

From.....

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On 'The Rock' please visit our web site....

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www.naturalstonesite.com**

**A very Merry Christmas and a  
happy, healthy and prosperous 2003  
New Year... with love from...**

*Iris, Stormy and Snookie at*

# **ON 'THE ROCK'** ✝ **Ministries**

Mark 9:23

Jesus said to him, "If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes."  
NKJV



3 John 2  
Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers.  
NKJV

**Kootenay Stone Centre  
Kootenay Stone Masonry Training School  
Salmo Stone Supply  
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Mark 11:22-24

22 So Jesus answered and said to them, "Have faith in God. 23 For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be removed and be cast into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says. 24 Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them. NKJV

# ON 'THE ROCK' 2002

Editor.....Iris Lamb  
Proof Reader.....Stormy  
Circulation .....Snookie

Merry Christmas and May God bless you abundantly in the new Year  
...from Iris, Stormy, Snookie and all the crew at Kootenay Stone Centre.  
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## MY MOM

My Mom turned 84 this year and what a joy she is. How blessed I am to have such a mother. She is not only my Mom...but my sister in Christ and my best friend. We still have our jammy parties when I'm at home on weekends. And I still can't get her to sit still instead of running around doing dishes and cleaning house for me. She loves to make coffee for the crew and visit with them when they come in...and they love her too. She is definitely "...vital and green and bearing much fruit, even in her old age!" Recently Mom had some cataracts removed and lenses put in her eyes to improve her vision. The first one done is now 20 x 20 vision. I'm sure the other one will be too. She asked the doctor how long they would last. He told her they are guaranteed for 80 years, so she should come back then to see if they need to be replaced!  
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## A MOTHER TO TREASURE - by Iris

I THINK MY MOTHER IS, THE BEST THERE CAN BE,  
WHEN YOU MEET HER, I'M SURE YOU'LL AGREE.

SHE'S NEVER BEEN ONE, TO JUST TALK THE TALK,  
WITH FEET ON HER PRAYERS, SHE WALKS THE WALK.

SHE'S JUST LOVING AND GIVING, ALL OF THE TIME,  
IF SOMEONE NEEDED IT, SHE'D GIVE HER LAST DIME

SHE'S MY MOM, MY SISTER AND MY VERY BEST FRIEND  
SHE'S ALWAYS STUCK BY ME, AND WILL TO THE END.

MY BROTHER AND I ARE, BLESSED BEYOND MEASURE,  
TO HAVE A MOM WHO IS, SUCH A GOD-GIVEN TREASURE



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## PRECIOUS MOMENTS

God gave me three dear children....Wendy, Randy and James  
If they were little again we could romp, and play neat games.

But time went by so fast, and now they are full grown  
They have such busy schedules, and a life of their own.

Oh, that I could have the treasured moments, that I let slip by  
If I could hold them on my lap, and kiss them when they cry

I would love and encourage them, to chase away their fears,  
We would have such happiness, and there would be no tears.

I would love to build a playhouse, or a fort up in a tree,  
Where we could sit together, and have a pretend cup of tea.

I would take them to a church, where we would learn of You  
I would read them stories, and we would kneel to pray then too.

We would study in Your word, and practice what You say,  
We would walk in love, and fellowship with you each day.

There is so much I wish I'd done, back when I had the chance,  
I let the things most precious go by, without a second glance.

So you with little children, please harken to this mothers plea  
Spend time with those God gave you, so you won't have regrets like me.

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## THE RIGHT PERSPECTIVE

(The Viewpoint, As Seen From Where You Are)

I have found that whatever situation we are in can look different depending our viewpoint. After church yesterday I took a drive up an old logging road 'up the Duncan'. The view was fantastic. From where I was everything looked so different than I thought it was. I could see the houses and barns in Meadow Creek and they looked like little toy houses. Looking down on Duncan Dam was real different than I had thought it looked. I looked at the mountains and their beauty. ....and Oh, there was the HAND. But it didn't look the same as it does from my place. Had I seen it from that viewpoint instead of where I was the day I first saw it...would it have looked so much like a hand that was telling me "everything was in His hand"? And if I hadn't been in the spiritual position I was, would I have seen it...or would it just have been another logging clear cut? The clear cut 'hand' could change at any time or not be seen as it was when I was seeking help from God that year. Or even the next year when a new line appeared to make an



okay sign when I was in deep prayer for another reason. The hand now seemed to be saying ...it was in His hand and it was OKAY. I don't believe we should go looking for signs, for the enemy can also put signs in our viewpoint ....we should go seeking God and He can give us a sign if He thinks we need one. We need to seek His word on each situation so we will be in the right perspective....seeing things from His viewpoint. Then if He gives us a sign we will know it is from Him. I just love when He does that. It is like a quickening in our spirit that confirms what He is trying to tell us. Like He reaches down and paints a visible picture for us to see. Like He is saying....see...I am here...though you can't see Me...and I care. I'm sure He is often doing that for us...but perhaps we are in the wrong position and can't see it. The best position to be in is.....spiritually on our knees or on our face seeking Him, constantly in His Word and in worship before Him. Then we will be able to see clearly.

