



Moses' Song

Ministries, Inc.



2005 Newsletter

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Mountain Thoughts

"I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord which made heaven and earth." Psalm 121:1,2



I recently had the privilege of going on a seven-day back packing trip just across the border in Yak, Montana with a dear friend named Loren. We had talked about and planned the adventure a year ago.

Because I had never done anything like this, I had no idea what to expect. Exercising is a regular part of my daily routine and, as the date drew closer, I found myself exercising harder to build my stamina so

that I would be in shape for the ordeal. I was determined that I was not going to be a burden or slow Loren down in any way. He has backpacked for many years.

As the time drew closer, although I felt that I was prepared for the event physically, I started to realize that I needed much help spiritually. We never know what distractions and/or obstacles the adversary will place in our way. "Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man." Luke 21:36. There was the fear of the unexpected. All of a sudden, I found that I was being plagued with nightmares. I found myself battling thoughts of being attacked by a grizzly bear, or a mountain lion, or being stomped to death by an angry moose either while hiking or sleeping in my tent at night.

We know that God has so many



wonderful things in store for us. Satan's plan is to keep us so distracted that we miss God's blessings here on earth, and ultimately he wants us to miss out on eternal life and happiness. He knew that the Lord had many wonderful discoveries for me on the mountain and he was trying to do everything he could to keep me from having this experience. At times I was tempted to call Loren and cancel the trip. As I continued to pray the Lord encouraged me to "cast my cares upon Him," step out of my comfort zone and experience freedom in Christ. He reminded me that "there is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment." 1 John 4:18. Another promise for me was 2 Timothy 1:7 "For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind."

In August, without knowledge of my struggle, my daughter Kristina delivered a sermon on "Overcoming Fear" at the first annual Family Camp in Dawson Creek, BC. She quoted Revelation 21:8. I was reminded and took note: "But the fearful, and unbelieving ... shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death." I determined to

put my trust in God and allow Him to help me overcome my fears!

Each day of the trip was filled with blessings and challenges as Loren and I listened for the voice of the Lord speaking to us through nature, His Word, and the songs of praise. We enjoyed singing great hymns from a small hymnal that my daughter Toni entrusted to me for the trip. Each day drew us closer to God and to each other as we prayed sometimes together and sometimes separately. We spoke of our different life experiences and shared how God had been working in our lives in the past and in the present. We encouraged each other with the promise that He is, indeed, finishing the work in us that He has begun. I found that I was beginning to understand why Enoch would often seek refuge in the mountains as he sought to commune with God.

I found myself wondering why I had not taken this opportunity sooner given all the years that I have lived in this beautiful area. God gave us many reminders of His ever present love and care for us. On the third day the majority of the hike was straight up. Because we had made a couple of wrong turns, we wound up hiking for eight hours straight to reach a place where we could find water and flat land to camp for the night.

A few hours into our journey we realized that we would run out of water well before we reached our planned destination. We thought of the children of Israel in the wilderness, of how God provided for all their needs -- and we pressed on in faith. Reminding us that He is "the same yesterday, and today, and forever," we were thrilled as He had us stumble upon a small spring coming out of the side of a mountain where we were able to get sufficient water to hold us until we reached our destination. It was a quiet lake high up in the mountains, a place to worship in the wide open spaces, built by the hand of the Lord.

On the fourth night I had a curious visitor sniffing around my tent. Immediately my thoughts were taken back to the nightmares previously mentioned and I experienced a fear that I had never experienced. God gave me an opportunity to exercise faith and have victory over my fear. As I was praying, He gently spoke to me and reminded me that He was in control. If He saw fit for this to be my end, I should still be at peace and resting in His care. I had a choice to make right then and there. When I yielded my will to Him I felt a calm come over me, and I heard the visitor leave as quietly as it had come. I do not know what it was. For all I know, it could simply have been a raccoon or a deer. I do know that whatever it was, God used it to bring me another step closer



to Him and it served its purpose in the plan. I experienced the freedom that He wanted for me each day and night as I rested in His love.

I thank God (and Loren) for the opportunity to have had such a rich experience. If time lasts and God wills, I will do it again next year. It is something that I wish everyone could experience. The communion with God was truly heavenly. Although we cannot go backpacking often we can still experience rich blessings as we begin each day in communion with God and remain connected to Him throughout the day.

Time and space limit sharing more of our discoveries. But I am reminded of the journey that we all as Christians have begun

and must finish if we plan on spending eternity with Jesus. Are we taking the necessary time in prayer and study of the Word to be prepared for the challenges that lie ahead? Ahead? They are here!

“Those who endeavor to obey all the commandments of God will be opposed and derided. They can stand only in God. In order to endure the trial before them they must understand the will of God as revealed in his Word; they can honor Him only as they have a right conception of His character, His government and purposes, and act in accordance with them. None but those who have fortified the mind with the truths of the Bible will stand through the last great conflict. To every soul will come the searching test, Shall I obey God rather than men? The decisive hour is even now at hand. Are our feet planted on the rock of God’s immutable Word? Are we prepared to stand firm in defense of the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus?” *Great Controversy*, 593.

