



Care & Share

THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE LIFE OF JESUS

By Dr. Marno Retief

As we celebrate the outpouring of the Holy Spirit during this Pentecost, I wonder if we realise just what a powerful role the Holy Spirit played in Jesus' life. One of the most important terms Jesus uses with reference to the Holy Spirit is the term *parakletos*, a Greek word which refers to a person called to someone's aid or defence, especially in a legal setting. Some Bible translations translate *parakletos* as *advocate*, and most of us immediately assume this refers to a professionally trained legal practitioner. We think of someone standing in court, acting on someone's behalf as either defense attorney or prosecutor. But this is not the meaning of *parakletos* in the New Testament. Rather, in the context of ancient Israel, a judge decided the guilt or innocence of a person by questioning two or more witnesses to ascertain the truth about the case. For example, the book of Deuteronomy records, "On the evidence of two witnesses or of three witnesses the one who is to die shall be put to death; a person shall not be put to death on the evidence of one witness" (Deut. 17:6, ESV). In order to help their case, people would call on someone who knew them well to act as a witness on their behalf, to tell the judge the truth about who they are. Such a *parakletos* or witness would often be a close friend or someone who knew the accused very well – someone able to testify regarding the good character of the person. Sometimes the *parakletos* may have been an eyewitness to certain events relevant to the case. In any event, the help of such a witness could often be the decisive factor in securing a favourable outcome for the person standing trial. Simply said, the evidence provided by the witness could make or break the case for the accused.

But why does Jesus refer to the Holy Spirit as *parakletos* in John 15? And what does this have to do with Jesus' disciples? Jesus refers to the Holy Spirit as *parakletos* since He is the chief witness concerning Jesus' life and ministry. He is the Spirit of truth who bears witness to the truth about Jesus. The Spirit knows Jesus better than any of us ever could and we can thus have complete confidence in his testimony concerning Jesus. The Spirit was present with Jesus right from the beginning of his life – in fact, from the moment of his conception in his mother Mary's womb. Moreover, the Spirit played a crucial role in the most pivotal moments of Jesus' ministry on earth. Indeed, we confidently say both Jesus' life and ministry were totally Spirit-driven. And importantly, the

Spirit continues to play a crucial role in bringing the saving presence of Jesus to people's lives after the ascension. As for Jesus' disciples, they were present with Jesus from the beginning of his public ministry and were thus able to bear witness concerning what they saw and experienced during their time with Jesus. But more than that, they had the utterly trustworthy testimony of the Holy Spirit which served as the foundation and empowerment for their testimony about Jesus. The Holy Spirit is and always will be the chief witness to the truth about Jesus.

As I already noted, Jesus' life and ministry were Spirit-driven, empowered by the Spirit. This is something often overlooked in the field of Christology. As we reflect on the person and work of Jesus Christ, it's important to recognise the pervasive influence of the Holy Spirit on the mission of Jesus Christ. This connection between Christ and the Spirit is so close that Paul writes to the believers in Rome, "You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him" (Rom. 8:9, ESV). The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of Christ. If we neglect this truth, we won't really understand the life and ministry of Jesus properly. Many Christians assume the Holy Spirit wasn't involved in Jesus' earthly life at all and believe the ministry of the Holy Spirit only began on the day of Pentecost. But nothing could be further from the truth. As Reformed theologian Abraham Kuyper puts it,

[T]he Church has never sufficiently confessed the influence of the Holy Spirit exerted upon the work of Christ. The general impression is that the work of the Holy Spirit begins when the work of the Mediator on earth is finished, as though until that time the Holy Spirit celebrated His divine day of rest. Yet the Scripture teaches us again and again that Christ performed His mediatorial work controlled and impelled by the Holy Spirit.

This last part of Kuyper's statement is especially important to me – "Christ performed His mediatorial work controlled and impelled by the Holy Spirit." So, when we think about Jesus' saving mission, we need to notice the various ways in which the Holy Spirit empowers and guides Jesus' actions. A careful study of Scripture reveals at least seven ways in which Jesus Christ was assisted or empowered by the Holy Spirit during his life on earth. It's so important for us to take notice of the Spirit's ministry in Jesus' life, since only then will we appreciate how the Holy Spirit helped Jesus accomplish the mission God the Father gave him and by understanding this, we may begin to understand the incredible things God the Holy Spirit is able to accomplish in our lives as well.

