

Brian & Rachel Johnston & Family

Missionaries to Toronto, Ontario, Canada



January 5, 2010

Dear Pastors, Supporting Churches, Praying Friends and Family,

The past month or so was filled with many good opportunities to witness for Christ and to minister to the people that we love. There were also some special events we were able to enjoy.

At the end of November, my mom was visiting with us, and I had the special privilege of being able to honour my mom for the way that she has just faithfully continued running the race for God. I am so thankful for my mom and the sacrifices she made for me and the many things she has taught me about the Christian life by her example. It was over 25 years ago that my dad was killed in a farm accident and almost 18 years ago that my brother was killed in a car accident, but in spite of the trials, my mom has continued faithfully serving the Lord with a sweet spirit. My mom is still working in the bus ministry at almost 70 years of age, and her giving heart is a reminder of the widow who gave her all.

Another special privilege recently was the joy of being able to lead my son Eric to Christ. I was also so proud of my oldest son B.J. recently deciding to make sure of his salvation. My kids are no doubt sinners like their mother, but I am so proud of them and the signs we see of God working in their hearts. It is certainly our prayer and desire that our children would develop a tender heart for God.

In December we challenged the people of our church to give a special building-fund Christmas offering and were blessed by those who participated to see that they are growing and giving their hearts to the Lord and to the Lord's work! Please pray with us that our finances would be stronger in terms of support and in regards to the tithes and offerings of our church people so that this ministry might grow and prosper and be able to do more for God. Please pray with us concerning our need for church property. Rachel and I are trusting the Lord and continuing to set the example in terms of our stewardship. We must pray, do God's work, and depend upon Him!

The Christmas season brought some different opportunities to witness, and we thank the Lord for those saved in December through regular soul winning and church ministries. Our church people also performed a short Christmas musical for the first time, went Christmas caroling for the first time, and were able to conduct a service in a nursing home for the first time.

As we enter the New Year, we have chosen a theme, "Forward by Faith!" This is my goal—not to be stopped by the obstacles, not to be stopped by human reasoning, not to be stopped by those who say it can't be done, but instead to go forward by faith! "*For we walk by faith, not by sight.*" (II Corinthians 5:7)

Sincerely,
Brian and Rachel Johnston

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