

Nieuwsbrief Familie Bakker

Nummer 12 – juni 2011



A hard decision

In our last letter we wrote about the financial gap and Arjen's test results. We told you about our conviction that God was still leading us to Arnhemland and the questions that arose from that.

After an intense and unsure time, we had to make the decision to put an end to the work with MAF.

We feel at rest when we think of this decision and the peace of God is in our hearts. We are also scared and insecure though because we stand now with empty hands. But we trust God is going to provide and walk with us on the next part of our journey.



Miracles

Since the last letter you got, we worked hard to raise the money we needed. We gave presentations in churches, sold craft stuff, did some fundraising at schools, sold fairy floss at the Queen's Day market, organized a benefit concert and a BBQ. We tried everything to raise some money. We are amazed when we see what our Lord and you as supporters have done. We would like to thank you and Him.

We've heard of gifts of 1000 euro's and that is amazing. It wasn't enough though; at the 1st June we were still 15.000 euro's short of our goal. When we thought we had to quit because of the money, we got a phone call from somebody telling us they would like to give us the remaining 15.000 euro's. This filled our hearts with awe, but also with questions and restlessness.



A 'no' after all

The weekend after that, we thought and prayed about our decision. During that time we felt restless and insecure. We longed to go out to Arnhemland, but we couldn't say why. The money was there but we felt the Lord wasn't coming with us.

During a meeting with our home committee, on 6 June, we decided not to take the money and stay in Holland, where we feel the Lord is guiding us. It was hard and we didn't want to say this. After all the work of MAF has the love of our heart and we have to start all over. But we are certain this is what God wants us to do.

The finances are still not settled, we have a debt to pay back. We have to look for a permanent job, a house and a car. But we are confident because we know God asks this step of us. It is scary, but we do look forward to what God has prepared for us and what job He has for us in His kingdom.

What is this all doing to us?

Like we wrote before in this letter, we have peace about this decision. But we also feel vulnerable. We walked the road that we believed God wanted us to go. Now the road is making an unexpected turn, and that is quite scary.

We have to be accountable for this to all the people who stood behind us both with prayers and finances. But the most important thing is that we know, with MAF and our home committee, that this is what God asks from us. We don't understand it now, but we know that we are following Him and He knows what is best for us.

In our last letter we wrote the following, and it is still true, so we write it again: Something else is more and more clear, that is the place God gave us. We have our kids to parent and help them grow up to godly women which love and live with our Lord. We long to do that well and doing that being a light that shines around. So we hope people will see the love of our risen Lord Jesus through us all.





Thankful

The last thing that remains in our heart is thankfulness.

We are thankful for the support you gave us. You were always backing us up. Your attention, postcards, gifts, but especially your prayer was very important for us and without that, we couldn't have done the last two years. We really like to thank you for that.

Above all we are thankful to God, who gave this special road for us to learn on. That we can take our place to show a bit of His love. But especially that we are saved because of the sacrifice of our Lord Jesus and live with Him every day. Now on earth, where many things are insecure and change, but after this in heaven, where we will see Him who doesn't change and who holds our life in His hands.

Prayer

We'd like you to pray for:

- His guidance, He goes before us and where He leads us is a good place.
- Peace and rest in our family and energy to keep investing in each other.
- Things we need like a job, car, and a house.
- MAF, keep praying for them.

We'd like to thank God for:

- His strength and support through everything.
- This special journey, which you were a part of.

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