So, how was the life and ministry of Jesus empowered by the Holy Spirit? First of all, the virginal conception of Jesus in the womb of the Virgin Mary was a work of the Holy Spirit. Both the gospels of Matthew and Luke stress that Jesus was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, and not through the agency of a human father. In the Gospel of Matthew, an angel of the Lord appears to Joseph in a dream and commands him, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife,

for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit” (Matt. 1:20, ESV). Moreover, Matthew points out that Joseph had not had sexual relations with Mary before the birth of Jesus, thus emphasising the supernatural origin of Jesus (Matt. 1:25). Similarly, in the Gospel of Luke, the angel Gabriel tells Mary, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy – the Son of God” (Luke 1:35, ESV). Theologians refer to this truth as the virginal conception – Jesus was conceived in the womb of the Virgin Mary through the agency of the Holy Spirit, without the sexual involvement of a human father. But why is this doctrine of the virginal conception of Jesus important? Why does it matter?

The primary reason for the virginal conception was to ensure the holiness and sinlessness of Jesus. Once again, let’s remind ourselves of the angel Gabriel’s words to Mary, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy – the Son of God” (Luke 1:35, ESV). Now does this mean that sexual intercourse is always sinful or that original sin is transmitted through the male line? No, not at all. The Bible clearly teaches the holiness of sex in the context of the marriage covenant between a man and a woman. There are other important reasons why Jesus’ conception had to be through the power of the Holy Spirit. Sinclair Ferguson helpfully highlights several of these reasons, but I’ll just briefly mention the three which stand out for me. Firstly, Jesus’ virginal conception through the Holy Spirit highlights the complete sovereignty of God in our salvation. Our salvation is the work of God, not ours. But it also highlights how God didn’t create Jesus’ human nature *ex nihilo* – out of nothing – but rather sanctified the human nature Jesus received from the Virgin Mary through the power of the Holy Spirit. Moreover, the doctrine of the virginal conception reminds us that it’s the Son of God who became the man Jesus through the power of the Holy Spirit, and not the man Jesus who became the Son of God at some point in his life. The doctrine thus reinforces the truth of the incarnation of the Son of God. So, as we reflect on the empowerment of the Holy Spirit in Jesus’ life, let’s remember the Holy Spirit was powerfully at work in Jesus’ life from the moment of his conception.

But secondly, Jesus was anointed by the Holy Spirit. Every aspect of Jesus’ ministry was dependent on the power of the Holy Spirit. At the beginning of his ministry, Jesus applies the words of Isaiah 61 to himself when he declares in Luke, chapter 4, “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor” (Luke 4:18-19, ESV). Moreover, the book of Acts speaks of the fact that “God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power” (Acts 10:38a, ESV).

Most commentators believe this anointing of Jesus occurred at his baptism by John in the Jordan River. Indeed, the three synoptic Gospels – Matthew, Mark, and Luke – all describe the Spirit descending on Jesus like a dove during his baptism. While Jesus was, of course, filled with the

power of the Holy Spirit from the moment of his conception, his baptism marked the turning point where the power of the Holy Spirit began to work publicly and visibly through him. In this sense, the anointing of the Holy Spirit served to empower the ministry of Jesus. But also – very importantly – Jesus’ anointing with the Holy Spirit designated him as the true Messiah of Israel. As Peter refers to Jesus during his prayer recorded in Acts 4, “[Y]our holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed (Acts 4:27b, ESV). Similarly, the author of Hebrews applies the words of Psalm 45 to Jesus: “You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions” (Heb. 1:9, ESV). Furthermore, Jesus’ anointing with the Holy Spirit served as God the Father’s authentication of Jesus’ ministry. As the Spirit descended on Jesus like a dove during his baptism, the voice of God the Father spoke from heaven, saying, “You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased” (Luke 3:22). Jesus’ ministry was truly anointed with the power of the Holy Spirit.

Thirdly, since Jesus’ was anointed with the power of the Holy Spirit, he also performed his miracles by the power of the Holy Spirit. All Jesus’ miraculous works – his healing miracles, his exorcisms, his raising of the dead, and his nature miracles – all these miracles were performed by the power of the Holy Spirit. For example, with reference to his ability to cast out demons, Jesus remarks in the Gospel of Matthew, “But if it is by the Spirit of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you” (Matt. 12:28, ESV). With these remarks, Jesus clearly implied it was the Holy Spirit who gave him power over demons. In the book of Acts, the apostle Peter addresses a large crowd of people and tells them, “Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs that God did through him in your midst” (Acts 2:22, ESV). Thus, Peter viewed Jesus’ miracles as evidence of the power of God at work through him. When we read Jesus’ remarks and Peter’s remarks together, Peter’s reference to the power of God should evidently be interpreted as a reference to the power of God the Holy Spirit working in and through Jesus. Consequently, the various miracles of Jesus recorded in the Gospels should be viewed as Spirit-empowered miracles.

