



Bring On The Heat

June 2018 News

“If you burn away the impurities from silver, a sterling vessel will emerge from the fire.” Proverbs 25:4 TPT

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‘For instance: silver is heated in fire; as it melts, the dross rises to the surface where the silversmith skims it off. The silver is heated again, this time at a higher temperature which brings more dross to the surface. The impurities are skimmed once more, and the process repeats, over and over, until the silversmith can see his likeness reflected in the silver.’ Zipper Sippola @quora.com

When I was very young in my new relationship with Jesus in my late teens I had such a sense that now, NOW all the world would be right. Now I had God on my side to protect me, guide me, bless me, lead me in a straight path for my feet. I had such a sense that now...NOW...I was safe.

I was so young and naïve that I did not realize several things: 1. Life is hard. 2. Life is hard. And 3. Life is hard.

I also did not realize that making my life an easy glide with as few bumps as possible was not at all on the Lord’s agenda. Rather, MUCH rather, He was interested in forming my character into a strong and dynamic woman. A woman who had experienced loss, so that she could empathize with sincerity those who were grieving loss. A woman who had experienced physical pain, so that when she saw someone suffering she would run to their side to assist them anyway she could. A woman whose heart had been broken a few times, so that she could learn that her joy was never meant to be in any one man... but rather in THE MAN, Jesus. A

woman who had been tried, as if by fire, time and time again. In each successive fire, Christ would be formed in her more and more.

In every trial, I learned. I learned to trust. I learned to lean. I leaned so hard on God and on His promises, that if He took His hand away, I would fall.

I never fell. In every storm, for every need, for every loss, His strength was there to uphold me. His love was there to comfort me. His peace was there to guide me and His overcoming joy became my strength.

The book of James tells us: Count it all joy my brothers and sisters when you fall into trials. Know that the trying of your faith produces patience. And if you let patience have its perfect work, you will be perfect and entire...wanting nothing.

When I look over the decades of my life I am very aware that God is working a work in me. This knowledge causes me to have such hope for my future. My future, in Him, is secure. It will be good. This is my faith and my trust. I lean on You, Lord. You do all things well.

If the fires of life cause me to reflect Your face more clearly to others, then Lord, bring the heat. I want You to be seen, in me.



DEBBIE ECKER
Vice President
Firstlight International

Half-Time Scoreboard



WRITTEN BY
KIRK MCCABE

It was December of 2015. I was starting to feel a little discouraged.

I had been doing research for a book titled “Countdown to Adam”, that I believed God wanted me to publish. This process had been going on now for 18 months and I still hadn’t begun to write anything. I started to question my hearing, and even my motives.

I began to rationalize why I should quit and give up the book idea. After all, this was the year my wife and I had downsized from a large farm house into a chalet half its size. The move was all-consuming; no wonder I lost momentum on my book. Then, after consulting with

other authors, I learned the book would likely cost over \$6000 to publish, without much hope of ever breaking even. I began to question my credentials. Here I was writing a book containing the latest scientific discoveries, and some lofty theological concepts, without a PhD by my name, or even a single seminary course. I found myself at the ‘half way’ point, and thinking about dropping out of the race.

But, I felt a prompting to get a second opinion from the one who gave me the idea in the first place – the Lord. He was, as always, faithful to answer. He assured me that if I would press on toward the goal (Phil. 3:14), he would make sure Countdown to Adam would have a place in impacting lives to help build his kingdom. Encouraged, I

finished the book in 18 months, publishing it in August, 2017. Early feedback is confirming God’s promise.

The 2018 version of Firstlight’s ‘kingdom race’ is reaching the half-way mark. All credit to our Lord, the first half has been exceedingly fruitful. The monthly newsletters abound with encouraging testimonies of changed lives, widows and orphans cared for, and names added to the Book of Life. Now is the time to pick up the pace.

Thanks to all of you who are running this race with Firstlight for your generous prayer and financial giving. You are indeed partakers with Christ in building his kingdom. Let’s finish strong!

Ministry News
TOP STORY

Stepping Into the Gap!

Connecting nations and peoples to their divine destiny

As we enter into the sixth month of this year, I am reminded once again of the importance of knowing that with the mind man plans his ways but it is the Lord who is directing his steps. (See Prov.16:9. Ps.37:23)

As simple as this sounds (and it is) the ‘fine tuning’ process requires a bit more effort in things like: faith, obedience, daily prayer, regular bible reading, and Holy Spirit - Jesus as our Good Shepherd voice recognition. (See John 10:27, Rom.8:14) These are just some of the ‘tools’ that helps us to stay on track making sure that we are hitting the mark.

