

Hello From England!

Being on the mission field is not always a "bed of roses." One of the greatest burdens we bear is the overall care of the people to whom we minister. As I write this letter, I find myself concerned for those in our church here in Corby who are need. There are those who are going through some real trials and tribulations. These are real people who are trying to cope with real problems. We have one man who made a profession of faith back in January. He has not been in church for weeks; he ignores our pleas to return and get things right with God; and he no longer shows any interest in the things of God. We have a man who is backslidden and is a constant grief to his father. I could go on. While all of this may sound negative, the above verse is where we "hang our hat." In spite of the negative, we are rejoicing in the Lord. We rejoice because of the many ways God has blessed us while here in England. We rejoice in the liberty that God has given me to preach. We rejoice that the Word of God is going forth in word and in power. We rejoice in the many who continue to visit. We rejoice in those who are faithful to all our services. We rejoice in the fact that our Sunday night and Wednesday night attendance has doubled. We rejoice in those here who continue to concern themselves with our welfare. We rejoice that God has put us into this ministry and count it a privilege to serve Him here in Corby. We had one church member ask us if we are having fun here, and I must confess we are having a lot of fun here. We rejoice in God's Word, and thank Him daily for His provisions, His protection, and for the peace that passeth all understanding. Nothing takes the place of rejoicing always in the Lord.

June 8, marked our 51st wedding anniversary, and we thank God for blessing our home over these years in so many ways. We praise Him for showing Himself mighty in our lives and in our ministry. From June 5-7, we went to London to celebrate our anniversary.

One of the many highlights was the opportunity to visit the Metropolitan Tabernacle Baptist Church where Charles Spurgeon pastored for over thirty-five years. Of course, we also visited Parliament, Big Ben, Westminster

From June 12-14, we had the privilege of traveling to the country of Wales, where we had the opportunity visit missionaries Jason and Dana Rongione. We have known the Rongiones for several years, and thank God that we could see their ministry first hand. They have been there for three and a half years, and God is richly blessing their ministry among the Welsh people. We had a wonderful time being on another mission field for a few days. While in Wales we visited an old castle and the largest book town in the world! Please pray for the Rongiones!

Of course, June 15, was Fathers' Day, and we celebrated by giving each of our fathers a special gift. We had a good Fathers' Day service, as I preached on "Our Father Which Art In Heaven." After church on that Sunday, I was treated to an amazing Fathers' Day gift. We had the opportunity to attend a medieval jousting contest and old knight competition. Everything was authentic and the men and women put on quite a show from jousting to long-sword fighting. So real it was that sparks were flying from the swords as blows were exchanged. It was quite an afternoon, especially as it was held at a 900-year-old castle estate.

We praise God for what He is continuing to do in the hearts of our people. As I write this letter, we have but twenty-eight days remaining before returning to the States. Continue to pray that God would strengthen us, encourage us, and help us in this important ministry. Pray for the needs of our church people and for the Word that has been preached to bring forth fruit. Pray for the Tooleys as they wrap up their furlough time and make plans to return. It has been a wonderful blessing and a real privilege to be able to relieve them while they have been gone.

We close by thanking you once again for your prayers and support. We pray God's blessings on you in the days to come. Pray for us as we begin making preparations to return to the States. We will be returning to North Carolina on July 29. If we can be of any help to any of you pastors, please let us know. We always want to be available to help pastors, churches, and missionaries in their continued service to God.

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Sincerely In Christ,

Cott and Marilee Norman

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SEEKING THE LOST · ENCOURAGING THE SAINTS · AT HOME AND ABROAD



The Tower of London where the crown jewels are kept and securely guarded.



Metropolitan Tabernacle Baptist Church.



Me standing inside the church next to a bust of Spurgeon,



Marilee and I with Jason and Dana Rongione in a castle courtyard.



Sign welcoming us to Hay On Wye, a town full of books!



Black Knight (bad guy)



White Knight (good guy)



Some of our fathers after the Fathers' Day service