

John 15... "I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener... Remain in me, and I will remain in you... No branch can bear fruit



The Welch's Grapevine



For The Glory of GOD!

Greetings from Lubbock, Texas! *It is good for us to be here (Mark 9:5).*

Dearest Family & Friends,

Update, Winter 2008

Where does time go? Mom always said time flies by quickly as you age, and she must be right...it certainly has! We pray all is well with each and every one of you and this newsletter finds you filled with God's peace. Thank you for your faithful encouragement and prayers. We cannot express how much it means to us knowing we have so much love and support from all our friends and family.

It is a great blessing for us to share with you how the Lord has begun to use us for His glory. As the days, weeks, and months streak past, we are not all that far from our departure. We thank you for your patient endurance while we train. We have just four more months of dwelling in Christian Utopia--attending Sunset International Bible Institute. Oh, how we have been blessed by this experience.



Since our last newsletter, the holiday season has come and gone. We were richly blessed to have a three week break from school, which allowed us ample time to visit so many of our dear loved ones. The holiday season kept us on the go as we traveled from Lubbock to Indiana, on to Arkansas, and then to Dallas/Fort Worth where we enjoyed some great time with our families and friends. After returning to Lubbock for a few days, we then flew to California for a wonderful visit, back then to Lubbock and finished our holiday vacation in New Mexico. We treasured the special time we had as we stayed with friends and family, visiting and continuing to build lasting memories.

It is quite interesting to reflect on the joys of the holidays framed in the knowledge it will be our last on these shores for the foreseeable future. The furloughs we hope to take from Cambodia will most likely be in summer when our grandchildren are on summer break here, the students at the Cambodian Bible Institute School will also be on summer break, and it is the rainiest, hottest part of the year in Cambodia. We are elated we will have the opportunity and blessing of coming home annually.

The current school term may turn out to be our favorite--and our hardest. Once again we are facing an exciting, yet challenging block of courses, demanding much study and

and it will be given you... This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit... As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love.

by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me... I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will

bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing... If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish,

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memory work. Dennis' courses are Ezekiel, Daniel, John, Romans, Galatians, Gospel & Culture, and Preaching the Epistles. Sharon's classes are Survey of the Bible III, Public Speaking VII, Effective Women's Ministry, and Gracious Hospitality. Will we be overcome by all this work and stress? Will we allow Satan to win this battle as we strive to complete our time here at Sunset? *No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.* (Romans 8:37-40) We are confident we shall overcome and complete the work! There is so much here we long to share with you and with everyone we meet.

We pray that as we stand on the solid rock of Jesus Christ, our faith, commitment and steadfastness will encourage everyone we touch to focus their hearts, not on us, but on the Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world.

May our great and glorious God continue to pour-out His rich and abundant blessings on each one of you! We ask that you please continue to keep us in your prayers.

Your servants, Christ's rejoicing slaves,

Sharon & Dennis Welch

SUNSET INTERNATIONAL BIBLE INSTITUTE 2008 GRADUATING CLASS



SIBI Graduation Ceremony May 24th, 10:00 AM, Lubbock, Texas

PLEASE PRAY FOR CAMBODIA

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