

Alan's Prayer Letter Spring 08

'And the lord said unto the servant go out into the highways and hedges and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled. For I say unto you that none of those men which were bidden shall taste of my supper'

The above quotation is taken from Luke 14 in a parable which the Lord spoke commonly referred to as 'The parable of the great supper' in which a man had prepared a great feast and invited 'many' with the words 'Come, for all things are now ready'. However they refused him with a range of excuses. Following their rejection of him (we are actually told that at this point that he is angry) he commands his servant to throw the net a little wider and command the most undesirable, the unworthy, the unlikely of the city- and there was yet room, therefore the servant is sent out of the city to the people in those little out of the way places (in context I believe that this parable is a rebuke to Israel and a declaration that the gentile nations will be called to God's great supper through the preaching of the Gospel). In this country, you can't take highways and hedges evangelism any more literally than in Faith mission work! The Lords desire is that Heaven might be filled! This means of course that for some we will be taken out of the cities and off into the highways and hedgerows to share the Gospel at the Lords command. There is a sad aspect to this parable too, and it is the truth that those who were bidden in the first place would not come. Many, particularly in the protestant community have heard the gospel many times and yet have rejected it, some perhaps for the final time, but in these days let us endeavour to break new ground, and to give priority to those who have never heard, or at least never in the power of Gods Holy Spirit, and seek the Lords face for the power of His Spirit in our meetings.

Johnny and I have been missioning in three locations since Christmas. As you probably are aware we are in Co.Tyrone and are usually not too far from Omagh. Our missions have been conducted in local halls in Brackie (near Beragh), Lakemount(Trillick), and Colaghty (between Lack and Ederney). Many of our contacts have been from a Roman catholic background including a lady (G) whom I had the privilege of pointing to the saviour. When I asked Her if she had ever received Christ, an interesting thing happened, She pointed to a picture of the R.C 'Host' or mass wafer and said is that what you mean. Of course that's not what I meant, but it did illustrate something. Many of the false cults use exactly the same terminology as us! they use bible language, but bent and moulded out of context to mean something that the very same language does not mean in the Bible- how careful we must be not only to explain what we mean but to know the Bible we profess to believe.

During our missions we sometimes have a more informal evening were we will ask someone to come and speak on a topic with a view to presenting the gospel. One such evening was the story of the 'Titanic' with Elizabeth Conn, another the life work of engineer Harry Ferguson with George Conn. Many 70+ people attended these meetings, and some followed on to the regular meetings.

Some Key Contacts for Prayer.

(Sorry I wont be printing everyone's full names for obvious reasons!)

C&M: A Husband and wife who are 'good' church people. She has in the recent past got saved but He is not I believe through yet, remember please their nephew and his wife who have followed on from Brackie mission and are attending a monthly gospel meeting locally.

L&W: A couple who have attended several missions and who I believe have sought the Lord but the wife maybe lacks assurance that she is saved.

Lady who attended mission ten years ago and was definitely spoken to, but came to hear the message again.

G&husband: Please pray for the Lord to uphold this new convert and to speak very clearly to her husband who is not pleased with things and actually came straight home on the occasion when we visited but refused to speak to us.

Gary and Neighbour: A retired Farmer who was willing to pray and admitted that he needed to be born again, also his neighbour who had read the tract and came practically racing out of the house to speak- I believe these two were just so close to conversion.

Rory: A young Catholic man who I was recently speaking to about the differences in what we believe, he was really open and I had good gospel conversation with him.

Thankyou so much for all your prayer and support in every way.

Alan