacola FL)
- May-June –** (Colorado)
- July –** (Atlanta/ Returning to London)

Thank you for your prayers and sacrifices toward us,

We love you!

Steve and Tina

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