

Tom Shanklin Ministries

Tom and Susan Shanklin
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Dear Friend,

“Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favour of the LORD.” Proverbs 18:22, KJV.

On May 24, Susan and I celebrated our 39th wedding anniversary. I know it may be hard to believe that a young man such as myself could be married for so long, but it's true. I was still wet behind the ears at the time, and I married an older woman. She was 20 and I was 19. Each year until my birthday in July, she is one year older than me, which gives me opportunity to tease her a bit.

I can't take credit for the longevity of our marriage. It is primarily due to the goodness of God and a very, very patient wife. Particularly during the time before I began to follow Jesus in 1977, life was **very challenging** for my Susan. Since then, I have improved some. God gave me a new nature, and I've been learning to walk in it. I thank God for His mercy in forgiving me, changing me, and blessing our lives together.

It takes some work and some dying to self to have a successful marriage. It involves consideration for your partner's needs and point of view, and **some sacrifice** of your own selfish desires. This can be a challenge, but the rewards are great. For Susan and me, it seems our relationship improves and brings us more joy each year. At this rate, when we get to our 80th anniversary in 2050, the joy factor will be **“off the charts.”**

God's plan for marriage is very simple—one man, one woman, together for life—very simple. He says, “Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto [stick with] his wife: and they shall be one flesh.” Genesis 2:24, KJV.

MINISTRY UPDATE: A COVENANT FOR ALL PEOPLE

Glory to God! There were several decisions for the Lord in our meetings in May. Believers were encouraged and churches strengthened. I visited two churches on the reservations in northern Minnesota. One was on the Red Lake Reservation, where a tragic shooting by a troubled teenager occurred in the High School in 2005, which left 10 people dead. At that time, it was the worse school shooting since Columbine. I remember having a tremendous burden at the time and **praying that the Lord would open a door** for me to minister in that place.

On the reservations and elsewhere, I've been preaching on **“The Blessings on Abraham”** concerning God's covenant blessings which are available to “all the families of the earth.” Besides being a tremendous Gospel message of salvation, deliverance, and healing, this also is such a powerful word to break divisions between all people. All of us, regardless of our natural heritage or background, have sinned and come short of the glory of God, and all of us need a redeemer. Jesus came to be that Redeemer, not just of the physical decedents of Abraham, but **to all the people of the world.**



Tom and Susan after fishing in northern Minnesota in the mid-90s. Susan noted that in the photo, she was carrying all the gear, Tom had the spoils.

Hope & Healing for the Nations

As scripture says, "Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree: That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith." Galatians 3:13, 14, KJV.

Redemption from the curse and the blessing of Abraham, then, are available to all of us through the sacrificial death of Jesus on the cross. **When we receive Him as Lord and Savior**, the curse is broken and we come into our inheritance by becoming the "seed of Abraham."

Although natural heritage and tribal identities are important, our deeper spiritual roots go into Christ. **As Christians, we are one in Him.** "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus." Galatians 3:28, KJV. If we walk in this revelation, all divisions disappear, whether they be racial, tribal, national, or denominational. This is the key to the healing of the nations and a message which has the power to lift us up above all the hatred and prejudice in the world today.

DISCIPLESHIP BOOKLET FOR INDIA

The translation of our booklet entitled "**Becoming a Strong Christian**" into the Telugu language of southern India has been completed and is awaiting printing. If you would like to make a contribution for the printing of these booklets, you can use the enclosed reply form or simply designate "Telugu booklet" in the memo line of your check. The booklets will cost approximately 20 cents apiece to print. This means, for example, a contribution of \$20 will enable us to produce 100 booklets to help make strong disciples among Hindu converts in India.



Susan and I appreciate your continued prayers for our ministry and your financial support for the expansion of our mission to reach the world. **You are holding up our arms** and helping us to proclaim the message that gives hope and healing to individuals, families, tribes and nations. Your partnership is such a powerful key to reaching the world with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

The Apostle John saw "a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. . ." Revelation 7:9, NKJV. May you and I be a part of **bringing people from many tribes, nations and tongues to Jesus**, the Lamb of God. Please let us know how we can pray for you and your family this month.

Your friend and partner,

Tom Shanklin

P.S. Check out our website. We have video there from our last trip to India and from the Rosebud Reservation.

Thank you for your prayers for these upcoming services:

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

Sunday, June 13, 7:30 a.m., Mens Breakfast, Victory Church, Waupaca, WI. 715-258-9661.

Sunday, June 14, 9:30 a.m., Worship Service, Victory Church, Waupaca, WI. 715-258-9661.

Sunday, June 21, 9 a.m., Elbow Lake Lutheran Church, east of Waubon, MN. 218-734-2285.

Sunday, June 21, 6 p.m., Northwood Harvest Barn Cowboy Church, 13 miles east of Detroit Lakes, MN on Hwy 34, 218-841-2487.

Friday, June 26, 7 p.m. and Sunday, June 28, 9 a.m., Calvary Lutheran Church, Minong, WI. 715-466-2366.

Saturday, June 27, 10 a.m. & 7 p.m., Sunday, June 28, 10:30 a.m., Northwoods Community Church, Solon Springs, WI. 715-378-4165.

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