

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,

Volume 3, Number 2, March 2008

As the clock continues to tick, so does the excitement and reality of our upcoming departure. Our love for each of you grows daily and we praise God for the blessing you are to us and others! We pray this newsletter finds you well and experiencing the peace of our gracious heavenly Father.

As this letter is written there is so much to reflect upon. The last few years have brought many changes which continue even today. Our time here at Sunset International Bible Institute is drawing near an end. We have just completed our seventh term with one remaining until graduation. As we mentioned in our last newsletter, we have had some wonderful courses. The missions track course on Gospel and Culture, allowed us an opportunity to grow in knowledge as we completed an in-depth study into the culture of the wonderful Kingdom of Cambodia. While much joy was experienced during compilation of this information, all praise, glory and honor is accredited to God. We have been richly blessed with a greater understanding of the Khmer people, their culture, religion, history and lives, as we prepare to go and serve them. Speaking of going...the date is set...and, the tickets have been purchased! That's right; we will be departing for Phnom Penh, Cambodia on August 25th.



Last month we stayed busy as usual with our classes and homework. Sharon and some of the other ladies attending SIBI were asked to help at Covenant Children's Hospital which fit right into Sharon's gifts and desire to serve. We also finished our formal mission counseling, had our graduation pictures taken and have started planning the events and activities for graduation. Dennis taught some Bible classes at Keller and Sunset. One Sunday, the young married couples' class interviewed us at Sunset. The goal of this session was to share how Christians can take up mission work at any time in their lives and how married Christians make big decisions like these. We were grateful for the blessing of this opportunity and pray God was honored and glorified through the process.

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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The time we spend with friends and family is invaluable and we are grateful for the fellowship and time we enjoy as we continue building lasting memories. We would like to share a special thank you to all of you, for the gift of your time, for your gracious hospitality and the way you open your hearts and homes to us. We are truly blessed!

So, you may be asking, what are we doing now and what does our schedule look like! We are currently on spring break and are enjoying some rest and relaxation. Before the last term begins, the SIBI students and the Sunset congregation will be participating in a soul-winning effort called "Heart-To-Heart" (www.hearttoheartlubbock.com). We are excited about the many opportunities this campaign will bring as we reach out to share the good news of Jesus Christ.

Dennis' courses for the final term are Timothy/Titus, Wisdom Literature, Revelation, 2 Corinthians, Planting Urban Churches and Special Events Preaching. Sharon's are Survey of the Bible IV, Public Speaking VIII, Effective Women's Ministry, and 2 Corinthians. This last term will be filled with much to do as we also prepare for our move. We deeply appreciate all the prayers, encouragement and support you continue to give. Please pray for our work, that we remain on course with God's will and that we are a blessing to everyone we encounter.

But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. (1 Cor. 15:57)

Our love in Christ,

Dennis & Sharon Welch



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