



Sam & Linda Owen

Serving the Lord on the Cheyenne River Sioux Reservation

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Dear Faithful Supporters & Friends,

We pray that this update has found you all doing well, and that, *"...thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth."* It is definitely winter here in South Dakota! A week ago Thursday we awoke to -11 degrees with 30+ mph wind. The wind chill made it feel -40! We have only had to cancel a couple of services so far this season because of blizzard conditions. It does not take very much snowfall to make "white out" conditions if the wind is blowing hard. This weekend, starting on Saturday night and going through Monday morning, we are under another "Winter Storm Watch." Heavy wind and snow together are being forecast. Please pray with us for our safety and for wisdom in transporting our people through the prairie!

Our theme this year for our mission work is "I Shall Not Be Moved!" There is so much that comes along in life that can take us away from what God wants if we do not keep our eyes on Him. Health, finances, family, circumstance, and simply life in general can all work against us to keep us from following the Lord. We chose Acts 20:24 as our theme verse: *"But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God."* I am quoting the opening phrase of the verse repeatedly, and will continue to do so throughout the year. Our theme song for the year is also *'I Shall Not Be Moved'*. We are singing it in church at least once each service. AMEN! My prayer is that during this year, not only will we continue to not be moved, but that our dear people and the ones who come to Christ will be fired up to determine the same thing.

We are still seeking the lost each week, even in the winter weather. A week ago we had a 20 year-old young woman, named Christy Taken Alive, get saved. This week we got to lead an 8 year-old boy, named Ezekiel Pay Pay, to Christ. I recently met a man named Jesse Olvera, who is half Lakota and half Hispanic. Unheard of for the most part on the reservation, this man and his wife have been married for 20 years and have 7 children ranging from 20 to 9. He talked with me about their many hardships, but that he determined to "stick it out." He obviously has some character that many here do not have. I have gotten to talk to him briefly and mention the goodness of God and how God never allows anything that is not under His control. Jesse is open to talking about God and I believe that he will get saved soon. I also believe he will bring his family to church. Please pray for Christy, Ezekiel and Jesse.

As I close, I want to thank each of you who faithfully keep us in prayer. In the past several months we have experienced things never seen before in our lives and we can feel the dear presence of God! My knee is holding its own, and the healing from the other recent surgery is coming along nicely. I know it is due in BIG part to your prayers. Thanks also to each of you who continue to faithfully send in your financial support. We are still struggling with medical bills and month-to-month expenses, but God is taking care of it all. May God bless you all as you faithfully serve Him!

~ Sam & Linda Owen

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