



## Tom Shanklin Ministries

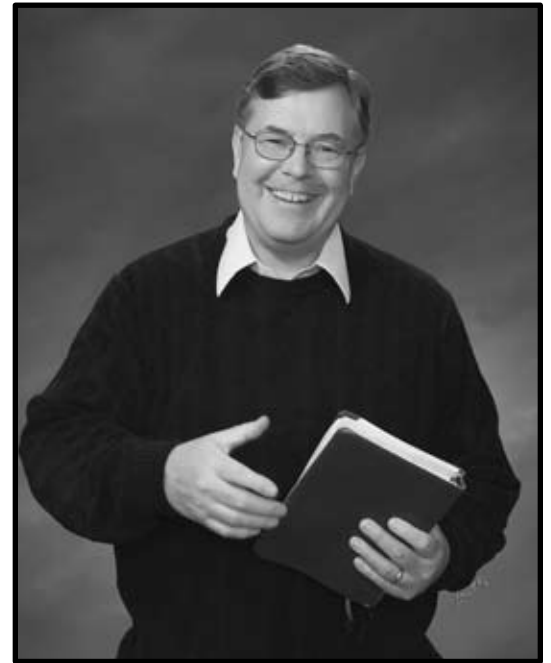
Tom and Susan Shanklin  
P.O. Box 4144  
Mankato, MN 56002

December 2008

Dear Friend,

Carol and Vic were both children of pastors. They had been married for 17 years. For a long time Carol had prayed that her husband would become the spiritual leader in their home, but Vic was running from God and doing his own thing. Eventually, Carol's resistance wore down and she too became cold towards God. The couple stopped attending church and their marriage deteriorated. After 17 years, Carol finally had enough and decided to leave Vic and file for divorce.

When Carol moved out, Vic realized that he was about to lose the one good thing in his life. He began to seek God in prayer for the restoration of their marriage. Then Carol's lawyer recommended that she move back with her husband until the divorce was finalized, which she did. She slept alone, with Vic standing outside the door nightly quietly praying that their union would be restored.



Vic asked Carol to please go with him to church. As they sat in the pew that day they heard a message from the pastor on "Surrendering Your Life to God." At the end of the sermon, he gave an altar call for those who were willing to surrender all, to come forward and pray. Vic got out of his seat and came forward. As Carol sat in her pew, the Lord spoke to her, "This is what you have been waiting for all these years. Are you just going to sit here?" Carol got up and quietly joined her husband at the front of the church. At that point, their relationship began to heal, the divorce was cancelled and their marriage was restored.

Interestingly, the night before Carol shared her testimony with me at a church where I was ministering, I had preached on the same subject as the one that had changed their lives some years before, "Surrendering Your Life to God." It's when we truly made Jesus the Lord of our lives that He begins to work a transformation.

For many years, the couple had tried to have children. They had even tried fertilization therapy, to no avail. One Sunday, some time after their reconciliation, the couple came forward for prayer at church. The pastor of the church (same church, different pastor) prayed a very concise, simple, non-pious prayer, "God, you know Vic and Carol would be good parents. Give 'em a baby, Lord, in Jesus name."

Three days later, by their calculation, Carol conceived. The couple now have a beautiful three-year-old girl. Carol now serves in the music ministry at the church. Vic is a youth leader, and their daughter, Annalyn, likes to pick up the microphone after church services and sing praises to God.

You see, Jesus is the gift that keeps giving. God gave His Son 2,000 years ago, but His gift is perpetuated every time we share Jesus and someone puts their trust in Him. The Gospel is for today! He is still giving hope, changing lives and doing miracles in 2008. This is the true essence of Christmas.

### GOOD NEWS WORTH SHARING

Every week since God had given the couple their baby girl, Carol has shared the testimony about what God did in their lives with at least one person. I was the person that she shared it with that particular week. Now, of course, I have shared it with you, so the Lord continues to get glory for what He has done in their lives.

*Go ye into all the world and preach. . . (Mark 16:15)*

This is our true mission in life, to let people know what God has done. Peter tells us, “But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:” 1 Peter 3:15, KJV. It would be the ultimate cruelty if we had the cure for cancer and refused to share it with others. Well, we have a cure that is much greater, the cure for eternal judgement, the cure for separation from God, the cure for sin and its results. For us to hide “the cure” within ourselves and not share it with the world is criminal.

