

Oct. 20, 2014

The flowers are fading --- their colorful brilliance gone --- the leaves drying up --- looking very withered and pathetic. Summer's coming to an end and a certain nostalgia sets in. The perennials are a wonderful source of hope, however, because we know that on the other side of winter and their long dormancy --- new life will spring up and the new little sprouts will pop up through the thawing earth --- the wonderful hope of new life. Nature, (God's creation) does it so gracefully --- slipping in and out of the natural changing seasons of His creation.

Why must I fight it so! Complain and fuss over it? How many jokes about old and aging are out there, ANYWAY?!? Now I'm hearing my middle age children beginning with this same theme :/ We recently attended my High School FIFTIETH class reunion! And we'd just stand there looking at each other --- amazed at how old we'd gotten and how unbelievable it was that 50 years had gone by (reminding me also that life is truly a vapor)! My mom gave me a cross-stitch years ago that said, "**Bloom where you're planted**". I have always LOVE the truth of that statement! But now I think I need to change it to: "**Fade where you're planted**" :-)

And TRULY --- We are loving the place of service God has us "fading" for His service. One outcome of our reunion, (which came as no surprise), is that we are SO thankful for the choices God led us to make and the extreme satisfaction of being career missionaries! NO regrets --- no wishing we could do it all over!!! Only praise and a deep sense of gratitude for what He allowed (is allowing) us to do! And **YOU** are included in this! Is that because it's been easy? Oh no! It's because we know that it **WILL be worth it all when we see Jesus!!!**



We sense that we can kind of relate to some of the perennials that come up each year, in that, year after year--- down in the recesses of the dark earth, there is multiplication going on. The tulip bulbs are producing more little bulbs. They will eventually need to be split apart-- and that multiplication process will continue to take place. Paul's brother Tim and his wife Betty are back in Bolivia after years of being involved in other ministries. We worked together with them years ago --- but they are now witnessing this wonderful process of spiritual multiplication among the Ayore people. **There is now a group of young men on fire for the Lord --**
← **emerging as the leaders of the Ayore church --- burdened for their people spiritually!!!**

This is Rolly --- a young man whose heart God has touched! He has a huge burden to teach God's word to his people!

Ah --- how many years did we look into the dark unresponsive earth to see if new growth was springing forth??? **But GOD is "bringing the increase"!!!** And the Ayore church **is growing** into a verdant fruitful plant --- blooming and multiplying where they are planted.

And now --- here at the MTC (Missionary Training Center), we are so blessed to be a part of training these young career missionaries to walk intimately with the Lord --- passing along methods and truths that will sharpen their skills that will enable them to be more effective in their cross-cultural ministries. It is a huge joy for us!!! **They remind us of tender little plants**, thirsty and eager for the watering and tender care needed for this phase of their growth!



Thank you for your nurturing, life sustaining, financial and prayerful care of us as we've tried to "bloom where we've been planted" :-) Our "limbs and stalks" have gotten beat up and fragile over the years. The "flowers" are definitely fading" :-] --- but our prayer is that we can continue to shine radiantly for **HIS glory and honor!!!** And that we can continue to be a sweet fragrance as unto the Lord!!!

Pray for Paul please as he is involved in a fifty four hour module on Teamwork and Conflict Resolution this next couple of months. Also--- he's going to have a knee replacement in January. And for me? I'm very aware of the fact that where I am today and what I am experiencing as my body breaks down is God's perfect and privileged place for me!!! I AM finding a peace and contentment ---knowing that God's ways are perfect --- His grace IS sufficient --- and He knows all about this "fading" thing! :-}

We are praising God for the beautiful autumn --- for the hope of new life to come and for YOU!!!! Thank you SO much for being our co-workers! You are dearly loved and appreciated!

Paul and Faith Wyma

ALSO --- Here's a video that highlights the importance of teamwork in missions and the training of our students. <https://www.facebook.com/video.php?v=10152420204858515>

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