Fourthly, Jesus’ life and ministry were empowered by the Spirit because – as I’ve already noted – Jesus was filled with the power of the Holy Spirit from the moment of his conception. While there are no direct references to Jesus being filled with the Holy Spirit from the moment of conception, a number of verses clearly imply this teaching. The Gospel of Luke records how “Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness” (Luke 4:1, ESV). In the Gospel of John, John the Baptist explains how God the Father gives Jesus “the Spirit without measure” (John 3:34b, ESV). Two Old Testament Messianic prophecies, in particular, testify to the fact that Jesus the Messiah was filled with the Spirit at the moment of his conception in his mother’s womb. With reference to the Messiah, Isaiah 11 remarks, “[T]he Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him” (Isa. 11:2, ESV). And later in the book of Isaiah, the Lord declares, “Behold my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my Spirit upon him; he will bring forth

justice to the nations” (Isa. 42:1). When considered together, these verses all point to the truth that Jesus was Spirit-filled from the first moment he was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Fifthly, Jesus was also continually led by the Holy Spirit. Every decision Jesus made during his earthly life was guided by the Holy Spirit. For example, in the Gospel of Luke we read how “Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness” (Luke 4:1, ESV). Interestingly, in this instance, the Spirit led Jesus into a situation where he was tempted by Satan for a period of forty days. Don’t ever think the Holy Spirit won’t lead you into difficult situations. As Jesus’ life shows, there will be times where the Spirit leads us into situations where our faith is tested to the maximum. Yet, this same Holy Spirit also helps us to enjoy victory when faced with such challenging circumstances. But getting back to Jesus’ life and ministry, it’s because of the constant guidance of the Holy Spirit that Jesus was able to know and do the will of God the Father throughout his life. Since he was always led by the Holy Spirit, Jesus is able to say in the Gospel of John, “When you have lifted up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am he, and that I do nothing on my own authority, but speak just as the Father taught me. And he who sent me is with me. He has not left me alone, for I always do the things that are pleasing to him” (John 8:28-29, ESV). Jesus wasn’t just empowered by the Spirit, but continually guided by the Spirit, seeking to do the will of his Father.

In the sixth place, the Holy Spirit was also involved in Jesus’ saving death on the cross. The Bible reveals two ways in which the Holy Spirit was involved in Jesus’ sacrificial death. First of all, it’s the Holy Spirit who led Jesus to embrace his mission as the Suffering Servant. As the Lord declares in Isaiah 42, “Behold my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my Spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations” (Isa. 42:1). But secondly, Jesus offered himself to God on the cross through the Holy Spirit. The author of Hebrews speaks of “Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God” (Heb. 9:14b, ESV). The power of the Holy Spirit was at work in Jesus as he laid down his life for our sins. Thus, even our salvation through Christ is, in a sense, a work of the Holy Spirit.

But lastly, the seventh way in which the Holy Spirit assisted or empowered Jesus’ life is found in Jesus’ resurrection. It’s through the power of the Holy Spirit that Jesus was raised from the dead. In the book of Romans, Paul draws a parallel between Jesus’ resurrection through the Holy Spirit and the future resurrection of believers through the Holy Spirit. As Paul explains, “If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you” (Rom. 8:11, ESV). Moreover, in the first chapter of Romans, Paul states that Jesus “was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead” (Rom. 1:4, ESV). Paul’s reference to the “Spirit of holiness” is most likely a reference to the Holy Spirit. And in his first letter to Timothy, Paul speaks how Jesus Christ was “vindicated by the Spirit” (1 Tim. 3:16, ESV), which most commentators believe is a

reference to the fact that Jesus was resurrected by the power the Holy Spirit. Consequently, the biblical evidence points to the powerful presence and work of the Holy Spirit in the resurrection of Christ as well.

While we've considered seven ways in which the Holy Spirit empowered the life and ministry of Jesus, some biblical scholars highlight even more ways in which the Holy Spirit was active in the life of Jesus. Regardless, the basic point of this message is this: The Holy Spirit was powerfully at work in the life and ministry of Jesus, and we need to take note of this. If the Holy Spirit played such an important role in Jesus' earthly life, what does this tell us about the role of the Holy Spirit in our lives? The Holy Spirit brought about the virginal conception of Jesus in the womb of the Virgin Mary. The Holy Spirit anointed the ministry of Jesus. The Holy Spirit is the one who empowered the miracles of Jesus. The Holy Spirit filled Jesus from the first moment of his conception. The Holy Spirit constantly guided Jesus' in the decisions he made. The Holy Spirit was involved in Jesus' sacrifice on the cross. The power of the Holy Spirit raised Jesus from the dead. This same Holy Spirit is living and active in our lives today. Just think about that for a moment – and then think about what God the Holy Spirit is willing and able to do in your life.

