

## Monthly Update



### Personal

After sending The Harbor recent monthly update I had received a note where people wanted to know how I was doing. I realized that it has been awhile since I had written anything about myself, so this month this is what I would like to do. It is clear to me that God had blessed me richly and I am well taken care of. I was blessed to be in Russia this year and had a tremendous time there. Now I have been back for 6 weeks and been on the road, raising funds. The Harbor ministry is where I place my focus while in the states. I love what I am doing because I get to meet a lot of interesting people and build relationship with many of our partners. I can see how people are struggling and have a huge desire to help them in some way.

During my travels I want to heavily stress on the aspect of relationship and friendship. With technology developing quite rapidly and beginning to take over our lives, I feel it is important to be more personal. It is a foreign topic for many people so there is a major disconnect, yet many people desire to be noticed, cared and loved.

Without personal touch and attention it is impossible to find what many of us are looking for. One of my passions is to help families with adoptive children from Russia and God has been brining more of them to our ministry. I just want to be the hands and feet of Christ so that their lives will be filled with just little bit extra love, joy and happiness in the midst of pain and hopelessness. Let us be friendly, loving and compassionate to one another because this is what Christ would do.

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I am reflecting on how God has brought me out of darkness and now I desire to do the same. I cannot find peace until I know that God's children will be restored, healed and transformed. I have a wonderful family that I live with in Columbus who had been absolutely amazing to me for 8 years now. About year and a half ago for the first time in 15 years being in this country on and off, I had purchased a used car. It has served me well, but it also gave me a hard time. As Bill would say, "*Alex, welcome to the world of used cars.*" It certainly was a world that caused many headaches at times and cost way too much money, which I did not have to begin with. I was planning to get rid of it because I simply could not handle dealing with the used car any longer. I had no idea what was going to happen once I got rid of it, but God did. He had blessed me abundantly through a dear friend of mine who is also a partner of our ministry with a new lease Honda. Thank you Jesus and my dear friend. God had promised to take care of all our needs and He has and will always do that, but we must do our part, which is to trust Him. Then my laptop was going to turn 6 years old so I was referring to it as a "*senior citizen*". It was still working, but getting old and could not do some of the things that I wanted to do. Well, God is so awesome because through another dear friend of mine, who is also a partner of our ministry, blessed me with new Mac laptop. Once again I am lifting up my prayers of praises to my Father and thanks to my friend. I am sharing this as a testimony of God's love and provision. Furthermore, He blessed me with way more than I had asked or hoped or thought of.

Thus, I sit and reflect what I can and have to do for those who do not have anywhere nearly as much as I do. I had given my life to serve my Abba Father twelve years ago and want to make another commitment to do that for another 12 years. I want to share those blessings and be a testimony to God being at work even when we do not see or feel it. I desire to help orphans so that they can be productive, educated, happy, joyful, and Christian radical leaders in this world. This summer I read a very powerful book "*One Million Arrows*" by Julie Ferwerda. As she challenges the readers in her book by simply asking a question, "*Do you want our children to change this world or the World to change our children?*" I want our children to change the world and not the other way around.

On another topic, people frequently ask me if I have a girlfriend. I am still single. I know that what I am doing right now is what God wants me to do, and this is where He wants me to be. I have total peace and confidence in my Father. I would like to get married and have my own children and even adopt some, but He will have to bring me that other half. In His time, I know it will happen so, until then, I will faithfully serve Him.

My primary focus right now is to raise necessary funds for The Harbor so that God's ministry can continue to reach the lives of many orphans who are forgotten and neglected by the community. I realize and see that this is a very difficult time for many people around the world. Many of you have been faithful to The Harbor and especially now when things are tough. I so appreciate you responding to God's call and willingness to trust Him to provide. At the moment, **The Harbor needs to finish this year strong and that requires meeting our budget. At the moment, we are below our budget by \$100,000.** Help us to meet our budget so that The Harbor can keep doing its mission like it has been for over nine years. If we do not need meet the budget, then we would be forced to implement some changes that will affect the lives of orphans. Will you join our cause and help us to meet this goal by the end of year? To make a tax deductible donation please see info below.

I am going to travel around the country through mid April and then I will be heading to Germany and Russia for another four plus months. The life goes on and I am excited. I hope and pray that your hearts would be filled with joy, warmth and happiness because God is transforming lives. This is a tremendous gift and a blessing.

### **Update on The Harbor**

I just want to give you a quick update on the ministry. We had originally selected 32 orphans before August 30<sup>th</sup> and 26 of them came to us. After almost two months there are 20 residents. Even though six are no longer with us the seed was sown in them, so now we have given them to God and He will work in them in His time and on His terms.

Three weeks ago, thanks to Doma International, we were able to launch our Young Mothers program. Our goal is to teach our young mothers how to be a mother. Six of our graduates out of ninety have gotten married and have children. Now we want to make sure that the vicious cycle is broken so they need our guidance, training and support. We have united with another local ministry that works with moms, so this year we are anticipating 20-30 moms with up to 30 kids. We are excited to see what God is going to do through this new ministry.

One major prayer request is for our facility for the Vocational Training Center. We had subleased that building from another church, but it actually belongs to the government. This fall the state is looking through the paper work and will determine whether the church gets to keep the building; thus, The Harbor VTC gets to keep going in this facility. **Please lift this urgent prayer request in your prayers for favorable decision among government officials.**

# Partnership

**To financially partner with The Harbor please make check payable out to CRM (Acct.#9970) and mail to:**

**Church Resource Ministries**

**1240 N. Lakeview Ave. Suite 120**

**Anaheim, CA 92807**

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