



Home Sweet Home Van

It is hard to believe we have already been missionaries with MAF for two months. We began our journey to raise our prayer and financial support in the State of Maine.

On September 13th our family left Maine to go up to the great white North. Canada has been a more different experience than Ray and I could have ever imagined. We have had many opportunities to share in churches and other meetings like we did in Maine, but we have had many media opportunities here as well. Ray has done two radio interviews, was interviewed for two newspapers, and did a live interview on a Christian television show. It is amazing to see the opportunities that God has been providing.

Life on the road was tough on the kids at first, but they are getting used to the gypsy life style now. The kids actually ask to go to the van! I think it is partly the security of familiarity and partly that the van is where the TV/VCR is. They still have their moments, of course.

We are hoping to have all our support raised and be done with this

October 2003

whirlwind tour by Christmas. We are excited to see what God is going to do in the next few months, and we will keep you up to date.

Julie



Coincidence?

The first stop in our travels was to visit an old friend in Ottawa. We had no idea where he lived in this large city and could not get hold of him on the phone. We decided to pull over rather than drive around aimlessly. We exited the highway and were driving down a street looking for some place to park when he returned our call. It turned out

we drove within a few Kilometers of his house without even knowing it. <u>Coincidence?</u>

Traveling back from a business meeting, I (Ray) took my kids to the airport to a viewing spot just short of the runway where the jets pass only a few hundred feet above your head. We sat content as 747's swooshed by. That day happened to be the last flight ever that the Concord was flying into Canada and we had the best seats in the house. Elias was photographed for the Toronto Sun and we were also interviewed by the Globe and Mail. *Coincidence?*

Our kids needed winter jackets. After pricing several jackets we found some we liked, but they cost double what we had to spend. The sales clerk handed me a scratch ticket, which would tell how much I could get off the jacket. I got 20% off but after some conversation the clerk handed me his personal coupon worth 50%.

I came back into the store and told the clerk we needed the jackets, asking for one last scratch ticket. He warned me that 50% is very rare and just to keep what I already had. I then informed him that this time I would pray and ask the Lord to





provide the needed discount to get these jackets. I scratched, and there was the last 50% off that we needed. The clerk's eyes bugged out and he said, "Man you guys are lucky." I corrected him, "No sir, you saw me pray and God provided."

Coincidence?

Coincidence!

These are a few of the many stories that have happened in the last month. The point is quite clear. God is in control. All we have to be willing to do is relinquish our illusion of control and trust in him. God's will is the best plan for our lives and it is never too late to begin walking in it. Live the adventure. Sure there is a cost, but anything of value has a high price. The price is only your whole life. Jesus said you have to lose your life to find it. At the end of your days will your tombstone read, "It mattered that this person lived"? That should be our testimony. Life is no

<u>Praise</u> & <u>Prayer</u>

-Ray

<u>Praise:</u>

- Divine appointments and ministering opportunities.
- Vehicle holding together
- Family's health and well being

Prayer

- Effectiveness in ministry
- Vehicle holding together
- Kids' emotional well being in time of transition
- Travel finances and ministry support needs

Canadian
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<u>LESOTHO</u> PROFILE

Smaller than the state of Maryland, Lesotho is a mountainous country made up of thousands of tiny, often inaccessible villages.

Nearly half of all Basotho are unemployed. In addition, more than one-third of the men have left the country to be employed as miners or agricultural workers in South Africa. Many women and children subsist on home-grown vegetables. School-age boys like the one shown

below become the shepherds for the family. MAF provides for emergency medical care and regular clinics for these needy villagers.



<u>Personal Note</u>

Our family's personal goal was to have the necessary support raised in time for us to attend the orientation offered by MAF this February. In order for us to qualify for this slot we must have of our monthly support coming in no later than November 24th.

Our request to those wishing to join us through financial support is to write, call, or email MAF or us before this date. We believe this goal is easily reachable if everyone would be willing to support us at least to the equivalent of a monthly cup of coffee.

Monthly support of any level is welcome as well as special gifts, but our greatest need is for people to partner with us through prayer, faithfully lifting us before our Father so that we may share in this great harvest. The Siebrings are only half the mission team. The other half is holding this piece of paper.

Let us be found good and faithful stewards with this life. Until next month, we pray the Lord's richest blessings for you all!

Ray + Julia Siebring. Clias, Gabriella + Josiah