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

June is now on our calendar. In May, we were looking forward to planting and seeding but that is still not possible in most places. Here, in our area, we did not experience the worst of the rains and flooding. How does that make us feel? I hear many comments. When the sun comes out, I hear, “we deserve it” or “it is about time”. My response is that we are no deserving over anyone else. We should just be thankful for what we have. Yes, it can be frustrating when fields have to be seeded and the opportunity is not there. Or you find two dead calves in the field after a storm. Last year we have seen how things can change so quickly. After a hot dry summer, we had a beautiful fall with the grass growing and gardens flourishing. As humans, we like to have control over our lives. But again, we have to admit that we are not in control. God is! While I was walking between the cows this week, everything was so beautiful. Happy animals—so great to see. We wish you all a blessed summer!



WARM OUR HEARTS WITH THY LOVE by Helen Steiner Rice

Oh, God, who made the summer
And warmed the earth with beauty.
Warm our hearts with gratitude
And devotion to our duty...
Oh God, look down on our cold hearts
And warm them with your love,
And grant us Your forgiveness
Which we're so unworthy of.

We wish all our families a special Father's Day. To those who have no earthly father anymore, may you know you have a heavenly Father who will be there for you always!

Continue to pray for Cathie Sinninghe as she awaits for medical treatment for her foot. She is thankful that the pain has lessened and is appreciative of all the prayers for her.

Kay Redford has found out that she will not need surgery for her back. She is now undergoing physiotherapy which should give her relief from her back pain. Continue to keep her in prayer.

Also, please continue to pray for Kathy Stahn who is now at home.

Congratulations to Henry & Thea Kaemingh with the birth of two great grandchildren. Broody Jason Wiersma was born on May 6 to Kiera Wiersma (daughter of Jason & Cheryl Wiersma). William Henry Friesen was born on May 15 to Ian & Jessica Friesen. Congratulations to Ian & Jessica and first time grandparents Albert & Carolyn Strydhorst.

Congratulations to Colin & Janine Angus as they were blessed with the birth of a daughter, Carter Ila, this past Thursday, May 26. Congratulations to first time grandparents, Brad & Corinne Webb and great grandparents, Corrie & Janice Wiersema.

Alex Veldhuisen graduated from Dordt University with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing and a minor in Biomedical Science. She has accepted a position for Sanford Health at a hospital in Sheldon, Iowa. The Lord willing, she plans to marry Josh Dykstra in Iowa on August 6, 2022. God is good.

Parents/students—we would like to acknowledge all our graduates (elementary—college/university) in our July newsletter. Please forward your information to Jeannette at emocrc@gmail.com

SCAP SPRING CONCERT - BEHOLD, OUR GOD!

Staff and students are busy preparing for a special celebration of God's faithfulness and blessings through the years! Please come and join us for an evening of praise and thanksgiving on Monday, June 13, 7:00 pm at SCAP. A basket for freewill offerings will be available.

A note of apology:

At the last congregational meeting, I am sorry if I implied that children should be banned from using the sanctuary to run off some excess steam or just playing together, especially in our long seasons of cold or damp weather. I just felt they should do so under adult supervision so as not to harm themselves or others by running and climbing over pews or playing with the sound system, piano, and organ. I will be the first to volunteer. So sorry, Auntie Helen

A blessed birthday to all those celebrating their special day in June. Our seniors celebrating in June are Linda Esselink on the 10th, Archie Wiersema on the 23rd and Helen Cates on the 28th.

Happy Anniversary to the many couples who are celebrating in June. Those married 40+ years are Sid & Carrie Smid (60th on the 2nd)

Ted & Ynske Kaemingh (64th on the 6th)

Peter & Leona Van Heyst (60th on the 15th)

Arend & Wilma Wielinga (61st on the 23rd)

Jack & Ann Wielinga (51st on the 24th)

Eltjo & Dorothy Wiersema (57th on the 25th)

Jan & Annie Van Rozen (41st on the 26th)

Rich & Geneva Veldhuisen (43rd on the 29th)

"As a white candle in a holy place, so is the beauty of an aged face." Joseph Campbell (1879-1944)

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH:

Is prayer your steering wheel or your spare tire?

"I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest" (John 4:35).

May 2022

Greetings from Mark & Tina Mast

The fields are ripe for the harvest and 2022 has already provided an abundance of opportunities to declare the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the "otherwise unreached" around the world! Thanks for your prayers and support as we make Jesus known! It has been another exciting and eventful winter of ministry! Here a few "Winter Highlights":

Apple Blossoms

Tina and Rachel have been conducting this weekly discipleship and mentoring program for 20 girls in Rainy River.

House of Bethel

The House of Bethel orphanage was opened in India on December 24 for orphan girls rescued from the streets of Miryalaguda City. It is providing a beautiful sanctuary for 50 precious lives plucked from the streets of India. Pray for Pastor Elijah & Sunitha Naik, all who serve with them.

Guatemala Outreach

Mark was privileged to lead another "GO!" team to Guatemala from March 28-April 5. It was an intensely full week of ministry in the fertile soil of Central America where the fields are ripe to the harvest! Pray for the ongoing construction of Grace, Love and Mercy Church to complement the Christian school that presently nurtures 110 children (and their families) both academically and spiritually.

