



## *Brian and Crystal Boecker - June 2021*

### **Burning vs. Affection**

In John 21 Jesus asks Peter three times if he loved Him. The first 2 times He asked Peter if he burned with love for Him and Peter answers, "Yes, Lord! You know that I have great affection for you!"

As I traveled to Costa Rica to minister to missionaries from around Central and South America last month, I began to see the affects of living with "great affection" and fostering a "burning heart" for Jesus.

Many women missionaries came with burning hearts for their ministries, but marriages and COVID lives that we're heading toward shambles. As we offered opportunities for them to receive healing prayer, counseling and spiritual direction we saw every possible space for meeting with us filled. As we met with this amazing ladies, we experienced God move to break bonds that were defeating them and bring steps of healing toward freedom.

Personally I was challenged by the speaker to have a burning heart of faith, versus being content with heart of affection that might not move me forward in the scarier and more risky areas that cause me to have to reach out in trust.

I want to be more quickly responsive to the Spirit to pray for people wherever and whenever He prompts me and to not hold back.

At the end of the time all the volunteers surrounded the attendees holding hands and singing a song of blessing over them. These missionaries who have experienced devastation during COVID and are constantly pouring out to others were filled with our love, prayers and the outpouring of God as they left to return to demanding ministry and life situations.

It was encouraging to hear some of the missionaries affirm the work of the Lord in their lives during this time. One said,

“ This season has been especially isolating and confusing. It was such a breath of fresh air to be with women from all over the world who are experiencing similar difficulty. I was reminded over and over again, “You are not alone, this is hard, and God is still very very good.””

Thank you for all the ways you make these opportunities a possibility. We feel deeply privileged and grateful for the opportunity to see God work in caring for and supporting those in ministry around the Globe.

“Then many will give thanks on our behalf for the gracious favor granted us in answer to the prayers of many.”

I Corinthians 1: 11



*Crystal Brian*

**Thanks for praying!**

Brian had the opportunity to help coaches of LEAF conference (Leadership Evaluation and Formation) for some national leaders in Asia. Thanks for praying for the preparation and conference it self. I will hear more about the time at our evaluation next week but it sounds like it had a great impact on their lives!

**Pray for:**

July—Brian will help lead a marriage seminar for missionaries preparing to go to the field.

## **Opportunities for Crystal:**

Crystal has opportunities to do spiritual direction and speak at several conferences in coming months.

Please pray as she prepares for these trips—Idaho and Cyprus. One trip to Italy has been postponed.

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