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**MY PRAYER (Dec.2002)**

...Dear Father I ask in the name of Jesus that You would bless and keep my family, friends and friends to be, neighbors, employees, business associates, brothers and sisters in Christ, readers of this newsletter (and even my enemies if I have any)...and all our loved ones (including our pets). Please bless all of us to prosper and be in good health in the coming new year. I ask for joy and peace and every good thing pressed down, shaken together and overflowing. That each one of us will be filled with the fruit of Your Holy Spirit. That we will boldly proclaim Your gospel message. That You will strengthen us by the power of Your Holy Spirit so that we may overcome our weaknesses and worldly ways. That You will keep us from evil and help us to overcome the devices of the enemy. That you will lead and guide us on the path You have chosen for us. .But most of all I pray You will draw us near to You, help us to walk in Your ways and to always remember to be thankful for all You have done for us. - Amen

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**ALL I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS IS SOME NEW BACK TEETH**

I bet some of you think that the time I got locked in the mall was the weirdest thing I've ever done at Christmas time. Well I topped that off this year. Yesterday I was rushing to get to my 2 granddaughters Christmas concert at the school in Fruitvale. It was lovely and I did make it on time. I had not wrapped their presents yet and rather than come all the way home to do it, I took everything with me. I went to the Subway in Fruitvale and they very kindly let me wrap presents at one of the tables. I had a sub while I was there and my partial plate back teeth dentures were hurting my gums, so I took them out, wrapped them in a napkin and put them in my pocket.....sooo to make a long story short.....today I have an all points bulletin out asking if anyone has found a subway napkin with my teeth

in it! When I phoned the Credit Union the girl I talked to laughed so hard I thought she was going to fall out of her chair. It is very hard to make such a request in a way that won't bring such a response, don't you think? .....My crew were a big help. Tom thought it was hilarious and that I'd probably wrapped them up in the presents. Clancy offered to teach me how to chew my turkey without teeth...as he has had practice. Dwayne came up with the suggestion that perhaps Clancy could chew it up for me. Eeeesh....that nearly made all of us sick! I think I'll just have soup.

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**PRAISING THE LORD**  
**EVEN THE TREES CLAP THEIR HANDS**

One day when I was up the Duncan it began to rain lightly after a long dry spell. I was in the upper room where I could look down on the trees and the lake below. The wind was softly blowing and the trees were swaying gently back and forth like they were dancing with joy. The rain was making their leaves bright and shiny. Their branches looked like arms raised up reaching towards heaven in praise....thanking God for the refreshing shower. They looked so grateful and happy. I thought of the scriptures that speak of this. Ps 96:12-132 "Let the field be joyful, and all that is in it. Then all the trees of the woods will rejoice before the LORD". NKJV and - Isa 55:12 "For you shall go out with joy, And be led out with peace; The mountains and the hills Shall break forth into singing before you, And all the trees of the field shall clap their hands." NKJV

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**INSIDE THE RAINBOW**

Another day I was up the Duncan and it had been raining. The sun came out and was shining through patches of light falling rain. I knew that from down below a rainbow would be visible. I wondered what it would look like if one could be inside the rainbow. I prayed and asked God to show me what it was like inside the rainbow. As I watched I saw everything so clear and with such vivid colors. It was breathtaking. I was filled with awe. It was kind of like being in a canopy of shimmering lights. All the things like grass and leaves were so many vivid and alive colors. It is hard to describe. It was like there were so many more shades of green for instance. What may have just seemed green before was now many wonderful shades of green....and so rich. I couldn't see the colors of the rainbow, but I could see rays of different shades of light shimmering against the mountain on the other side of the lake. It didn't last for long...but I will never forget the beauty of it. It brings me peace just thinking how beautiful and quiet it was. Like all of heaven stood still and was holding it's breath while I took a look. I felt that God was standing right there with me enjoying His creation.

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### **DAVID THE GOAT SHEPHERD**

I'm sure many of you who read last years On The Rock newsletter have wondered what happened to David the 'Goat Shepherd'.....I was not able to go over to the Duncan until this spring. Because of my own situation here, there was nothing I could even do to help him. But I could pray and others prayed. One thing I had prayed is that God would do something special so that David would know that He is real and that He cares for him. We all prayed that David would come to know Jesus and accept Him as his Lord and Savior. Prayers were answered for a mild winter and that was surely a sign that there is a God in heaven who cares even about a little flock of goats and their faithful shepherd.....When I made my first trip over there this spring a person who had lived at Glacier Creek for a while the year before stopped in. I asked if he had seen David. He told me how he had gone up there to take some food to him. Of how when he got just about there he Saw David staggering toward him and how he fell into his arms crying. He was so weak as he had run out of food. He said he had felt this was the end and he was going to die. And that he had just said his last prayer.....When I got up to David's place he and the goats were fine. His little family was doing well and there were new cute little baby goats. I told him what Jeurgan had told me and how curious I was to know what had happened and what he had prayed. He said he had gone away from the cabin to die so the goats would forage for themselves rather than hang around the cabin waiting for him. As to the prayer, he said "I prayed....our Father who art in heaven". Oh what joy....he had prayed THE LORDS PRAYER. I said how wonderful that was and that God had heard his prayer and Jeurgan had brought food for him. He said he didn't think that was it because he had just finished saying the prayer and Jeurgan was there. I told Him how God knows everything....past present and future. God knew David was going to pray and He and put on Jeurgens heart to bring him

food....with the timing to be right at the moment David reached out in prayer to Him. How awesome is our God! .....I visited David again last Monday. I had made a pot of soup on my wood stove over there and by the time I got up to his place it was dark. I honked the horn (in my new truck!) a bunch and pretty soon David and his herd of goats and two dogs came through the woods. We packed the soup etc. to his cabin to put into his pots. He told me how he had been reading the bible I had given him. He had read the prayer in the back but he didn't feel he was there yet. He was trying hard to do the right things. I explained how we don't try to get right and then come to Jesus. We ask Him into our heart by faith and then He begins a good work in us....As we headed back to my truck David who was a ways behind said "Iris I'd like to sing a song for you. I don't know all the words, but I'll sing what I know." How wonderful it was. His clear lovely voice ringing up to the heavens as he sang 'What Child Is This' as we walked back through the forest with me leading the way with my little flashlight....goats and dogs surrounding us....and the beautiful thick moss and tall trees revealed by my little light and the clear night sky.....When we got back to the road we talked more of Jesus and David said that he would like to say the prayer with me as a witness. I felt such honor and joy as I led my new brother in the prayer that would change his life forever. He had forgiven everyone and he cried as he said the words with such sincere hope and faith. I could see his tears shining like silver rivulets down his cheeks. As I gave my new brother a hug his tears fell on my shoulder and I felt they were blessed tears. The tears of a man getting right with God. These were the tears that Jesus died for.....I thank God with all my heart for the opportunity He gave me to do His kingdom works that night and for the prayers and good seeds that were planted by all of the others that had prepared the way. All the angels in heaven were rejoicing. Please pray for David's new life and reach out a helping hand to a new brother where you can. He feels he is to stay up there one more winter. He is trusting the Lord to look after him and his little family....and I'm sure He will.