May God help us to be faithful. Let us strive to “build up one another” in the Blessed Hope!

Derrol 🎵

..... *Encouragement in the Mail*

“We so enjoyed your seminar when you came to Kettle Falls. We appreciate your ministry so much. May God bless and sustain you.” --Washington

“Praise be to God that He has burdened your hearts to get this --His-- message out. We were encouraged that there are still some faithful folks out there willing to lift the banner high and hold up the standard of our Lord, even though you may be going against the tide. ‘Be strong and of a good courage, be not afraid neither be thou dismayed, for the Lord thy God is with thee.’ Joshua 1:9” --Washington

“My family will so enjoy this heavenly

Continued on page 5 ...

Where in the World Have We Been?



We realize that it has been quite a while since we have sent out a newsletter. Over the past year we have had the privilege of presenting the *Message of the Music* seminar from coast to coast. We are so grateful for the opportunities to see young people and families taking hold of the biblical principles of music as they prepare their hearts and lives for heaven. We were able to take part in several family camps, which is always a blessing. If you have not experienced the blessings of family camp we encourage you to make plans in that direction! You can find links to family camps on our website: www.MosesSong.org. We also presented many sacred music programs this year, sharing the message of God's goodness and His desire to make His character known through His people in these last days. In August we made a trip to Alaska (see photos with our Little Mama on page 5) to visit Cindy's brother Marc, a helicopter crew chief who has been deployed to Iraq for 18 months. We appreciate your prayers in his behalf, as well as in behalf of his wife Heather and their 12-month-old son, Wesley. We know that our Savior is able to give rest and calm in the midst of any storm, and we pray that

Marc will experience that wonderful power of God, and recognize His saving hand throughout his stay overseas.

Toni completed a 3 1/2 month Bible Worker course this spring at the Mission College of Evangelism in Oregon. She desires to do full-time bible work for the Lord, but for now we are blessed with her and Nicole's company at home and as we travel.

Kristina has returned to college. She is putting herself through college and using the gifts God has given -- she appreciates so much the wonderful donations you have given for her fundraising project, *Tranquil Joy*.

Wherever we go we are asked for a CD of the entire family singing together. We are currently in the process of recording that CD, which has been entitled *Sweet Home*. We look forward to the next opportunity we have to work together with you in the finest work ever entrusted to humanity (joined with divinity) -- that of soul winning, beginning in our hearts and homes! 🎵

music. Thank you for including a couple of my old time favorites which I have heard were Ellen White's favorites also!"

--Pennsylvania

"We love your new CD! We'd heard it was a favorite to other people ... I agree with our friend: not sure which of the two, TLC or TAS, is more the favorite! What a precious collection of messages in song. Praise God!" -- Oregon

"Thank you so much for coming to our church. Your music and teaching touched my heart. I am going through some struggles and I thank you for reminding me to keep my eyes on Jesus instead of the troubles. I was so blessed." --Idaho

"Hope this donation will help get the

Family CD made. It will be a blessing to many!"--North Carolina

"Your music has been such a blessing to me, especially the scripture songs."

--Pennsylvania

"I came prepared to fight. But the manner and spirit in which you presented the seminar left me with nothing to fight about and a lot to go home and think about."

-- British Columbia

"As your family walks in the path of the ministry God has given you, each of you are a tool in His hand to build others up in His love. My prayer is that I myself can also be an instrument to lift up and point others to Christ ... God's blessing of peace to you!"

-- Michigan 🎵



Ministry Needs

MONTHLY SUPPORT

We are so thankful for those of you who encourage us with your prayers and your financial assistance. The phone calls, e-mail and letters bring us many smiles and remind us that God's people need encouragement as well. We appreciate those who are able to send regular monthly support and those who send love gifts once in a while. This is a faith ministry -- we know that God impresses His people to help, and we appreciate your willingness to be used by Him in this work of sharing the gospel through music and the spoken word.

MUSIC SEMINAR DVD RECORDING

We have many requests for video or DVD recordings of the *Message of the Music* seminar. We are saving for this project which will enable the information to travel faster and farther than we are able. We have an offer for a professional recording to be made in the Seattle area. This project will require an initial outlay of \$1,200. If you are impressed to help us with this project, please mark your donation accordingly.

In addition to our new iMac (see below), we have a need to replace our laptop computer. We are having problems with it and we cannot do without it. We use the laptop on a regular basis for everything from seminar presentations to bookkeeping and other office work. 🎵

Our New iMac

What an amazing God we serve! He knows our need, and He is faithful and well able to do abundantly more than we can ask or think. Here is the story of our new iMac computer.

Several of our friends had been pleading with us for quite some time to invest in a Macintosh computer as a powerful recording station. They also told us that it would simplify our lives because the speed of this computer would cut down much of the wasted time in the office.

And now we found ourselves in need of a new computer. We decided to purchase an iMac computer. We had a problem though: we did not have the funds to make the purchase. After speaking often with one of these friends who likes Mac computers, Derrol finally called him to tell him we had at last made the decision to go forward in faith and get one. To our amazement, he discouraged us from buying it just then. He told Derrol that if he waited a couple of weeks, something new would come out.

