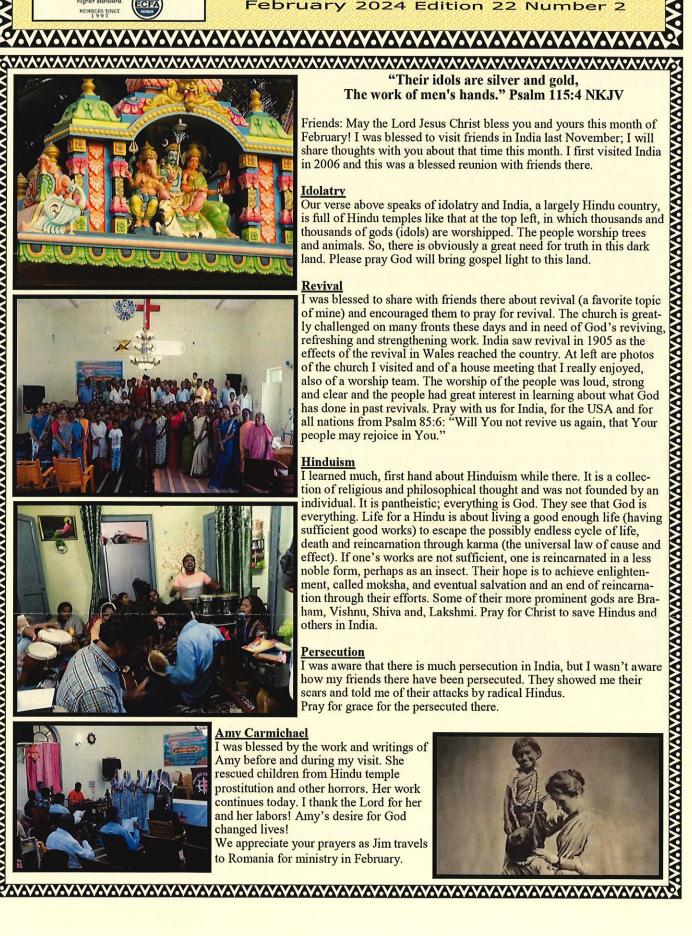


MISSION AFRICA

JIM & KAPPY ROBINETTE

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KAPPY'S CORNER—Wings

I sat alone in the study of a Ugandan pastor. He and Jim were busy just outside the door distributing study Bibles to the leaders of the congregation. The pastor had graciously offered me his study while I waited. As I looked over all of the books on the shelves, a movement outside the only window caught my attention. A hen was walking along a low ridge with a small brood of chicks in tow. She gave a sudden signal and immediately the chicks went running and hid under her outspread wings. All of the chicks but one went running, that is. That one was still out in the open, intent on scratching and pecking at the ground. As she signaled again, the straggler went running undercover as well.

When the pastor came in, I mentioned what I had seen. He made one comment that

has stayed with me all these years: "There is an eagle."

So which chick am I? Am I one of the chicks that ran immediately for protection

and nearness, or am I the chick that lingered distractedly for a bit and then ran?

I knew that when we came back to America, I would be faced with more distractions than I'd had in Uganda. Life was simpler there. Jim and I didn't have smartphones. We didn't have a television. Now we do. I often find the technology that is supposed to save time

does just the opposite.

For example: I recently managed to clear my small desk of unfinished projects one night—thus eliminating the temptation to work on them first thing in the morning. I placed my Bible in the center of my desk so I would read it before I did anything else . . . so far, so good. Then, first thing the next morning my phone informed me—an update could not be installed because my storage was too full. I proceeded to try, with my very limited knowledge of smartphones, to free up some space in my phone. Two hours later, my Bible still sat unopened in the middle of my desk. Jim came in and promised to show me how to manage the storage more easily in the future. Of course, I'd been praying, "O Lord, please help me do this!" He answered by sending my husband to stop me from doing it!

I did get to the Bible. However, I had less time and felt hurried. It's not the same as being still and sitting at His feet in adoration. It's not the same as meditating on His Word in prayer. It's not the same as preparing my heart for the troubles of the day ahead by

seeking Him early. It's just not the same.

I praise God, by His grace and mercy, not every morning is like that. The morning I wrote this, I spent a very pleasant time drawing near to God through Psalm 139. The Lord knows me, loves me and protects me!

"How precious is Your lovingkindness, O God!

Therefore the children of men put their trust under the shadow of Your wings." - Psalm 36:7 NKJV



We appreciate your prayers as Jim travels to Romania for ministry in February, thanks!

May our Lord bless you in His wonderful grace, Jim and Kappy

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