.....update....At Lardeau Valley Chapel in Meadow Creek, the church I go to when I am at the Duncan, there was rejoicing when they heard the good news. Many prayers had gone up in that church for David's salvation. This church also put feet on their prayers. Pastor Len has gone all the way up there to visit David and bring him a hamper and other gifts. So have others in the congregation. You would have thought that the couple that had brought him 10 bales of hay for his goats had brought him solid gold bars. Much spiritual food was brought to David by all. He has been just devouring it and growing in his Christian walk at a rapid pace. He wants to somehow visit the church sometime and sing WHAT CHILD IS THIS...which Pastor Len had given me all the words for it to take to David.

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## **PRAISE AND WORSHIP....What is it?**

Praise and Worship come from within our heart. We lift our hearts up to God in love, adoration and thankfulness for all He has done for us and all He is to us. We joyously thank Him for the sacrifice of His Son so we could be set free from the world and all it's snares. We come to Him in gratefulness that not by our works...but by His mercy and grace we will spend eternity with Him in perfection....where there will be no sin...no tears...no pain...no sadness and no death. Only joy unspeakable for eternity.

There are many forms of worship to God. The most obvious of course, is giving praise to Him in song....making a joyful (if not melodious) noise with voice and musical instruments, clapping hands, dancing and lifting up holy hands in total surrender-trust and adoration to Him. These are all wonderful and filling, but if we just come to church for the excitement and are not truly worshipping Him in spirit and in truth....we have missed the mark. The best worship we can do for Him, is to live holy lives....giving Him the glory. Not conforming to the world and it's ways....but clinging to His word for our direction. Studying His word (the Bible) and putting it into practice in our lives....not in a holier than thou religious attitude...but showing the joy of doing things His way and it's good consequences. Giving testimony of the wondrous works and miracles he does in our lives, so others will know He is alive and He cares for us. ....Coming to Him in fervent prayer to help us overcome our strongholds and shortcomings....and also our needs. He loves for us to seek Him for everything. ....I used to think I shouldn't bother Him with the little problems in my life....but I have learned it is a form of worship to go to Him for 'all my need'. He is my best friend....my provider and my confidant on every matter...As long as He is holding my hand even going through the storms of life isn't so bad. I know He will see me through it and it is only a little blip in eternity. ....I believe it is also a form of worship to lovingly help others to come to Him. Letting His light shine through us to a darkened world. We need to worship Him in spirit and truth at all times, not phyness or self righteousness but in total surrender. ....Most of this is quite easy to do when you are up on the mountain and not having to deal with other people! But as one sister said "It is great to be up on the mountain...but it is down in the valley where the fruit is produced." The way to 'stay up on the mountain' while you are down in the valley....is to stay filled with Him. Make sure to hold to His hand tightly as you go down to the valley. ....for when you are walking with the Lord you can be sure you will be attacked...just as He was. And just as He did.... "forgive them....for they know not what they do." I believe this is a very important form of worship, for He told us to do as He had been doing and even that we would do even greater things. (Matt.14:12)

As Christians we come together on the first day of the week (Sunday) called 'the Lord's day' to honor the resurrection of Jesus Christ who rose on the first day. There is controversy by some as to the Sabbath day...but God's word is clear that we are not to argue about these things. Jesus is the Lord of the Sabbath and we are to be in Him and His rest 24-7. Each person is doing what he is doing to honor God. ....God's word says "do not forsake the assembling of ourselves (the believers) together". (Heb.10:25) Wherever we gather together there are many forms of worship that please God. First we are to love Him and to love one another and edify each other. We are to use the gifts God gave us to help and encourage each other and reach out to a lost world.

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### **MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE?**

I had offered to 'chicken sit' for my wonderful neighbors when they went away. I would go over several times a day to feed the chickens and collect the eggs. If it was warm enough I could let them out in their pen for awhile. They always seemed happy to see me...or perhaps the food. One night I went over to collect the eggs and tuck them in for the night. It was so cozy in their chicken coop. I could see them on their perches in the dim red light that Annette leaves on for them. I started singing 'Jesus loves me'...and 'Jesus loves the little chickens of the world'. The chickens started sort of purring or humming along with me. It was so neat. I finished my chores and went home singing all the way.....But the next day when I got there....one of the chickens was dead in the nest. I felt so bad. I'm not sure if it was my singing....but just in case....from then on I moved over from behind Chris in church when I sang.