Border EFC

Construction of a "multi-purpose worship center" will begin as soon as our extended winter is over. Pray for the Lord's favor and blessing as we move forward in faith to build a new Lighthouse to shine the Gospel in the harvest fields of northern Minnesota.

Summer of 2022

Plans are being finalized for the outreaches that will take place in Canada and the USA throughout the summer of 2022. Please join us in prayer for the Northern Lights Day Camps and Wilderness Canoe Trip we will conduct in the following locations:

- Lake Road Bible Chapel - June 20-23
- Barwick Community Church - July 11-14
- Morson Bible Fellowship - July 18-21
- Fort Frances Evangelical Fellowship - July 25-28
- Nestor Falls Wilderness Canoe Trip - August 20-27



Sunday Worship Services and mid-week "Prayer & Praise" gatherings continue to edify the Body of Christ both in person and through the use of technology. Pray for "Divine Appointments" to advance the Good News of Jesus. What a Mighty God we serve! "Thank You LORD for Your faithfulness and provision."

Thank you dear friends, for the special encouragement that you are to us! We are so grateful for your prayers, encouragement and financial support. May the Lord bless YOU!

Looking to Jesus, Mark & Tina Mast

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Click the "Donate Now" tab on the upper right hand corner. Choose to donate from the "USA" or "Canada". Please be sure to indicate that your gift is for "Mark & Tina Mast" in the designation box.



Belated Happy Easter!

Last month we had a wonderful Easter worship service at school. Our highschool student government led the service, with help from the elementary band. It was the first time we have had the whole student body assembled together for a service in 2 years! It was beautiful to see the mix of students from Kindergarten all the way to grade 12 together in the auditorium.

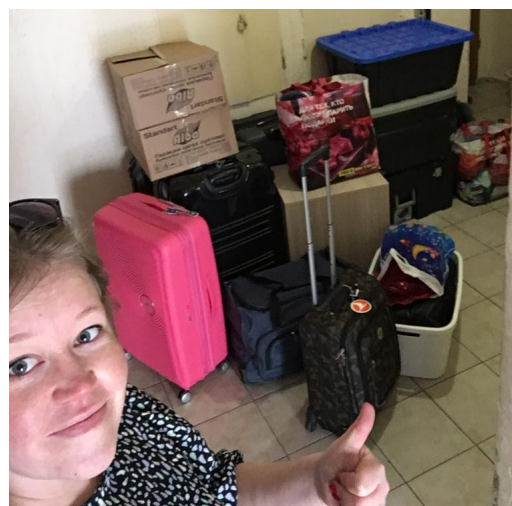


One fun thing we did on the Easter long weekend was dyeing eggs with the Owens, a family from school, who have really taken us under their wing. We were all delighted with Ian's creative decorating style.



Pre-Baby to do list: A move

We knew that sooner or later, we would want an apartment that had some room for our family to grow into. With our baby on the way, we figured it might be easier to move pre-baby rather than post! With turnover of apartments being extremely fast here, we began looking a few days before our spring break, and within 3 days, had looked at a few apartments, and made a choice! We had lots of help moving and we are loving our new place!



Now we have a guest room (someday will be a kid's room) that you can come stay in if you visit us! We are beyond thrilled that our first visitors, Jess's parents, arrive on Thursday, the 12th. It's a race to see who will get here first. Them, or the baby?



The baby is coming!

Thank you for all of your inquiries about how we are doing! These last few weeks have both been flying by in some ways, and dragging in others! We had told some of you that the baby was breech and were praying for a big flip to happen. Praise God, it did!

Jess has taken a gradual approach to giving up the classes she was teaching and is now down to one class, her yearbook class that meets twice a week. That being said, she comes to school twice a week and works on that project most of the day while also making sure to keep her feet up and staying active by walking the hallways and track.

We have been blessed by the arrival of a temporary teacher who will be taking over Ian's classes for 2 weeks as soon as our baby arrives to give us some time to be together at home. What a blessing from God in his provision of this teacher who not only arrived just in time, but recently graduated with a Math teaching degree and is excited to take over calculus, geometry and algebra classes!

Prayer Requests and Thanksgiving

As we finish up the school year, we are aware of how many of our students will be saying goodbye to good friends and classmates once summer break starts. Our school is always going to be a place with a high number of students who come and go depending on their parent's ministries. Pray for their goodbyes to be good, and for the next steps in their ministry, wherever God may be leading their families to next.



Of course, we are thankful most potently right now for a healthy pregnancy, and a baby that will hopefully join us any day now. Our due date is May 12, and our students have been having fun guessing the gender, weight, and what day baby Friesen will actually join us! Having Jess's Mom and Dad arriving is an added blessing we are so grateful for!

