



Dear Friend,

In several areas of our work, ministry seems to be growing and deepening: in my women's group at our home church, in Mike's ministry with men in the Portland area and even in our home with our own children. We are grateful and humbled to watch the Lord at work in our lives and the lives of many around us. I was reminded just this weekend of Galatians 6:8-10, *"The one who sows to please his sinful nature, from that nature will reap destruction; the one who sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life. Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers."* We know beyond a doubt that only God gives the increase, and we are so thankful to see the fruit of His work through this ministry.

Mike continues to have, meaningful opportunities to minister

already participating in MOS. At this year's initial meeting, they brought 14 men. Added to current participants of MOS, Mike expects to have over 30 men attending each week!

January 21-22, Mike led Simplicity Ministries® Board of Directors on an overnight retreat for their annual "face to face" meeting. (Other board meetings are often via Skype, especially when we have out of town members serving on our board.) Present for the retreat were current board members: Charles Warren (Chairman), Brian Yaw (Treasurer) and Scott Breier (Secretary). We expect to add additional members this year and will keep you informed as that occurs. Please take a moment to thank the Lord for these godly men who stand so strongly with us and this ministry. They are an integral part of our team, and we are immeasurably blessed by their hard work, generosity and spiritual leadership.

This past weekend, January 28-29, Mike preached the "One God! No Idols!" series for teens and adults at a 24 hour lock-in



Schedule: February 2011

- 2nd Open Door Baptist Church Troutdale, OR
- 11th-13th Montana Southern Baptist Convention - Collegiate Retreat
- 14th-16th Olympic Baptist Assoc WA Pastors/Wives Retreat
- Mondays Men of Simplicity

Complete Schedule: www.simplicityministries.org



with local church, Open Door Baptist, where our girls attend AWANA each week and Mike and I attend mid-week bible study. On January 14, Mike preached another segment of his series entitled "The Surpassing Treasure of Christ" for teens at Open Door Christian Academy. On January 26 and February 2nd, he preached the same messages for the church's adults at the Wednesday bible study gathering. Adults commented that this series not only helped them to be better prepared to do evangelism but also built up their own faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

An area church has begun to participate in Mike's men's group: Men of Simplicity (MOS). In order to encourage and train the men of local churches, Mike is inviting pastors to bring their men to the large group teaching sessions he leads every other week. The churches then facilitate their own small group discussions on the alternating weeks so that their men have a chance to process the messages together and spur each other on to apply the teachings to their lives. Orient Drive Baptist, of Sandy, Oregon, is the first church to join the men

for First Baptist Church, Monroe, Washington. Students learned that idolatry is more than the physical idols carved with human hands. There are also idols that one "carves" in the mind by creating a doctrinal or theological image of God that is contrary to the way God has revealed Himself in Scripture. Often this intellectual idol is created to accommodate one's own sin or to fashion an understanding of "God" that makes more sense to oneself. In addition, students learned that there are idols of the heart. What an individual covets reveals the idols of his heart. A covetous man is an idolater (see Eph. 5:5 and Col. 3:5). In light of the supremacy and jealousy of God, students responded in prayer, confession, and renewed commitment of their lives to Christ.

As you pray for and give to Simplicity Ministries, you participate with us in calling generations of all nations to the simplicity and purity of devotion to Christ. We are so grateful for your partnership and encouragement.

Simply Devoted to Christ - Debbie and Mike