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### **THE ELEVENTH COMMANDMENT**

My Forman Tom is a real character. He keeps us in stitches with his views on just about everything. I made the unfortunate mistake of giving him a Bible with lots of study helps in it this year. He proclaims he isn't a Christian...but I would say that with all the people God has placed in his life that are...it is a cinch it won't be long. He is going to be such a neat preacher. You haven't ever heard the gospel like Tom deciphers it! ....Anyway I had been away for the weekend and when I got back my phone started ringing. "Iris someone was splitting rock in your stone yard on Sunday". You would have thought the world was coming to an end. Seeing as I had said no one was to work on Sundays here I figured I'd better find out who the misinformed culprit was. No one seemed to know. Finally when Tom came out and was having a coffee with Chris and I, the truth came to light. When I asked if he knew who had been working on Sunday he said "Oh that was me". This puzzled me because after all he is the Forman and even

has the STONE CUTTERS BIBLE I'd made for all the crew...with the STONE CUTTERS 10 COMMANDMENTS ON THE BACK yet! I said "How come you were working here on a Sunday?" He says "Well....in the **BIBLE**, **JESUS SAYS**...if your sheep fell in a pit on the Sabbath day wouldn't you help it get out?" Then he gives this big angelic grin and heads out to work! I said to Chris...I should have never given that boy a Bible. Later I made another page for Tom's Bible...with the eleventh commandment on it regarding working here on Sundays. I also explained that it was not a Pharisee religious thing I was doing...it was about choosing a day of rest....and Sunday works out the best because if I went for church any other day no one would be there. And also that when we worship on Sunday we are celebrating the Lord's day...as He rose on the first day of the week which is Sunday. This all seemed to please him that I now had it all figured out and was doing the right thing.

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**OH LORD, I JUST TURNED 60 TODAY** - by  
Iris Lamb (September 12, 2002)

Oh Lord .....I just turned 60.... today  
How did this.... happen.....so quickly I say  
How did the years... go by me... so fast?  
I thought I'd stay young....forever....I'd last  
Only this morning....I realized....the truth  
My life is half over....and gone....is my youth  
What good am I....and....what can I do?  
As the years...that are left....now are so few  
But with concern... for my business....and crew  
I went to my computer.... to find help... from You  
I searched... for a prayer line.... to stand in with me  
As power is greater...praying together....you see  
Up came the... prayer line ....of dear Gramma Pat!  
Praying away.... at 81 years....**just imagine that?**  
Such an encouragement...and just...what I needed  
how may lives.... had she....watered and seeded?  
Looking at her.....changed ....my whole view  
At 60 years old....I can do that....and so can you!  
Thank You Jesus.... for a special...60 year present  
Of Gramma Pat's..... prayer line....and all that it meant.



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**THE MIRACLE**

DO YOU BELIEVE IN MIRACLES?...This is a true story of one of the miracles God did in my life this year. When I first got my 86 Nissan Multi Van I was so happy. It was the nicest vehicle I had ever had. This was about 8 years or

so ago. One day at the church I was going to at that time, a sister in the Lord came into Lady's bible study and said..."I would sure like to get my drivers license, but I'm afraid. I popped out with "Well I'll tell you what...I'll give you an incentive....when I get an new vehicle I'll give you mine if you get your drivers license." The years went by and I didn't get my new vehicle and she didn't get her drivers license....but in my heart I always felt the van was to be hers. Even when I painted it I wanted to make sure she would like the color but I had to check it out without telling her why. I was so pleased when I happened to go to her church and sit next to her. I had some of the paint I had chosen on my finger-nail. Without telling her what it was about I said "Do you like this color?" She liked it very much. What a relief. ...More years went by. My van had started jumping out of low gear from time to time. As I was driving home late one night It suddenly came to me that 'if I was going to give my van away I should do it while it would still be a blessing.' This was rather strange because I had no new vehicle and it sure didn't look like one was in sight....considering my finances. But I believed it was God prompting me to do it, so I would walk by faith and not by sight. Either He would bring me a new vehicle or keep my old 82 Toyota pickup running well for me. ....As I drove by Nelson Toyota moments later, I saw a brand new Toyota pick up on what looked like a pedestal. I felt like I was to go back and have a look around. It hard to explain just what happened, but it was like DADDY WAS TAKING ME SHOPPING. I wandered around looking at all the beautiful trucks under the yard lights. It was kind of like "WHAT DO YOU WANT?" "You mean if I could have anything I wanted?" ..."You mean anything?" ...."Well...a truck of course...4 wheel drive...I would want the room I had in my van to haul as many passengers as it did....I would want it to also to be comfortable and easily accessible to the back seat....therefore it would have to have 4 doors...I would want to be able to see out well all around, like my van...I would like to be able to haul lumber and stuff when I needed to....I would like a canopy to keep stuff dry and that I could lock....but I didn't want it to be too big to park easily, and it would have to be small enough to turn around on mountain back roads...I would want a CD player with good sound...I would like a tape player too, but I could just use my portable for my cassettes....I would like big tires like my little yellow Toyota....I would like it to look sharp with lots of shiny stuff...I would like that it could haul my boat ...and also the compressors etc. up the mountain if necessary some times, therefore it would need more power than my 4 cylinder Toyota....I would like big mirrors so I could see real good to back up." Ohhhh...there it was....a 2002 Toyota Tacoma double cab. It even had a roof rack on it and chrome wheels! It was silver, but I could have whatever color I wanted.. As I headed home the van no longer felt like it was mine and it

never did after that. I contacted the lady I had offered it to all those years ago and found that she still didn't have a drivers license and no vehicle. If she had one she could get more jobs....So I set about to fix my van up to as perfect as I could...new transmission...shampooed...new floor mats...new springs...shock...and all sorts of other repairs.