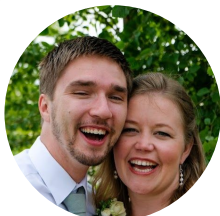
Engaging People. Embracing Christ.

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Received from Ian & Jessica Friesen:

Hello dear friends and family,

Thank you so much for your prayers the past couple of days! We are excited to announce the safe arrival of William Henry Friesen. He was born on Sunday morning, May 15th.

We are feeling especially blessed by God as, on Friday afternoon, we received word from our doctor that Jess' blood work suggested it was time to induce due to some risks arising, and so she was scheduled for an induction the following morning (May 14th). We went to sleep on Friday feeling unsettled and uncertain about the best choice to make about the induction set for the next morning, and during the night Jess went into labour on her own - 4 hours before the induction was scheduled to begin! God answered our prayers!

We spent the day in the hospital with wonderful help from the nurses and doctors. At 12:29 am on Sunday morning, baby William was born weighing 8 lbs and 7 oz. We stayed in the hospital until Monday afternoon, and the hospital conducted their routine checks on both baby and momma. Once everything was in the clear we went home and joined Jess' parents, now turned grandparents! They are here for 2 weeks and it has already been such a gift from God to have them here with us!

Thank you for your prayers as we raise this young boy to fear the Lord and to know His goodness and love. Blessings,

Ian & Jess





The Eastern Apurímac Quechua Bible is Complete!

Two years ago we shared with you that the Eastern Apurímac Quechua **Old Testament** was complete. Since then, our dear friends at [AIDIA](#)* have been busy revising the New Testament, comparing it with the Old Testament, writing the introductions for each book, the glossary, and other helps to include in the Bible. **We're excited to announce that the Eastern Apurímac Quechua Bible is now complete and ready to print!** What a milestone!

AIDIA is a partner organization of Wycliffe Bible Translators, whom we mentored during our time in Peru. The church-based organization's name is an acronym for "Interdenominational Association for the Holistic Development of Apurímac." We had the privilege of attending the Eastern Apurímac Quechua New Testament dedication in 2013.

AIDIA team members serve in one of the most disadvantaged regions of Peru. Using the newly translated New Testament, AIDIA teams have worked hard to promote literacy, develop church leadership, produce audio/video Scriptural materials, and encourage children's Sunday school classes and camps. Since the publication of the New Testament, over 70 new churches have been planted in this area. More and more people are giving their lives to Christ, and desiring to read the Scriptures in their own language.

Luis Cervantes, director of AIDIA, says, "We give thanks to God, to the team of translators, our donors, the consultants, and to all the people who were involved in this project. We are sure that this translation will be a great blessing for many Quechua-speaking people in the Apurímac region. Now our desire is to see the whole Bible printed."



Our brothers and sisters will soon have access to the entire Bible in the language that serves them best. Now the local team only needs to print and distribute the Bibles. **We would like to take this opportunity to invite you to get involved in printing some of the 5,000 Bibles needed.** It costs just \$23 to print an Eastern Apurímac Quechua Bible. Gifts can be made [here](#).

If you would like to share this opportunity with your church, Wycliffe offers [resources](#) to make fundraising easy.

Thank you for working together with us to make a difference, through language, so people everywhere can flourish in a relationship with their Saviour.

Justin & Tammy Hettinga

**AIDIA (pronounced "idea") is a Quechua partner organization in Abancay, Peru, serving the speakers of East Apurímac Quechua in Bible translation, literacy, church leadership training, audio/visual ministry, youth and children's ministries, publications, and dental care.*

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wycliffe.ca

Finance Update:

As missionaries working with Wycliffe Bible Translators (giving leadership to the work of Bible translation and language development in the Americas), we trust God to supply our financial needs through churches and individuals who wish to partner with us. Part of our reliance on God is to make our needs known as we have them. **We are currently lacking about \$620/month to reach 100% of the ministry budget that Wycliffe Canada has set for us.** Please consider becoming a financial partner or increasing your regular monthly donation.

To Partner Financially:

If you would like to make a one-time donation or set up a recurring donation (pre-authorized payments), visit Hettinga.ca, and click "Give Now." To donate by credit card over the phone, please call 1-800-463-1143 (9am-4pm Mountain time) and ask for the Receipts Department. To donate by mail, please make cheque(s) payable to Wycliffe Canada and mail to the Wycliffe address above. (Please include a separate note that states "for the work of Justin & Tammy Hettinga.") If you have any issues with any of these giving options, please do not hesitate to ask for our assistance.

Greetings from Mark & Tina



You're invited to join us for Northern Light's Day Camp!

There are two weeks to chose from:

July 11-14 - Barwick Community Church

July 25-28 - Fort Frances Evangelical Fellowship Church

This event is sponsored by One Hope Canada.

