



RICHARDS REPORT



They meant it for Bad....God used it for Good

December 2017

Our bus driver that was falsely accused and imprisoned in Wales was sentenced to 10 years in prison and is to serve at least 5 years. The two girls have now admitted they *"...made it all up..."* on social media, but because he pleaded guilty, to get a lesser sentence, cannot get out. In November we got a letter from his wife stating that since we left that he has been promoted to a Good Samaritan position to listen to anyone that comes into the prison for the first time or has problems they want to talk to someone about or is thinking of self-harming. He is not allowed in that setting to share his beliefs, but as he gets to know people he can then talk to them during open times or meal times, etc. He has lead one person to Christ and he is excited that he now knows why this has happened....so that one soul could be saved. His wife said as he went back to his cell that day, he was singing, *"Oh Happy Day...When Jesus washed my sins away."* One of the prisoners near him said, *"You can't sing that in here!!!"* She said, her husband said, *"Oh yes I can!!"* We continue to communicate with the family and him and support him there in the prison. Your prayers for him are appreciated and we know God will continue to use him for His Glory. Pray that with good behavior he might be able to come out to a Hostel situation sometime next year and be home before Christmas this time next year which would be another Miracle.

We have been asked by the Missions Office to sign a form in our retirement that we will not ask for support for the Mission Field after December 31st. We can ask for personal support to help us in our retirement. If you have read our Richards Reports in the past we try only to ask for the needs of the churches, the Bible College in the UK, the Youth Camps, and projects we had on the field. Last letter we mentioned for the first time our personal need of getting 50% of our support to pay the rent, health insurance (which is over \$800 a month) now that my back and intentional tremors will not let me continue to work full time. Since then we have received several letters explaining their support will stop after December 31. Thank you for the letters. It helps us plan.

When asked about signing over our house on the field, what are we going to do for retirement, we were told several times by Directors that visited us on the field over the 29 ½ years, *"...don't worry, the fellowship will take care of you...."* and now we are praying you will help us with our retirement. It was not our plan, to become injured and not be able to carry on the work on the field for sure, but I guess it was His. If enough funds come in, we are planning to continue to send money to help with Camps, Bible College (I hope to travel back in June to teach), and projects even though we cannot ask anymore. **If you plan to decrease, or drop our support could you please consider continuing to invest in souls in Wales by directing those funds to our daughter and son-in-law, Rick and Jaime Owens family (BBFI Missionaries) pictured on the right.** They have seen 3 adults and 1 teen saved since we left in late August and baptized 7 last Sunday (we helped train them well...HA), that's a good investment.



MRI Results Shows Some of the Problems

The MRI, the end of November, shows arthritis all through my back and three bulging discs, one of which is pressing on the nerve sac in the spinal column. The specialist has recommended we start with shots in my back, one a month for three months and then one every 3 months. I am on two pain pills, one for the bones, one for nerves. Please continue to Pray for us in this transition. May you all have a Blessed Christmas and a Joyous New Year in 2018.

Contact us at BBF Missions Office or 10457 Dorset Drive Unit 20, Johnston, Iowa 50131 or 515 943-6266