



December 21, 2010

Merry Christmas.

What a joy it is to serve our Lord yet another year. I do want to say thanks to all of you who take the time to read these updates, who take the time to pray for us, and who help with the giving of your gifts for the advancement of the gospel.

A lot of exciting things are taking place right now. For starters Christmas is coming and we will slip over to Hong Kong and take Timi Louise to Disneyland and do some shopping. To those of you who do give financially to our ministry - fear not; we are not squandering your gifts. I do know that those of you who give understand the importance of getting away and are not threatened when missionaries invest in family time. But also as my salary is small and the bulk of all gifts go directly towards ministry expense Gloria is funding this trip. I am excited about going as at this stage in her life Timi Louise enjoys the Mickey Mouse cartoons and I think that she will have a blast at Disneyland.

The first evangelistic comic book is still in the pipeline. I delayed the printing for two reasons. First, I had some blank pages that I wanted to fill, and second, after seeing the book I thought that though the gospel is fully illustrated in the story I decided that I did not like the idea that there was no gospel presentation outside of the story. So I set out to put together a four page illustrative gospel message. This required me to write the presentation, get the translation work done, produce the concept pages for the illustrator to work with, and commission the illustrator to do the work. He is doing it now and we should have a decent gospel presentation, that will be included in every comic book and that is separate from the stories, be ready by the first week of January. But this does mean that we missed the evangelistic Christmas parties that ACTION conducts each year, but as ACTION's ministries are on-going there is always opportunity to distribute the comic books like in the year-round feeding programs for street kids that the ACTION's Street Impact Team is engaged in, distribution at the Birthing Clinic that is year-round for young poverty stricken families, and handed out in the prisons that ACTION missionaries visit on a weekly basis. I am serving ACTION by producing quality evangelistic materials but as we are a mission agency there is always some type of ministry that is going on. Also, as ACTION has a holistic approach to ministry often the missionaries get bogged down with extracurricular activities such as proofing expense reports or birthing babies and it is the gospel that our enemy wants us to put aside.

The work of infusing an evangelist into the local church is waiting until after Christmas as the church is focused on Christmas activities right now. The proposal is ready to submit and will be after the first of the year.

Last September at my yearly budget proposal and ministry review meeting I was challenged by one of the leaders who is engaged in front-line ministries and has a passion for the gospel. I constantly nag at our people to make sure that the gospel is truly being presented by their workers. This particular leader shares the same burden that I have and he challenged me to put together a training program that we can utilize to train workers in understanding the content of the gospel as well as the function over form flexibility that we should have in understanding how to present the gospel. When I say function over form

flexibility I mean not pushing a particular presentation over other presentations (such as teaching "The Bridge" rather than "The Four Spiritual Laws") but instead teach the workers to understand the common principles found in each presentation and have the ability to draw from any given presentation so as to communicate the gospel clearly to their target audience. To illustrate, I currently give a whole hearty thumbs-up to the presentation "Are You A Good Person" developed by The Way of the Master Ministries but instead of using the 10 Commandments here in the Philippines, where the average person has no understanding of Jewish history and culture and has never been influenced by the teaching of the Puritans like the American culture has, I supplement the 10 Commandments with the greatest commandments of Christ and then have the audience compare themselves with the life of Christ. This is how I structured my four page illustrative presentation that is under development and I preached this type of presentation last week at a Christmas party for Gloria's hospital staff. What is important is knowing the content of the gospel and knowing how to adapt. At ACTION's Christmas party several weeks ago I ironed out a plan to conduct training for some of ACTION's local staff front liners starting next March. Praise God. Now I just have to figure out how to pull it off.

In respect of your time I think I should wrap this up now. Prayer requests and what not are on the website. God Bless.

Jim Craig
Until He Comes

www.jim.messenjah.ws

**If you would like to give you can make checks payable to Action International Ministries, P. O. Box 398
Mountlake Terrace, WA 98043-0398 or 3015 A 21st Street NE, Calgary, Alberta T2E 7T1, Canada. Note that
your check is for support of the Craig's.**