There are Northern Lights Day Camp brochures (to register) on the table in the church entrance.

You can also contact Jeannette at [emocrc@gmail](mailto:emocrc@gmail.com) and she can send you a digital copy. Be sure to sign up by June 10 in order to get a T-shirt!

Looking to Jesus,

Mark & Tina Mast

masts@bell.net

(807)852-3202

From the Institute of Christian Studies:

Dear Friends,

We are pleased to send you this special spring 2022 issue of PERSPECTIVE, dedicated to the legacy of Cal Seerveld and his late wife Ines.

Read or download this issue here <https://tinyurl.com/PerspectiveSpr22>



Christian Parents Association

Box 518 • Emo, ON • P0W 1E0 • (807) 482-3838

CPA Report to Churches

As many of you know, the Rainy River District School Board has decided to end the SCAP partnership agreement with the Christian Parents' Association as of the end of this school year. For over 40 years, as part of this agreement, the School Board has provided SCAP with classroom material, teacher and educational assistant wages as well as funding for bussing and custodial expenses. Despite the sudden changes caused by the end of the agreement, the CPA is committed to ensuring that the school remains open to provide Bible-based, Christ-centred education for families who desire it.

To get a sense of what kind of school setup families were wanting, a survey was sent out and these showed a strong interest in a traditional classroom setting with teachers, educational assistants and volunteers. A CPA Education committee and a CPA Finance committee were formed and these committees have been working hard to come up with a workable plan.

The Education Committee recommends that we continue our focus on academic excellence as an inspected, accredited, private K-12 Christ-centred school through which secondary students graduate with an Ontario Secondary School Diploma. Teacher presence is recommended in both the elementary and the secondary with the continued offering of hands-on courses in the high school that cover the elective portion of graduation requirements. The CPA Board agrees with the Education Committee that getting the help of Edvance (formerly known as the Ontario Alliance of Christian Schools) will be extremely valuable to ensure that we are on the right track in regards to school structure and curriculum.

Thankfully, as of September 2020, our school building is paid for and we thank all those who have contributed so generously! Obviously, privatizing comes at another huge cost. The CPA Finance Committee has drafted various payment scenarios, wanting to keep tuition as low as possible. But even with a very lean budget, it is looking like tuition will be up to approximately \$10,000 per family per year. We will continue to look into ways to help alleviate tuition costs. Fundraising will be very important. Financial help from those who are willing and able to sponsor a family would also be a wonderful support.

The CPA is looking forward to seeing where God can lead us down this new road and is hoping that our area churches will come alongside to support Christian education in our district. Please pray for God's wisdom and direction as we seek His will for the school.

One generation shall praise Your works to another, and shall declare Your mighty acts. Psalm 145:4

If you have any questions, you can contact any of our CPA Board members: Jason McQuaker, Ed Dykstra, Arjen van Zwol, Alyssa Hettinga, Michelle Van Beek, Carolyn Winik, Carson Ikert, Wayne Kooistra and Jenna Esselink.