During the time the van was being repaired, which seemed to take forever, I was driving my old 82 Toyota 4x4. I had visited Nelson Toyota and told Gerry, the salesman' how I believed God had said He was going to give me a new truck. I didn't have any money or anything and sales were down and I owed a lot of money, but ....if 'God said'. I said how I have to fix up my van real good and give it away first. It must have been one of his strangest sales conversations. I don't know what he thought about it all, but he was very nice and gave me all the details. I would have never even considered a brand new truck...but 'if God said'! I even sat in it to get the feel...and it was just fine. I could feel myself sitting in that truck from then on. I asked the salesman if he could get me a red one, as they only had the silver one there. He said "If God could tell you He was going to give you a truck...couldn't He tell you it was a silver one?" I said that "Yes He could, but that it had kind of been...like whatever I wanted. And I kind of think I want a red one." He explained how the silver is better than red as it doesn't show the dirt or scratches like red or black does. But he searched and found he could get me a red one if that is what I wanted. I brought the brochures home to show the crew what God was going to do. So from then on...as I went through humongous trial after trial....Tom who works for me, (and had started reading the Bible I had given him....a big mistake on my part!) started telling me to "have faith and just keep thinking RED TRUCK...RED TRUCK". Soon the others were saying the same thing. Time went on..and I seemed to be behind in everything. I even had to meet payroll by using my MasterCard. But I just kept plodding along...still tithing faithfully, offering where and what I could and working towards getting my van ready to give away.

One evening a friend of mine was repairing a tire for my old Toyota and he said "Iris you need a new truck this one is old and could be unsafe." I told him God is giving me a new one....a Toyota. He said "I've got one I've been fixing up and it is in real good shape. It's a Toyota" I said "I think He is giving me a red one." He said "This is a red one. Come have a look. If you like it you can have it right away and pay me as you can." It was beautiful and though it only had 2 doors everything else was great. Not to mention his very kind offer. And most attractive....I could have it right away! I said I would think about it and pray....The next day I was giving it considerable thought and prayer. It came to my mind about how Abraham and Sara set out to try to accomplish God's will by

their own methods instead of waiting for God's promised child. And thereby, not through Sara Abraham's wife, but the bondswoman (slave), came Ishmael, who became the father of the Arab Nations. This trying to make it happen without the faith to wait for God to do it in His time is the root of the bitterness and unrest we see yet today in the middle east. One child was by flesh and bondage (works) 'do it yourself' 'or make it happen' the other child was the promised child that was by 'faith' believing and waiting on Him to do it in His time, even when it looks impossible and you are ready to give up. Our Savior 'Jesus' came through the line of Isaac (the promised child) and that is why the new covenant is by "faith" not our own works. ....I said to God..."But couldn't I have the Ishmael truck until the Isaac one comes?" It came so clear, "Look at all the problems that caused down the road." Well that was enough for me. I didn't have to understand....just be obedient and wait for what God had promised in my heart. Thankfully the temptation was soon gone...as my friend sold the truck to someone else...and I'm sure they will be very blessed with it...it just wasn't the one God was wanting for me.

.....Finally after many long hours in the shop giving the van a whole new paint job I was ready to give my offering. I had put a 'REVIVAL IN BELFAST' tape in the tape player that I was sure she would like. And with it's new chrome style hubcaps it looked real sharp. Some people had actually got upset I was doing so much work on it, but I just said "When you give for God you give the best you can". ....I had been calling leaving messages to tell my Christian sister the van was almost ready and we could help her learn to drive it and get her license, but didn't hear back from her. I said to Chris (who works for me)...I wonder if maybe she doesn't want it or something. He said "Well if she doesn't want it...I'll take it!" I thought of Chris' little old beat up Sprint he takes all kinds of people to church and Bible study in and wondered why God would have me give the van to someone I hardly ever saw and wasn't even a relative or someone that goes to our church. Not that for a moment I begrudged giving her the car. She is a dear and does all sorts of Kingdom work. It was just a curiosity thing. Obviously God wanted to bless her and so did I. When I went back out to the shop I said to God "Why is that Lord?" It came back real clear "Because then they'll know it was Me." Wow...what a revelation! Isn't it so true if we give to anyone other than who God is saying...it is just us doing the giving instead of Him. Giving to someone close around us is what a person would normally do and it wouldn't be considered out of the ordinary in the natural. When He gives us divine inspiration we need to obey it rather than reason it...When we finally got to talk she told me how she appreciated my heart to give her the car and all, but she felt my car was meant for someone else. That she really wanted an automatic and she

didn't think it would be fair to take my car and trade it on an automatic. She was so sweet and trusting that God will give her just what she needs. And I know He will. I thanked her for her goodness and told her how I had always wanted the car to be used for Kingdom work and I'd known that with her it would have been. If it was just traded in anyone might have got it. So we agreed I should give it to someone else. There was a bit of a temptation to keep it myself...but it still didn't feel like it was mine anymore. And I still believed that somehow God was going to give me a new truck. So once more I decided to give the van away. It was quite clear who God would want to have it. I wrote a note to Chris about what had happened and put it in a card with the keys on the seat. Then I gave him a cheque and asked him to go gas up the Van and mail some letters for me. I said "The keys are on the seat" He came back in so very happy at the miracle that had happened in his life. It was so good to see his joy. But as he drove out of the driveway in his new van...a blip of panic hit me..."What have I done?" I had just remembered how my little yellow Toyota isn't very good to drive in the winter. It is light in the back and one time it started to spin around on the slippery highway and went over the bank backwards. I had just given my nice, reliable, cling to the road in any circumstance van away! I had to do some quick praying to get my faith reestablished. I had been obedient...God would take care of me. ....The next morning I was kind of saying to God how I was happy Chris got the van...but all these years I had felt the van was meant to bless my Christian sister. It came clear to me that I had not given Chris the van...she had. In my heart I had given it to her long ago and she had made the decision it should go to someone else....and let me do the choosing of who. I prayed that God would deposit the blessings of the offering of the van to her account in heaven.

