The Oliver Family Newsletter

John & Paula Oliver - Missionaries with New Tribes Mission Serving at NTM International Headquarters in Sanford, Florida Newsletter 33 - February 2003

NTLI Accounting System

Over the past eleven years, my main project here has been to help design, program, and support an **NTM Accounting & Administrative (NTMAA) system**, a complete accounting & administrative system for use both at NTM International Headquarters (in Sanford, Florida, where we serve) and at various locations in the U.S. and worldwide. In 2001, we installed a subset of the NTMAA system at our NTM Aviation center in McNeal, Arizona. During December 2002, I had the opportunity to travel to our **New Tribes Language Institute (NTLI)** in Roach, Missouri and install the system there as well.

The missionary training program is divided into three phases: Bible institute (2 years), Missions institute (1 year), and Language institute (1 year). During the language institute phase, our missionary candidates learn about many topics. The main thrust, however, is in learning about and practicing culture and language acquisition. In other words, when you move into a tribal village where they speak only their tribal language, how do you learn their language? And how do you learn what they believe and why they do what they do?

Behind the scenes at NTLI, there is a business manager and other personnel trying to keep the finances straight and everything running properly. I had the privilege of working with some of these folks for two weeks, teaching them our NTMAA system and helping them transition from their existing accounting programs to our system.

On a related note, New Tribes Mission is hoping and planning to eventually consolidate the various training centers (Bible institutes, Missions institutes, and Language institute) into a single location. Even now, they are researching and considering various locations in the Central Florida area. This is a significant project, both in scope and expense, and so they would appreciate your prayers for the Lord's wisdom, guidance, and provision.

Inside and Out

By God's grace and help, Paula has made some significant lifestyle changes over the past year and a half. She's exercising regularly and has been trying the Hallelujah Acres diet (which focuses on healthy eating - lots of raw fruit and vegetables). Most mornings, Paula gets up early and makes us some fresh vegetable juice (from carrots, celery, romaine lettuce, spinach, parsley). She has lost some excess pounds, is feeling good, and is thankful for the work the Lord is doing – inside and out.

Through the Hallelujah diet web group, Paula has enjoyed meeting a number of other ladies and has started an email accountability group. This has been a real opportunity for her to minister and to be ministered to.

The younger four members of the family (myself included) are on what we like to call a modified Hallelujah Acres diet. We have also learned about the Plan B diet, which is based on Genesis 9:3. Nicholas would like to create a Plan C diet, which allows you to eat anything with a C (cookies, candy, cake, ice cream, chips, etc.) ©.

His Grace is Sufficient

We shared in our August 2002 newsletter that we were expecting another baby, due to arrive around March 2003. We are sad to say that not many weeks after that, Paula started having some bleeding and eventually a miscarriage. It was a difficult time for us, but God's grace has been sufficient. Our children belong to God and we appreciate the opportunity to love and raise the ones that He has entrusted us with.



Thanks for being part of our team through your prayers, encouragement, and support. Thanks too for your letters, cards, and emails.

We appreciate your prayers on our behalf (we have some updated prayer requests on our web site, www.JPOliver.com). Let us know how we can be praying for you as well.

Your missionaries,

John, Paula, Nicholas, Joy, and Hannah Oliver ©

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