Each of us can share what God has done for us in our lives. Our witness gives glory to God, and lets people know that there is hope for them also through Jesus Christ because of what He has done on the cross. It lets them know that there is a resurrected Savior who lives to give new meaning and victory to their lives. This is the heartbeat of this ministry. This is why we exist. We are focused on bringing the Good News of Jesus Christ to the people in America, in Canada, on the reservations, in India, and all around the world.

I am blessed to say that we have seen much fruit in this past year—souls saved, believers encouraged, and churches strengthened. We have seen the miracle hand of God in restoration, healing and deliverance. Everywhere I go, I am seeing people coming to the altar in repentance and receiving peace into their lives. The reason for this fruit is the power of the message of Jesus Christ and the cross. Our part is just simply to be willing to share it, wherever and whenever we can.

I realize that without you we would not be able to accomplish this mission. The scriptures ask, “How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!” Romans 10:14, 15, KJV.

People (whether they be Hindus or Muslims or Atheists or unbelieving lukewarm Christians) cannot believe unless they hear the message. They cannot hear without a preacher. But then we are told, preachers cannot preach unless they are SENT. Pastors are supported by their congregations, but evangelists and missionaries must be sent. Someone must catch the vision for getting the message to a lost, dying, sighing humanity and send the preacher. Thank God for your prayers and support that have helped us to reach the lost with the greatest news every announced. Because of you, we have been able to GO and preach the Gospel around the world.

As we look ahead to 2009, we see that the fields are white unto harvest. America, we think, is beginning to sober up. The church is realizing, and the rest of the world will soon realize, that our salvation is not to be found in a politician. We pray that our nation will soon be ready for their true Savior, Jesus Christ. All around the world, people are ready to receive. And we are ready to GO! Thank you for your support in the past and as we go forward in the future.

Susan and I pray that this will be the best Christmas of your life!

For souls,



Tom Shanklin

**Please pray for these upcoming meetings:**

**Sunday, Dec. 7,** 10 a.m., For His Glory Church, Log Cabin, City Park, Spring Grove, MN 507-725-2984.

**Sunday, Dec. 14,** 10 a.m., Harvest Heights Church, Ridgeway, Minnesota.

**Friday-Sunday, Dec. 19-21,** Hope and Healing Rally, Carpenters Shop, Antelope, SD, Rosebud Reservation.

**Sunday, Jan. 4,** 10 a.m., For His Glory Church, Log Cabin, City Park, Spring Grove, MN 507-725-2984.

**Sunday, Jan. 11,** 9:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m., Living Waters Church, Elk River, Minnesota.

**Sunday, Jan. 18,** 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 7 p.m., New Life Fellowship, Tolna, ND.

**Monday, Jan. 19,** 6 p.m., Psalm 91 Prayer Group, Americinn, Fargo, ND. 701-293-3386.

**Wednesday, Jan. 21,** 7 p.m., Church of the Nazarene, LaMoure, North Dakota.

**Feb. 2-13,** Andhra Pradesh, Southern India

# HERE'S FOUR WAYS THAT YOU CAN HELP!

## PRAY!

You can send us in the power of the Spirit by prayer. Pray for open doors, for boldness to proclaim the message, and for signs and wonders in the name of Jesus.

**YES!** I will pray for Tom Shanklin Ministries.

## GIVE FOR SOULS IN INDIA!

This nation of 1.3 billion people is only 3 percent Christian. Over 40 percent of the people have not heard about "the cure." Your financial gift for our February '09 trip will supply much needed finances for airfare, travel expenses, crusade expenses, and follow up material. The most urgent need is for airfare of about \$1,500, which has not come in as yet.

**YES!** Enclosed is my offering for India of:  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_ for airfare.  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_ for travel expenses.  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_ for crusade expenses.  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_ for follow up material.



## DONATE!

You can make an end-of-the-year donation to put us into a strong position for ministry as we enter the new year.

**YES!** Enclosed is my offering of \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

## SUPPORT!

You can support evangelism on a regular basis in the new year. Your regular financial support enables us to reach more lost souls. Perhaps you or your local church would like to make a monthly contribution to support evangelism through Tom Shanklin Ministries in 2009. With your help, we can stretch out into new areas and countries and reach more people.

**YES!** As the Lord enables me, I plan to support the work of evangelism through Tom Shanklin Ministries in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per month in 2009.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Please use the back of this sheet for your prayer requests.

**Mail to: Tom Shanklin Ministries, PO Box 4144, Mankato, MN 56002 USA**