



THE WONDER OF CHRISTMAS

A group traveling by train through the Rocky Mountains was thrilled and visibly moved by the magnificent panorama. A woman on the train with them hardly raised her eyes from her book. When she was asked why, she explained, "This is the thirteenth time I have crossed these mountains. I was so impressed the first time, I could not keep the tears from rolling down my cheeks. But now I know it so well that I frequently ride through the whole range with scarcely a glance out the window."

Her sense of wonder was gone. She no longer recognized the grandeur of the breath-taking beauty around her. This same tragedy can happen in regard to the incarnation of Christ.

Think about it.... God entered the world as a baby. God was given eyebrows, elbows, two kidneys, and a spleen. Born among cows munching and the pungent smell of urine and manure.



For thirty-three years he would feel everything you and I have ever felt. He felt weak. He grew weary. He burped, sweated, blew his nose and had body odor. "Was that Him SNORING in the bow of the boat?"

WHY? Why would God do this thing? Because only a sinless **MAN** was qualified to

redeem mankind out of their sinful mess. Only an obedient **MAN** could take back the authority of the earth. Only an innocent **MAN** could shed blood so the guilty could be justified. It was the only way for a just and holy God to get what he wanted. . . **YOU!**

"You are familiar with the generosity of our Master, Jesus Christ. Rich as He was, He gave it all away for us - in one stroke He became poor and we became rich." 2 Corinthians 8:9 The Message

Now, it is finished. Jesus will remain human forever and will ultimately live on the earth and rule the nations. **Oh, the incarnation, it is AMAZING isn't it; that God would bend so low to lift us so high?**

Don't ever lose the wonder of it!



WRAPPING UP 2009

December, it's the final lap of 2009 and most of our extensive travel is over for the year. Like finishing a race, it's a good feeling to work hard and complete another year of fruitful ministry. This year's course brought some new twists and turns but gave us plenty of ministry results.

We are very pleased with the progress of the work in China. With a few adjustments, the work of evangelism, leadership training and resource supply continues. **Next month you will hear more about our commitment to church planting efforts and the support of Chinese evangelists.**

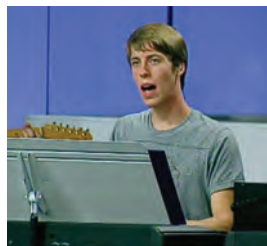
Throughout the year, our financial commitment to world missions extends beyond just the ministry of the Ottens. **It includes monthly support to Chinese missionaries, staff and church planting nationals, as well as missionaries that serve in Guatemala, Dominican Republic, Romania and several other nations.** You may not be aware that the Lifeline International office also services three other ministries:



Rodney and Nita Lloyd, missionaries to South Africa. They spend extended time traveling through the country bringing their prophetic teaching ministry to the body of Christ there.



Unbound Prison Ministries Global Teaching ministries, the ministry of Pastor Sterling Averett. Sterling works as a Pastor and as Chaplain at Dodge State Prison. He has accompanied our team to China and Venezuela.



Of course the one ministry which we are the most proud is our son **Nathan Otten**, an intercessory missionary ministering at the International House of Prayer (IHOP) in Kansas City.

Nathan is in his fourth year at the Forerunner School of Ministry and serves on volunteer staff at IHOP as a musician.

Recently a spiritual awakening has begun on campus among the bible students. At this date, classes have been suspended and meetings are being held each night to accommodate the moving of the Spirit. The meetings are being broadcast online for the public. **Many healings and deliverances have taken place on site and through the webstream.**

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2010

Every month, you receive news about our international ministry. China is our primary ongoing work as missionaries. When Bill is stateside, he travels and ministers to the body of Christ as an evangelist. Susan functions as a teacher.

Bill also serves on the apostolic team of **Christian Alliance of Ministries**, a ministry that oversees a network of Churches and ministries in the southeast. Susan serves as a local church elder at **World Harvest Church** and as a board member of **Trinity Christian School** in Dublin.

Our goal is to remain faithful to the grace of God upon our lives and the opportunities He places before us both here and abroad.

As always, we are grateful for your partnership that empowers us to accomplish these things. **We pray this coming year that your race will be accompanied by His grace and blessing. God Speed!**

For those who have never heard,

Bill and Susan



Nathan Loren Bill Susan Andrew