Thank you,

The CPA Board




June

	Old Testament	New Testament	Psalms	Proverbs
<input type="checkbox"/> 01	2 Samuel 18:1-19:10	John 20:1-31	Psalms 119:153-176	Proverbs 16:14-15
<input type="checkbox"/> 02	2 Samuel 19:11-20:13	John 21:1-25	Psalms 120:1-7	Proverbs 16:16-17
<input type="checkbox"/> 03	2 Samuel 20:14-21:22	Acts 1:1-26	Psalms 121:1-8	Proverbs 16:18
<input type="checkbox"/> 04	2 Samuel 22:1-23:23	Acts 2:1-47	Psalms 122:1-9	Proverbs 16:19-20
<input type="checkbox"/> 05	2 Samuel 23:24-24:25	Acts 3:1-26	Psalms 123:1-4	Proverbs 16:21-23
<input type="checkbox"/> 06	1 Kings 1:1-53	Acts 4:1-37	Psalms 124:1-8	Proverbs 16:24
<input type="checkbox"/> 07	1 Kings 2:1-3:2	Acts 5:1-42	Psalms 125:1-5	Proverbs 16:25
<input type="checkbox"/> 08	1 Kings 3:3-4:34	Acts 6:1-15	Psalms 126:1-6	Proverbs 16:26-27
<input type="checkbox"/> 09	1 Kings 5:1-6:38	Acts 7:1-29	Psalms 127:1-5	Proverbs 16:28-30
<input type="checkbox"/> 10	1 Kings 7:1-50	Acts 7:30-50	Psalms 128:1-6	Proverbs 16:31-33
<input type="checkbox"/> 11	1 Kings 8:1-66	Acts 7:51-8:13	Psalms 129:1-8	Proverbs 17:1
<input type="checkbox"/> 12	1 Kings 9:1-10:29	Acts 8:14-40	Psalms 130:1-8	Proverbs 17:2-3
<input type="checkbox"/> 13	1 Kings 11:1-12:19	Acts 9:1-25	Psalms 131:1-3	Proverbs 17:4-5
<input type="checkbox"/> 14	1 Kings 12:20-13:34	Acts 9:26-43	Psalms 132:1-18	Proverbs 17:6
<input type="checkbox"/> 15	1 Kings 14:1-15:24	Acts 10:1-23	Psalms 133:1-3	Proverbs 17:7-8
<input type="checkbox"/> 16	1 Kings 15:25-17:24	Acts 10:24-48	Psalms 134:1-3	Proverbs 17:9-11
<input type="checkbox"/> 17	1 Kings 18:1-46	Acts 11:1-30	Psalms 135:1-21	Proverbs 17:12-13
<input type="checkbox"/> 18	1 Kings 19:1-21	Acts 12:1-23	Psalms 136:1-26	Proverbs 17:14-15
<input type="checkbox"/> 19	1 Kings 20:1-21:29	Acts 12:24-13:15	Psalms 137:1-9	Proverbs 17:16
<input type="checkbox"/> 20	1 Kings 22:1-53	Acts 13:16-41	Psalms 138:1-8	Proverbs 17:17-18
<input type="checkbox"/> 21	2 Kings 1:1-2:25	Acts 13:42-14:7	Psalms 139:1-24	Proverbs 17:19-21
<input type="checkbox"/> 22	2 Kings 3:1-4:17	Acts 14:8-28	Psalms 140:1-13	Proverbs 17:22
<input type="checkbox"/> 23	2 Kings 4:18-5:27	Acts 15:1-35	Psalms 141:1-10	Proverbs 17:23
<input type="checkbox"/> 24	2 Kings 6:1-7:20	Acts 15:36-16:15	Psalms 142:1-7	Proverbs 17:24-25
<input type="checkbox"/> 25	2 Kings 8:1-9:13	Acts 16:16-40	Psalms 143:1-12	Proverbs 17:26
<input type="checkbox"/> 26	2 Kings 9:14-10:31	Acts 17:1-34	Psalms 144:1-15	Proverbs 17:27-28
<input type="checkbox"/> 27	2 Kings 10:32-12:21	Acts 18:1-22	Psalms 145:1-21	Proverbs 18:1
<input type="checkbox"/> 28	2 Kings 13:1-14:29	Acts 18:23-19:12	Psalms 146:1-10	Proverbs 18:2-3
<input type="checkbox"/> 29	2 Kings 15:1-16:20	Acts 19:13-41	Psalms 147:1-20	Proverbs 18:4-5
<input type="checkbox"/> 30	2 Kings 17:1-18:12	Acts 20:1-38	Psalms 148:1-14	Proverbs 18:6-7



JUNE 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 7:00 EDS (EMO DISCIPLESHIP SCHOOL)	2 Reagan Kaemingh Paul Koomans Kerri Tolen *Sid & Carrie Smid (60th)	3 Bonnie Woolsey	4
5 Kris Esselink 10:00 WORSHIP SUNDAY SCHOOL WIND-UP 5:00 PRAISE & WORSHIP	6 *Ted & Ynske Kaemingh (64th) *Mike & Carly Veldhuisen (14th) 9:45 DORCAS	7 7:00 COUNCIL	8 7:00 EDS	9 *Eric & Natalie Veldhuisen (16th)	10 Linda Esselink	11 Deb DeGroot Teagan White Michelle Van Beek *Ed & Dianne Heerema (39th)
12 10:00 WORSHIP	13	14	15 Josh Boven James Kaemingh *Ralph & Ann Fluit (31st) *Peter & Leona VanHeyst (60th)	16 Geneva Veldhuisen	17 *Dan & Kaylene Agombar (5th)	18 Eli Veldhuisen
19  10:00 WORSHIP	20 *Zach & Brittany Koomans (2nd)	21 Emily Kelly 7:00 CONSISTORY	22 Austin Esselink Gerald Vansmeerdyk	23 Gerald Wieringa Archie Wiersema *Peter & Donna Osadchuk (32nd) *Arend & Wilma Wielinga (61st)	24 Micah DeGroot *Jack & Ann Wielinga (51st)	25 Eltjo & Dorothy Wiersema (57th)
26 *Jan & Annie Van Rozen (41st) 10:00 WORSHIP	27 Rindy Veldhuisen *Guy & Bev Arpin (30th) *Tanner & Stevie-Lee Kaemingh (7th)	28 Helen Cates Seth Hettinga Anastasia Marissen	29 Spencer Shortreed *Rich & Geneva Veldhuisen (43rd)	30 Yvonne Veldhuisen *Brian & Teagan White (4th)		