One of the keys to all of this is a willingness to leave the known or the familiar and step into the ‘gap’ - that in between space of the unfamiliar to embrace something in God that wants to unfold. Once obtained that ‘new place’ becomes the revealed will of God that is tied to your destiny. Every step along the way brings us one step closer to fulfilling our Divine purpose.



WRITTEN BY
DAN ECKER

In 2018 Firstlight has been given the opportunity of helping others find their place among His laborers through training and equipping.



Families Without Fathers (FWF) is off to a wonderful start in 2018!

Through our Firstlight Families Without Fathers (FWF) project children like these from fatherless homes are being reached in four locations across Thailand.

These children are from the northeast region of Thailand, in the province of Nong Khai. There are 12 children in this area receiving care through FWF.

The FWF project is partnered with a local Thai church in the area and together, we work towards bringing these children to Christ through weekly visits to homes and area schools, and church related - project activities on a regular basis. Your prayers and financial giving is helping to reach them with God's great love!



Revival Moments in Myanmar ... Harvest City Center Opens in Mandalay in August!



Over the past four years, Firstlight International and Frontier Harvest Ministries have partnered together for pioneer church planting among the Pulang, (an unreached people group) in northern Myanmar. For those of you have been following us along, you have been reading these remarkable reports.

The Pulang work is prospering in over 48 villages in remote areas with regular trainings and water baptisms taking place. There are 10 national church planters and Harvest Children's Home providing care for 40 children at risk. To God be the glory, great things he has done!

The project has secured a building in Mandalay, that can hold 200 people! This will be a city church plant - outreach center for the larger region. Preparing to launch in August!

Your Part Matters Most! Thank you!



WRITTEN BY
DAN ECKER

I thought I would take a moment in this section of the newsletter to

express my deep appreciation for the part that you have in everything we do. Your partnership is not taken lightly and we are grateful for it. *Thank you!*

As an evangelistic, training and church planting ministry, Firstlight depends upon the prayers and financial giving of great team of dedicated people just like you.

Your prayers and financial giving shows that you care deeply about what Firstlight is accomplishing and makes it possible for us to pursue Global Training Platforms,

provide Care For Kingdom Families and to engage in Kingdom Advance Partnerships in selected areas of Southeast Asia.

Each of our projects and ministry platforms this year are proving to be successful as we continue to pray, give, go, and send!

Each month the enclosed return envelope is provided for you to send in your financial gift of partnership as you are lead to support the ministry.

Your personal notes and prayer requests are such an encouragement and we look forward to hearing from you! We know that prayer is important and it is our way of standing with you in prayer also.

Please do stay in touch each month.

As you are reading the newsletters each month, you have discovered that in the first part of this year we have been to Singapore, Thailand, Myanmar, and India for teaching, training, and equipping as we releasing more hands in the harvest.

In Thailand and in Myanmar, Firstlight has established works in both of those places with ongoing trainings being planned for India over the next 1-3 years. Hundreds are being reached in all of these locations on a regular basis!

During the second half of the year, the Lord willing will take us serve the prayer, and training needs in Thailand, Myanmar, India, Egypt, China, and here in the U.S. Your part matters most and we are grateful for it!

Tried and True!

On a personal note!



WRITTEN BY
DEBBIE ECKER

Summer is here, hot and steamy, full of heat and rain and lightening. I love this time of year and the great greening that goes on as every dry twig and branch brings forth lush, green leaves. In

the morning, birds are singing. In the evening, the sound of crickets or cicadas. The sounds of summer are sweet. Mothers rejoice to not have to race with sleepy children in the mornings, feeding them, dressing them and sending them out before their eyes are open. This summer is particularly special: my mom and dad have come to stay with us here in Pittsburgh. Both of them were born here nearly 90 years ago. Both of their parents were also born here. Dad and Mom moved to the Midwest nearly 40 years ago, and now, after these many years, they have returned to their home town. It has been wonderful. I enjoy the memories that my dad has as we drive through the familiar streets of Oakland and East Liberty where they were brought up. I enjoy my mother's hilarious sense of humor. She makes me laugh like no other. I am truly grateful that after a lifetime of traveling, I can take these years and have time with them; they will be such good company for me while Dan continues to travel and minister around the world. Thank you for all your prayers for us and for them during this time of transition!

Prayer Points

“Commit your works to the Lord And your plans will be established.”

Proverbs 16:3 NAS

Please pray for:

- 1. For all of our Projects & Ministry Platforms in 2018. (see pg.2&3)**
- 2. Second half ministry opportunities: Thailand, Myanmar, India, Egypt, China, & in the U.S. (see pg.2&4)**
- 3. God's abundant provision for Firstlight International during this 2nd quarter of 2018.**