I was up the Duncan writing about praise for this newsletter and while doing it I had felt His presence so near. It was a very special time. I thought of all the times He had blessed me and heard my prayers. ....I got home quite late at night. I checked my phone messages and e-mails. Then I did something unusual. I decided to see if there were any faxes even though I would not be able to do anything about it until morning if there were any. Out came a fax for a super B truck load of stone...Wow.....then out came another one...double wow....out came another page and this one was for 6 super B truck loads of stone. A grand total of 8! Many wow's and thank You's later I sat until about 3Am figuring what stone I had in stock and what quarries we would need to go to in order to get all these orders filled. I knew that my new truck would be possible with all these orders but first they had to be gotten out of the mountain. ...Then it snowed at the quarry. (This was around Oct.1) I searched the Bible and found where Elijah was a man just like us and he prayed and it did not rain for 3/12 years. I prayed quoting the

scripture...but asked only till Christmas even for two months. I got the two months and even more of good weather. Many people couldn't figure out how come we weren't getting snow yet and it was even mostly warm weather....but I knew! He wouldn't give me those orders and then not let me produce them. I had decided that if I got enough money to make the lease payments for a year ahead I would go get the truck...but it still looked a long way off.

....On the way home I was telling Him how I would sure like to have my new truck for the next weekend. I loved my little yellow truck but it was a chore driving it long distances and it would be dangerous if the roads got slippery. It was late at night again and I stopped in at Nelson Toyota. I looked around and saw a beautiful silver truck that looked like the first one I'd seen, but I later found out it was a 2003. I kind of decided I liked that color and perhaps that would be better than the red one. The only problem was it had a sold sign on it. To make a long story short it all of a sudden looked possible to get the truck.. Gerry did the paperwork and he even asked the man that bought the silver truck, but hadn't picked it up yet, if he would wait for another one to come in and let me have that one. He said he would! Then it looked like the finance people were not going to allow me to get it. I had been so excited and now so anxious. I went around in an awful state all day. All of a sudden I came to my senses....why was I allowing something of the world to effect me so much? I asked God to forgive me and decided that perhaps He didn't want me to have it yet, or maybe someone was even going to give me one or even if I didn't get it I wasn't going to let it come between me and peace of mind. That done I went to start loading up my little old 82 Toyota for the trip. I felt quite happy and blessed peace had returned....Then the phone rang and Gerry said "Your prayers must have worked...you can come get the truck." But I knew my loving Father hadn't wanted me to let that truck be too important to me. He had waited for me to give it up....and then He gave it to me. Strangely the weekend before I had given away my portable CD-tape player...when I got my beautiful new truck...it had both a CD and tape player with such wonderful sound!....We managed to get the stone out for those orders in spite of many trials and tribulations. Even my 77 Kenworth rolled and got totaled, but God sent a Christian brother with a truck that he rented to me at a very reasonable price. God was in it all the way. Many brothers and sisters in the Lord stood in prayer for me through it all and I sure thank them. I know I could not have accomplished this without divine intervention.....and it is going to be a good year next year. I already have some orders for as soon as we can get to the quarries.

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JESUS IS THE REASON FOR THE SEASON.

## THE ACCIDENT AVOIDED REPORT

It is hard to do certain things alone, so you have to really use your brain to figure out how to get the job done. For some of us this may be difficult at times. ....One day I wanted to get my lawn glider couch up onto the little deck over the porch at my camp. Being alone I devised this plan of how to accomplish such a thing. There are no stairs so the only way to get it up there was to lift it straight up eight feet and over the edge of the deck. No easy feat as the glider was heavy. I dropped a rope down from the deck and tied it to the glider. So far..so good! Then I went back up on the deck (which is only about 6 feet by 8 feet) and proceeded to pull the glider up. With great effort I finally got the glider pulled up to the edge of the deck. By this time I was now at the patio door to the ‘upper room’ 6 feet from the edge of the deck, but I hadn’t yet devised the part of the plan as to how I was going to keep the glider up there while I got over to the edge to pull it over the top and up onto the deck. Now while I was trying to figure this out...there came an added complication....the weight of the glider was pulling me sliding back across the deck. It didn’t take a rocket scientist to figure out that distance to the ground being 8 feet and the distance to the edge of the deck being only 6 feet was going to cause me some real problems!....soon! I thought of the funny story I’d heard a long time ago about the ‘accident report’. It kind of put things into perspective. And it wasn’t all that funny, when you are the guy with the predicament. I quickly devised a new part to my plan. I could reach the long level and it would span across the inside of the open patio door. I would pull the glider up tight again and tie it to the level to hold it while I got to the edge of the deck to pull it up and over the edge....Luckily...as I tied the rope to the level....I thought again of the ‘accident report’. And this thought came to me... “What if the weight of the glider pulled the patio door out of the wall?” It didn’t look too secure. There was this sort of vision...the distance of the deck...6 feet...the distance from the top of the deck to the ground 8 feet...me holding onto the glider...the patio door coming out of the wall...following the glider and me to the ground. You get the picture! Thanks to the story of the accident report I wisely decided to lower the glider back down to the ground and said a little prayer for help to come. And shortly it did. Bo and Teresa dropped in and in no time the glider was safely up on the deck. ....Coincidentally, a few weeks later Pastor Len preached about the ‘accident report’ in his sermon. He kindly e-mailed it to me....and here it is....

## ACCIDENT REPORT

The following is an accident report: “ I am writing in response to your request for additional information. In block #3 of the accident form, I put “**trying to do the job alone**” as the cause of my accident.

You said in your letter that I should explain more fully, and I trust that the following details will be sufficient. I am a bricklayer by trade. On the date of the accident I was working alone on the roof of a new six story building....

