



*Sons of Issachar*

*for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*

Dear Friends and Family,

May 21, 2013

Well, I've got good news, and I've got bad news. Which would you like to hear first? The good news? I agree, and in fact, the good news is actually great news. **A George Mason University student with whom I've been meeting for a couple of years has come to know Christ** – it doesn't get any better than that!

Now, the bad news...sadly, I must announce that Joshua Alcorn, my ministry assistant for six years, has had to leave SOI 21. Joshua had struggled to raise enough financial support for himself, and with his marriage last summer, his situation became untenable. I encouraged him to look for another job, and he was recently hired as a consultant by Deloitte Consulting. Lynn and I both appreciate his years of service to SOI 21, and we bless him as he begins this new chapter in his life.

First, I'll share the "Christina Story," then close this newsletter with a farewell testimony from Joshua.

### REJOICING IN HEAVEN!

*"In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."*  
-Jesus (Luke 15:10)

I rejoice to share with you that the angels in heaven are rejoicing over the salvation of **Christina**, a Mason student who has been coming to the Prayer Table consistently for the past two years. You may remember that I asked you to pray for her in our December newsletter. Several times I have had hours-long conversations with her about serious spiritual questions. Not having seen her in a few weeks, I was praying for her while sitting at the Prayer Table on the Thursday of Passion Week. A few minutes later, Christina walked up and sat down. After a very meaningful conversation, I had the privilege of sharing with her *The Father Wants You!* Gospel booklet, and then, leading her in the prayer at the end to trust Christ as her Savior. At that point, *Christina and I both realized that she had made the decision to come home to her Heavenly Father right before Good Friday and Resurrection Sunday!*

How encouraging to see someone embrace salvation right before Easter! It's always meaningful to see a seed which God has sown in someone's heart bring forth fruit. Praise the Lord! Please continue to pray for Christina's spiritual growth, as she begins this new relationship with her Heavenly Father. And, thank you for your prayers and support that make it possible for us to minister to students like Christina!

### A WORD FROM JOSHUA

*"I first met Bill Lewis on the steps of the Supreme Court in 2005. I was there praying with a pro-life group for the abolition of abortion. He was there praying with members of Congress for Revival & Spiritual Awakening. Such an intercessory introduction was bound to have a bright future. First, I was struck by his stature, then I was impressed by his eloquence and erudition, and finally, I was drawn to his humble-hearted brokenness and passion for God, our country, and the lost. Without hesitation I asked him to mentor me while I was in graduate school. And he graciously agreed. Little did we know what the Lord had in store! Of course, we discussed history, theology, philosophy, and eschatology; more importantly, we explored what it means to be a loving*



*man. And we prayed. From those simple but profound beginnings, the Lord wove our hearts together with a common passion and vision. Eventually, Bill asked me to join SOI 21. And I agreed, after an amazing series of confirmations that can only be described as a Divine Calling.*

*Ever since I met Bill and began working for SOI 21, the Lord has changed my life in three profound ways. First, I was mentored by Bill Lewis, which is like saying that Frank Sinatra gave me voice lessons, or that Chuck Norris was my Karate instructor -- he's the best at what he does. Bill combines his M.A. in Biblical Counseling with a Spirit-led anointing to deeply touch the hearts of those he mentors. Through his involvement in my life, I've become more of the man that God created me to be. I don't know where I would be without his support and guidance in critical moments over the past several years. Undoubtedly, I can say that I'm a better man because of him.*

*The second is ministry. Bill and I have spent the last five years praying, thinking, talking, researching, and studying how to reach college students with the Gospel. As a result, we've coordinated numerous events, created multiple programs, interacted with teams and leaders, and ministered to countless college students. But, what still gets me about all the work we've put into college ministry is Bill's heart for each and every student we meet. It's amazing and inspiring to see how consistently and intentionally he expresses the heart of the Heavenly Father in every ministry encounter. Not many students leave with dry eyes after speaking with Bill. Seeing the Heavenly Father use Bill's heart to touch students is one of the best parts of working at SOI 21. It makes me want to be a better man and a better follower of Christ.*

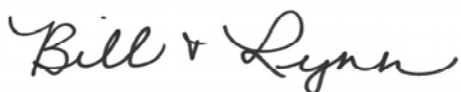
*Finally, it was through SOI 21 that I met and married my wife, Amanda. God providentially placed a cute, red-headed Californian in a SOI 21 small group Bible study at The George Washington University. With some promptings from Bill, I asked Amanda on our first date (after the Bible study concluded, of course). A year and a half later, he led us through pre-marital counseling. And, on June 30, 2012, Bill performed an unforgettable ceremony for our wedding (Abby and Grace were the perfect flower girls)! It has been a pleasure and privilege to have Bill and Lynn's loving involvement throughout our relationship. Amanda and I truly believe that we couldn't have had a better man to be on our side through all the ups and downs of life...not even Frank Sinatra or Chuck Norris.*

*As a final word, to those of you who already support Bill and Lynn, I want to thank you for your sacrificial obedience to God's direction and for your generous gifts. I hope you feel joy knowing that you are investing wisely in a ministry reaching America's college students. Certainly, your giving has deeply impacted my life as well. **To those of you who receive their newsletters, but haven't yet supported them financially, I could not recommend anyone more highly than Bill and Lynn.** As individuals and as a missionary couple, there is none more worthy of your financial support. Amanda and I will be supporting the Lewis family regularly because we love them, we believe in them, and we believe in the SOI 21 cause!"*

#### **HOW YOU CAN HELP**

Your gifts make it possible for us to minister to students like Christina, Joshua (when he was in graduate school), and many others. Thank you for investing in SOI 21. We couldn't do it without you! We appreciate so much your partnership with us. **Currently, we are seeking to raise an additional \$2,500 in regular monthly support.** *If you would consider making a monthly, quarterly, or yearly pledge to our support, we would be truly grateful!*

Rejoicing with the angels,



Bill and Lynn Lewis