

Dear Faithful Friends and Supporters:

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. As I was reading in the **Gospel of Luke 2:41–52** recently, my thoughts were drawn to the words of young Jesus:

“Wist ye not that I must be about my Father’s business?”

That statement stirred my heart deeply.

The passage tells us that Joseph and Mary had traveled from Nazareth to Jerusalem for the Passover. The city was filled with activity. Animals were being sacrificed, prayers were being offered, and worshippers crowded the temple area. Yet in the middle of all the religious activity, they lost sight of Jesus. They were three days journey home before they discovered he was not in their midst.

What a sobering thought it is to be surrounded by activity and yet miss the very presence of Christ. When they finally found Him in the temple, He was completely engaged in His Father’s business as He was listening to teaching and asking questions.

Jesus immersed Himself in the things of God. He spoke truth and lived truth. I have a quote in the margin of my Bible that says, “My Father’s Business is to align myself with God’s will, God’s word and God’s work so that everything in my life points others to Him.” I believe now more than ever that we must stay close to this because the world is becoming more distracting and more deceptive.

As I look at Furtherance Ministries, which the Lord has allowed us to be part of, I realize again that this is not “our” work, it is the Father’s business.

- Declaring His Word
- Reaching souls with the Gospel
- Seeking to see God’s people revived and excited about God
- Teaching believers how to share their faith
- Training pastors in Africa
- Helping people in Africa to be self supporting

Thank you for praying, giving, encouraging, and standing with us in this ministry. Because you have Jesus in His rightful place in your heart, your love and concern for your Father’s Business has resulted in you partnering with us in this amazing outreach. Honestly, I have never seen such a support team in my life. You give sacrificially and pray fervently.

Update

- Africa has seen a rise in prices for everything from food to fuel.
- People are still being saved.
- The schools are doing well.
- The farm which once was a desert looks a bit like Eden.

- Because of weather we were a little late in getting the buildings up for the cows and goats. We have the goats, but because of a particular disease in the cows in that area we are waiting until that passes before we get the cows.
- Present plans are for us to be Malawi the second week of August. Gas prices, the war and the danger level might be a deciding factor.
- I am doing an Ontario tour the end of May through the first of June.
- I am back in the North with the Cree, June 26 - 28. They believe revival has swept through the area. Hundreds of decisions and baptisms. Praise the Lord!
- Theresa spent some time in emergency because of kidney infection. She is starting to be on the mend. I have had a bit of a struggle and have one last doctor's appointment. Please pray I will clear this hurdle. I have lost nearly 20 pounds. This has been a deliberate choice. I am presently strong.
- Please pray for safety and health as we travel.
- I have done some street ministry here in Woodstock.

One day all earthly business will come to an end, but the Father's business is eternal. May we all be found faithfully engaged in it until Jesus comes.

Keeping on keeping on for Christ,

Ed, Theresa, and Eloise
Furtherance Ministries
furtheranceoff@gmail.com