When I completed my work, I found that I had about 500 pounds of brick left over. Rather than carry the bricks down by hand, I decided to lower them in a barrel by using a pulley

which fortunately was attached to the side of the building at the 6th floor. Securing the rope at ground level, I went up to the roof, swung the barrel out, and loaded the bricks into it. Then I went back to the ground and untied the rope, holding it tightly to insure a slow descent of the 500 pounds of brick. You will note in block #11 of the accident report that I weigh 135 pounds.....But to my surprise at being jerked off the ground so suddenly, I lost my presence of mind and forgot to let go of the rope. Needless to say, I proceeded at a rather rapid rate up the side of the building.....In the vicinity of the third floor, I met the barrel coming down. This explains the fractured skull, and broken collar bone. Slowed only slightly, I continued my rapid ascent, not stopping until the fingers of my right hand were 2 knuckles deep into the pulley. Fortunately, by this time, I had regained my presence of mind, and was able to hold tightly to the rope, in spite of my Pain. At approximately the same time, however, the barrel of bricks hit the ground, and the bottom fell out of the barrel. Devoid of the weight of the bricks, the barrel then weighed approximately 50 pounds. I refer you again to my weight in block #11..... As you might imagine, I began a rapid descent down the side of the building. In the vicinity of the third floor, I met the bar

rel coming up. This accounts for the two fractured ankles, and the lacerations of my legs, and lower body area. The encounter with the barrel slowed me enough to lessen my injuries when I fell onto the pile of bricks, and fortunately only three vertebrae were cracked. 2.....I am sorry to report, however, that as I lay there on the bricks, in pain . . . unable to stand . . . and watching the empty barrel six stories above me . . . I again lost my presence of mind and let go of the rope. The empty barrel weighed more than the rope, so it came back down on me, and broke both my legs. I hope I have furnished the information you have required.

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Thank you James and Lori for your help and encouragement and for the turkey dinner I won't be able to chew unless someone finds my teeth!  
Thank you Don and Bill for all the great orders of stone.  
And I sure want to thank my crew for getting all those orders of stone out. They just finished the last order today. THANKS GUYS!  
Thank you Lil for all your help.  
Thank you all who have been praying for me and giving me good counsel.

Gabriela and Michael raise horses up Glacier Creek in the Duncan. If you are interested in buying horses you can contact them at .... RR Site 5, Comp 8 Kaslo B.C.VOG 1M0



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**SITTING IN THE PEW ( er phew)**

I built a new outhouse at my camp this year. It was badly needed seeing as Clancy fell a tree through the middle of my old one! One day my friends Sherri and Garry and the kids came up to help me with several projects. Gary had ‘apprenticed’ in the quarry over there splitting Red Ripple Rock this year. Not the easiest stone to start in. ....Sherri and I got to talking and having good Christian fellowship and it just seemed natural to sit down on the outhouse seat. It was comfy and had a great view as the front wall wasn’t built yet. We had such a good laugh when it dawned us how funny it would look if someone came along and saw us fellowshiping in the outhouse. Later while Garry cut limbs off offending tall trees Sherri made a stained glass window with a cross on it for the outhouse. I haven’t installed it yet as I’m waiting till we can get together again and do some more outhouse fellowship while we do our carpentering. We had a great time.

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**2002 CHRISTIAN REVIVAL AND CAMPOUT**

We had a wonderful time at the revival this year (the 5th. one) The Cranbrook group came over a few days early to help with the preparations and it was sure appreciated. We had lots of fun, good fellowship and miracles happened. People were healed right before our eyes. It just gets better and better every year. We have a kitchen outdoors now with two fridges and a freezer. Sure makes it easier than having to run back and forth to the house. Eddie B was in charge of the music etc. and he did a great job. We were very blessed with a local group called THE FOGGY MOUNTAIN RANGERS. Darlene’s little granddaughter stole the show with her singing. There were too many who blessed us to mention. Come join us next year. Watch our web site for details.

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About 7 years ago I painted this picture of a John Deere 490E excavator, along with the scripture “Delight yourself also in the Lord and He shall give you the desires of your heart” Ps.37:4. This year another miracle happened...another Christian brother rented me his excavator at a price I could afford. Guess what? ...a John Deere 490E! ...A wonderful couple came up from New Mexico to pick out some stone for their new log home and they took this adorable picture of the deer with the John Deere excavator in the background at one of my quarries. It looks to me like the deer is saying “See all things are possible with God!”

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### GETTING THE MESSAGE

#### HEARING THE WORD SAYING THE WORD AND DOING THE WORD

Isa 55:1-13

*55:1 Invitation to the LORD's Salvation "Is anyone thirsty? Come and drink-- even if you have no money! Come, take your choice of wine or milk--it's all free! 2 Why spend your money on food that does not give you strength? Why pay for food that does you no good? Listen, and I will tell you where to get food that is good for the soul! 3 "Come to me with your ears wide open. Listen, for the life of your soul is at stake. I am ready to make an everlasting covenant with you. I will give you all the mercies and unfailing love that I promised to David. 4 He displayed my power by being my witness and a leader among the nations. 5 You also will command the nations, and they will come running to obey, because I, the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, have made you glorious." 6 Seek the LORD while you can find him. Call on him now while he is near. 7 Let the people turn from their wicked deeds. Let them banish from their minds the very thought of doing wrong! Let them turn to the LORD that he may have mercy on them. Yes, turn to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. 8 "My thoughts are completely different from yours," says the LORD. "And my ways are far beyond anything you could*

*imagine. 9 For just as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts higher than your thoughts. 10 "The rain and snow come down from the heavens and stay on the ground to water the earth. They cause the grain to grow, producing seed for the farmer and bread for the hungry. 11 It is the same with my word. I send it out, and it always produces fruit. It will accomplish all I want it to, and it will prosper everywhere I send it. 12 You will live in joy and peace. The mountains and hills will burst into song, and the trees of the field will clap their hands! 13 Where once there were thorns, cypress trees will grow. Where briars grew, myrtles will sprout up. This miracle will bring great honor to the LORD's name; it will be an everlasting sign of his power and love. NLT*

