

# **The Word Goes Forth**

## **Pastor Tim Peterson's Blog**

### **August 1, 2015**

#### **Isaiah 55:11**

About one year ago I met a couple who had gone through many struggles including an accident as a result of the husband driving under the influence of alcohol, an arrest for DWI followed by financial problems. When I met them they did not have a relationship with Christ. Over the weeks we discussed their life alongside God's Word. As we dug into the Word Phil's heart was softened as he was beginning to hear for the first time the forgiveness of Christ. Beth, Phil's wife quietly listened week to week but said very little.

About two months of meeting together Beth began to open up and share what all she was processing. She was in her late thirties and remembered as a third grade girl, a neighbor brought her to the E-Free church every Wednesday evening for Awana. She added that the Bible verses we were discussing relating to their lives she had heard as a little girl. When we looked at

Isaiah 55:11 So shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

Beth remembered memorizing many verses. She added as a little girl she did not really understand what many of the verses meant. She said I know God loves me and has revealed this to her in the midst of this current trial. Oswald Chambers said, "the remarkable thing about the Holy Spirit's illumination of Bible truth is that it commends itself as being the true interpretation to every child of God who is in the light." Beth told me she planned to speak to her old neighbor to thank her for taking her to Awana.

This couple's trial led them to see Christ and to repentance for the way they were living. Repentance is a gift from God. No one can choose when to repent. This couple had been remorseful many times for the wrongs in their life but this time they were repentant as now they were choosing to live to please Jesus. Repentance leads one to live the exact opposite from the way they were living. Repentance to be true means not only sorrow for the wrong but the acceptance of the Atonement of Jesus which will make a person what they have never been, holy.

(2 Corinthians 7:10 For godly grief produces a repentance that leads to salvation without regret, whereas worldly grief produces death.)

I know the preparation for the fall has begun. I pray all who are serving in the Children's ministry know the incredible work you are doing. I am excited to see how God will move this fall. I pray as a body of believers we never forget the power of God's word and how He oversees it going out. We are so excited to join you in Loving Custer County! Enjoy HIS grace today!