



THE OLIVE TREE MESSAGE!

NEWSLETTER

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We Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem! Psalm 122:6

Today is March 22, 2005

Date of fatal plane crash in the Bahamas, killing son Ray & Family of 4 - **March 22, 1998**
Years of ministry without the help of Ray & Family = **7 years!**

Shalom from Baguio City,

Numbers in the Bible have meaning, 7 being the number of completeness: 7 literal days of Creation, 7 days in a week, 7 days for the Feast of Unleavened Bread, 7 days for the Feast of Tabernacles, etc. The number 8 is the number of new beginnings!

The LORD has been very gracious to us for these last 7 years, and we Thank Him! We thank you, too, for your prayers and encouragement since the accident! Now as we begin the 8th year of ministry without Ray & Family, it is appropriate to claim New Beginnings from the LORD! Does He have something brand new for us to do? Probably not, but more likely, an enhancement of the various ministries He has given us in recent years. We are eager and rejoicing for the challenge before us, whatever He has in mind! There is too much to do to take “retirement” seriously, and furthermore, we enjoy being the “bondservants (doulos)” of the LORD...until He calls us “Home”!

This past year we have enjoyed teaching in Canada and Alaska, expanded ministry in the Philippines, our 8th trip to Israel doing friendship evangelism and discipling, and have received invitations to teach in Indonesia, Nigeria, and again in Japan. How do we respond? We do not know yet, but He will make His will known as we keep active.

Since arriving in the Philippines Feb. 11, we have been teaching in various places in the country in preparation for the 3rd Annual Bible Conference of the Asia Pacific Messianic Fellowship April 6-10. The last two were well attended with 180+ each, so the local Committee is planning for 250 this year, including from Japan, Indonesia, Singapore, etc. as well as all over the Philippines. After the Conference, we will have 3 weeks for follow-up teaching and encouragement in Manila and other places before departing May 1 for home...then, 3 days to wash clothes, repack, see the dentist, then go to Bryan College in Dayton, TN for the 50th Reunion May 5-8 of Naomi's Class of 1955! Then we head up to Indiana (to see a high school exchange student from our Baguio congregation) and Illinois (both remaining sons live in the Wheaton area now). July we have important checkups on our eyes in FL, especially Roger's macular degeneration. Then...? No schedule yet. Might have to stay home, clean house, and do needed maintenance!

With our love and prayers,

Roger & Naomi