Don't you just love when wham...all of a sudden there is this revelation of what a certain scripture means....the deeper meaning...when that revelation just bursts forth in your soul and your understanding of it is forever changed. You can read a scripture 100 times and you will get something out of it perhaps...but then comes that wonderful connection of spirit and soul and Holy Spirit reveals a deeper meaning...What came to me is how when we renew our mind with God's word (His spiritual food that is free) and believe what he says rather than what the world, or the devil says, or what we've been programmed to believe, our lives will change. When we truly put His principals into practice good results will happen. Just like if we go the other direction bad results will happen sooner or later unless we change our ways. What we feed our spirit and plant and nourish in our soul (our mind will and emotions...kind of like the hard drive of our computer) is what we will begin to harvest. We need to bring our thoughts and imaginations into captivity...not just let them run away with ideas that do not come from God.

I really enjoy the teaching of Leon Fontain. It truly inspires me how he brings the revelation of the scriptures to life in such a simplistic way. I kept listening over and over to one particular old set of tapes he did on healing. There was some big truth I knew I needed to grasp way in my soul. It was like it was something I already know but needed to get that bursting forth so it would be like 'established firmly' in all I do. I imagine there are others like me that know the scriptures and even apply them a lot but there are times when nothing seems to be clear in a situation...or some times the feeling of helplessness, fear or confusion seems to override the solution. THE MESSAGE IS THAT "WE NEED TO HEAR GOD'S WORD, GET THE REVELATION OR (UNDERSTANDING) OF WHAT IT MEANS DEEP IN OUR BEING, THEN SPEAK HIS WORD AND STEP OUT IN FAITH SO THAT HIS WORD WILL BE ACOMPLISHED Isa 55:11 "So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; It shall not return to Me void, But it shall accomplish what I please, And it shall prosper in the thing for which I

*sent it.* NKJ .....Peter said in Acts 3:6 "Silver and gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk." and the lame man was healed. WHAT DID HE HAVE? He had the revelation that he had the power of God in him. He believed it, therefore he used it. Jesus had told him (and us) John 14:12-14 "*Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father. 13 And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. 14 If you ask anything in My name, I will do it.* NKJV

At Pentecost 120 (Acts 2:15 KJV) believers were all together in one place and of one accord. (This does not mean just a physical place. It means spiritually believing in Him and what He said in unity of mind and spirit.) 120 people, not just the apostles received the Holy Spirit and .....every believer that receives the Holy Spirit has the power of God in him...or her. PROPHECY OF JOEL (Acts 2 :16-21).... In Mark 16:20 God's word says "*And they (the disciples) went out and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word through the accompanying signs.*" Amen.NKJV

We are His disciples...we have His power in us by believing in Him and His name and by applying His word. It is His Spirit in us that will give us the boldness and the power to push the kingdom of darkness back and bring his beloved creation of lost souls into HIS KINGDOM OF LIGHT. God's word says "*Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his saints.*" Ps 116:15 KJV. Another word for precious is **COSTLY** ( In Strong's Greek-Hebrew dictionary # OT:3368) Costly sure puts a different light on it doesn't it? The enemy might have us believe it is precious when God's saints die....and I guess to him (Satan) it is! But when one of God's precious witnesses dies He loses a precious witness to those still in darkness on the earth. We are the temple of the Holy Spirit and we need to keep that temple in good condition so the natural effects of unhealthy living won't destroy these earthen vessels. I love Psalm Ps 103:1-5 in the King James version..."*Bless the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name. Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits: Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases; Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies; Who satisfieth thy mouth with good things; so that thy youth is renewed like the eagle's.* KJV" From that I get the unction of how we need to fill our mouths with good things...not just food...but His word. Jesus used God's word when He was tempted by the devil and we are to do the same. He said in Matt 4:4 But He answered and said, "**It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.'**" When we find the scripture that ap-

plies to the situation (whether it be salvation, forgiveness, healing, finances, fear or whatever) and proclaim it saying “**this is what appears to be...but by faith I believe that is not the last word on it!**” Heb 4:12 *For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.* NKJV I believe this so much that I’ll say it again....we need to apply the appropriate scripture to the situation...just as Jesus did when He did battle with the devil. There is power in our sword HIS WORD to overcome. We need to fuel up with power in His word!

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### SALVATION MESSAGE

THIS CHRISTMAS SEASON....IF YOU HAVE NOT MADE THAT WONDERFUL DECISION YET, YOU COULD GIVE YOURSELF THE BEST PRESENT TO YOURSELF YOU COULD EVER EVEN IMAGINE....YOU WON’T HAVE TO RETURN IT AND IT LASTS FOR ETERNITY....IT WON’T WEAR OUT AND IT JUST GETS BETTER AND BETTER! .....OR IF YOU HAVE MADE THE DECISION AT SOME TIME, BUT HAVE SEPARATED YOURSELF FROM GOD BY SIN....CONFESS YOUR SIN....TURN AWAY FROM IT AND RE-COMMITT YOUR LIFE TO HIM.

### Rom 10:9-10

**9** that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. **10** For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. NKJV

*Why not receive the free gift of salvation and eternal life right now. Just speak a heartfelt prayer such as this...*

Dear Lord Jesus..I know I am a sinner and need Your forgiveness. I believe You died for my sins and God raised You from the dead. I want to turn from my sins. I now invite you to come into my heart and life. I want to trust and follow You as my Lord and Savior. Please fill me with Your Holy Spirit to lead and guide me for the rest of my life. In Jesus name -Amen