The next day when Derrol returned home from a trip to town, and opened the garage, there was a box which the UPS driver had left for us. "Strange," Derrol thought. "I wonder what someone is sending in an iMac box!"

Little did he know that there was an iMac in the iMac box! And it had been sent to us by our Mac-friend. When Derrol had called to tell him we decided to go forward in faith to get the computer, he was alarmed, since he had ordered the computer for us already



and was waiting for the surprise to arrive.

What an amazing answer to prayer! When I came home and found the computer, and a printer as well, sitting in the kitchen, I was dumbfounded. When Derrol told me how it came, and who sent it, I was saddened because I knew this family could not afford to do this. I phoned them and they shared their story with me:

They had been praying for us to get the funds to buy the computer because they believed so strongly it would be a great help to us and they knew about the failure of our other computer. During her prayer time one morning, the wife had been impressed that God wanted them to get the computer for us. She did not say anything to her husband, but when he came to her with the same impression they decided to go ahead and do it. What could I say then? I know this much about our God: He will bless them abundantly for their willingness to be used by Him. We cannot out-give our Saviour Jesus Christ!

"He that soweth from the heart shall be blessed!"

We thank God and our friends for this blessing! 🎵

New Book!

Music and Morals by Kimberly Smith (The author of *Let Those Who Have Ears to Hear*). An excellent work to answer the question: Is Music Amoral or Moral? Included in the book is a CD with music examples of the difference between appropriate rhythm and the rock beat! Only \$17.00 postpaid! Check our website for other available materials. 🎵

Flash Seminar

We recently presented a sacred music program in Tennessee. After the program I was at the CD table when a woman bought some music and asked if she could talk with me. She told me that she had been told we might be able to answer her question. She related that she and her two sons desired to understand what a rock beat was and how they could tell if it was in the music which was in their home. I had left my laptop at the home where we were staying, and I wished that I could share a bit of the music seminar with them. Our host was nearby and graciously invited me to bring them home with us.

That evening we gave the most abbreviated seminar in our history! As we shared some music samples with the rock beat, one of the young men said, we have that song on one of our CDs, Mom. We decided to go through the collections of the most popular songs of recent Christian Contemporary Music (CCM). Before long the mother was in tears and was asking her sons' forgiveness for bringing that music into their home. It was beautiful to see the spirit of the whole family as they determined to press together, to study the matter out, and take a decided stand for the Lord.

May God help each of us to do the same in all areas of our lives! 🎵

Musical Notes

"Lord, I'm Coming Home"

William J. Kirkpatrick was born in 1838. This man was not only a marvellous lyricist, but his musical settings for poems written by others have afforded us such favorites as *"Jesus Saves"* and *"Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus."* Kirkpatrick was a Methodist choir director and organist, and he especially loved the Methodist camp meetings. During one such meeting, at which he directed the music, he became quite burdened because the invited soloist would sing and then immediately leave, without hearing the sermon or staying to fellowship with other Christians.

After a couple of days of this, Kirkpatrick prayed fervently that God would somehow reach this young man with the gospel of Christ. You see, he feared that the singer had never really known Christ as his Saviour. As a result, God gave a beautiful

song to William Kirkpatrick, which he asked the soloist to sing during an evening service of the meetings. He did so, and he was so convicted in his heart as he sang the words that he decided to stay and hear the sermon. Following the sermon, the singer knelt in the alter area and was gloriously converted.

During that notable camp meeting, near Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, the song that so moved the heart of the soloist and has been used for the Lord to do the same in thousands of hearts ever since was:

"I've wandered far away from God, Now I'm coming home; The paths of sin too long I've trod -- Lord, I'm coming home."

Coming home, coming home, nevermore to roam; open now Thine arms of love -- Lord, I'm coming home."

-- Taken from *Great Hymn Stories*, page 91 🎵

The Message of the Music . . .



Part I - "Music's Role in Character Building"

-- Does it matter what kind of music we choose? If the words are good, should we be concerned about the music? "*Music's Role in Character Building*" will examine this subject as the foundation for the weekend's seminar.

Part II - "Teaching Standards and Developing Convictions"

-- Do you desire your children to make wise choices in life? Have you found any inspiring principles from God's Word to help avoid the pitfalls of wrong choices? "*Teaching Standards and Developing Convictions*" will provide practical help for training your family in every area of life, including the area of music.

Part III - "Where Do We Draw the Line?"

-- This message will give valuable tools and tests to help make your own decisions about music.

Part IV - "Music and Worship"

-- How do we decide what music is appropriate for the sacred worship hour? Is there a difference between what is acceptable music during the week and what we choose in our worship of God?

The seminar closes with ...

Part V - An evening of inspiring melodies and harmonies

-- Songs for the family; songs from the heart, for the home. In all the music presented, we pray that you will hear and experience the song of Moses: "*The Lord is my Strength and Song; and He is become my Salvation.*" Exodus 15:2.

Please call (208) 267-6109 or email info@mosessong.org for scheduling information!

We are very thankful for every person who has supported *Moses' Song Ministries* by bringing us to their church and helping us to spread the message of the music seminar. 🎵

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