

NOBLE MARITIME *Ministries*

August 2007

Anticipate a “God-Gap” in your life!

Little did I know what would result from simply saying ‘Hello’ to Norma on the side of the road!

After nearly two months, our home search was still going nowhere. We couldn’t afford what we liked, and what we could afford didn’t fit “the vision” God gave us. Believing that we are in a season of God expanding our capacity to believe for the impossible, we found ourselves stuck between the common sense approach (“stop dreaming, be reasonable”) and the promise: it hasn’t even “entered into the heart of man what God has prepared for those who love Him” (1 Cor 2:9).

Then one day last week, after looking at a house for sale, we met a nice lady named Norma at the side of the road and had a short chat about the neighborhood. We learned that she was watering plants for some friends down the road who had moved away; their house wasn’t selling and they were getting desperate. Later that week, with our realtor (sister Sue) we were able to view that house and determined it would be perfect for our family and ministry. Unfortunately, this beautiful waterfront home was for sale for \$989,000! (No wonder it wasn’t selling in this falling market.)

Meanwhile we continued looking at affordable homes for purchase or rent, getting more discouraged. Then during my devotions one morning, I sensed the urging, “Call Norma and ask if her friends would consider renting their house”. It was a long shot but if it was from God, I didn’t want to miss cooperating with His adventure! So when I called, her response was, “Funny you should call. I just happened to be talking to the owners yesterday, and they said they were thinking of renting the place until the market turns around!” Hmmm... What a coincidence!

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Praises:

- A local church has graciously offered to make an office available for me to use for prayer ministry
- A new home base! New ministry clients
- Wonderful, passionate, prayerful new friends
- Apparently you prayed for “wisdom and courage for daring exploits” because here we are doing some daring things but having the faith and grace to move ahead! What a joyous ride we are on!
- Alumni from Prayer ministry small group in PT still meeting and progressing very well
- Julie & Betsy have both found jobs to help finance their goals: sailing trip and horse

Our new home – thank you Lord!



Learning new skills: Julie in a friend’s woodworking shop

Serving our friends in many ways

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By the day's end, the owners had contacted us and were proposing terms, including a much higher monthly rent than we could manage. So we prayed something like, "Lord, this is nuts, impossible and foolish, but are we to go ahead?" We felt He was directing us ahead with 2 "conditions", which we knew that if accepted, would indicate His intervention for sure: 1. Would they lower the rent amount; and 2. Would they allow us to keep our dog. Their response to both? "That would be fine." As my son said, "That's craaaazy!" And it sure feels that way all right!!

Consequently, we signed a year lease and, God willing, by the 1st of September we will be in an amazing water-view home-base with decks, fireplaces, 4-car garage, waterfall and goldfish pond, on north-east Whidbey Island, which is central to Anacortes and Oak Harbor. It's interesting to learn that Christians here consider the whole area from Anacortes to Oak Harbor as one "province" in Kingdom work perspective.

So, He did it again! He led us to the limit of our belief - and then a little farther to create a "God gap" - the area above and beyond where we think our faith ends so that if He doesn't come through, we're toast! There is "no other God besides You, who works and shows Himself active on behalf of him who earnestly waits for You." (Is. 64:4)

I want to be with Him, cooperating in what He is doing. That is where I get to know Him better, to see more of what He is like.

Thanks and blessings,

Neil, Kathy and crew

We would be encouraged to hear from you via any channel:

At our new mailing address (see below) or e-mail:

neil@noblemaritime.com

Ph: 360-301-3937 (Kathy) or 360-774-1180 (Neil)

Prayer:

- ✂ Use of a big boat for a boat retreat this fall
- ✂ Wisdom to set dates for two more seminars before Thanksgiving. There seems to be a growing number of people ready and waiting for our next training seminar.
- ✂ We need experienced administrative assistance!
- ✂ Clarity and direction in the employment situation or other cash flow (see below)

Tent-making work is still a mystery~

Many of you are wondering about the wonderful job opportunity that God seemed to have set in motion for me before we left Port Townsend. Things were starting to crumble with them after arriving here - even before the job materialized, so I accepted an invitation from another company who was very eager to hire me. However, soon after, they reneged on their word and there was no longer an offer. So, I talked to a 3rd company, who said they really wanted me as a relief skipper. Then they came back and said, "Well, maybe if... later"! It honestly feels like Somebody has placed a sign on me that says "Don't hire Neil, I have My own plans for him." Maybe God has other bigger, better ideas? But, it's still a mystery to us what He is up to in the employment department. Some have suggested the job offer was just to up root us from Port Townsend. Time will tell.

Tax-deductible donations may be made to:

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or online at www.noblemaritime.com

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