



WORLD  REACH®

HAL & CHERYL LARGE

WORLD  REACH

P.O. Box 26155
Birmingham, AL 35260-0155
(205) 979-2400
info@world-reach.org
world-reach.org

It was 3 a.m. I was awake. I had been awakened by the nervous growling of my soul. I was spiritually hungry and burdened. I lay there for a moment. A song started going around and around in my head: “Jesus is calling . . .” How could I stay in bed?

How I longed for, how I needed to hear the voice of Jesus. As I put my Bible on my knees, I ignored the bookmark. It opened to an unmarked Psalm: 49.

*“Hear this all peoples!
Give ear, all inhabitants of the world
both low and high,
rich and poor together!
My mouth shall speak wisdom;
the meditation of my heart shall be understanding.
I will incline my ear to a proverb,
I will solve my riddle to the music of the lyre.”*

I heard Jesus tell me it was here, with him, I would “solve my riddle” and find the answer. He was speaking to all, “high and low”, whatever might be the level of the emotional, physical, financial or spiritual indicators in my life right now (and they were low). I began to see I was listening to the poor counsels of this world of flesh and men and pride. This is the accuser’s world I live in, in the moment, and it is a world that produces confusion and dismay. It was 3 a.m. and I couldn’t sleep. “Jesus is calling ...”, “Hear this ...”, “Give ear ...”, “My mouth shall speak wisdom.

*“Why should I fear in times of trouble,
When the iniquity of those who cheat me surround me,
those who trust in their wealth
and boast of the abundance of their riches?
Truly no man can ransom another,
or give to God the price of his life,
for the ransom of their life is costly
and can never suffice,
that he should live on forever
and never see the pit.”*

As I listened to the voice of Jesus, I noticed it was calm and quiet. It wasn’t shouting or shrill. He spoke from a place of peace. And I understood that in his Spirit there was no fear. He wasn’t afraid. He wasn’t afraid of all the threats. He wasn’t afraid to speak the truth into my heart: “It’s about iniquity”.

Yes. Iniquity produces fear. The stain of iniquity, and smell of the madness of this world, churning and flaying about, covering my soul with the mud of hatred, violence and shame. My iniquity! I’m part of all this as well. What can I trust in? Myself? The promises of men? My own “wealth”?

How do I approach God at 3 a.m.? Boasting and arguing and summoning him as if I paid his salary? I forget my place. He isn’t moved by my religious trinkets or impressed by my achievements. This is a problem money can't solve. Neither can bluster, nor laws nor lawsuits.

Hal & Cheryl Large Newsletter Page 2

Can I solve the problem of sin? Am I able to redeem another? Suddenly I see my own poverty. My resources aren't sufficient. My whole posture changes. There is a change in my look. There is a change in my demeanor. The truth is before me. What I want and desperately need is too costly for me – and I'll NEVER have enough.

There is, however, a lamb of sacrifice. There is ONE who can pay the price of redemption. I place my hand on the head of the lamb and I offer to God another in my place. I am *poor*. I step out of the whirl of this world's churning storm. It is a storm of pride and boasting, and threats and arrogance, wealthy men who boast in their strength.

I step before God in quiet realization: it's not about me. It's not about my ability.

*“For he sees that even the wise die;
the fool and the stupid alike must perish
and leave their wealth to others.
Their graves are their homes forever,
their dwelling places to all generations,
though they called lands by their own names.
Man in his pomp will not remain
he is like the beast that perish.”*

The suffering caused by boastful man is great. The times of trouble are real. This body of flesh is a deception, my spirit's temporary home, a jar made of earth, which, when it is broken, will set free what it has held captive. This present time of trouble is not my eternal home. It will all be put off someday. My hope is not in the “wealth” of my fleshy abilities or the power the resources of this world.

*But God will ransom my soul from the power of Sheol,
for he will receive me.
Be not afraid when a man becomes rich,
when the glory of his house increases.
For when he dies he will carry nothing away,
his glory will not go down after him.
For though, while he lives, he counts himself blessed
-and though you get praise when you do well for yourself-
His soul will go to the generation of his fathers,
Who will never again see light.
Man in his pomp yet without understanding is like the beasts that perish.*

A little over a year ago I began another Master's Degree for teaching English as a Second Language (ESL). I graduated in May with a teaching certificate. It was an intense, accelerated program which involved full-time school and full-time teaching in a Dual Language 6th grade classroom in the Kennewick School District. I also continued to lead and teach in two ESL centers, which I had started a few years ago in Pasco and Prosser. In the midst of the process, I began to see God's answer to the serious economic challenges we have been facing since returning to the USA six and a half years ago.

Within six months, upon returning to the States, we began losing financial support from churches. It was rather alarming as I had foolishly withdrawn from Social Security as a young man and had no retirement savings. Although God had enabled me to start four ESL centers in

Hal & Cheryl Large Newsletter Page 3

cooperation with four local churches with four teams of volunteers and more than 100 Hispanic students, hearing and seeing the Gospel every week, on the financial side we were facing an unsustainable economic crisis. As our support approached half-time levels and churches continued to reduce or drop support, I talked to the Director of our mission. Would it be possible to continue ministering to Hispanic families during our evening ESL classes and on week-ends while I worked until 3 pm teaching Dual Language 6th graders? “Yes”, came the enthusiastic answer.

So I am now a new teacher of Dual Language students at the Kennewick School District. I am being paid a new teachers’ salary. I can get back into Social Security. I can start to put aside funds for the future years when I will not be able to work. I’m planning to continue teaching for the next 10 years (I turned 65 this year) and minister until I die. I will continue to minister to the Hispanic community as a missionary, receiving an appropriately reduced salary through donations sent to World Reach. My heart is given to this ministry begun over 40 years ago and even what I am doing for the Hispanic children in 6th grade has the same goal: for all to know the Savior.

I continue to need your support. Starting in October, I will be ministering in both the ESL outreach in Prosser and in another new center to be held in my classroom at Highlands Middle School on Tuesday evenings. I have approval from the school to hold these Bible-centered classes, with volunteers from the school and from churches in the area assisting. Cheryl will be ministering on Wednesdays in Prosser with the citizenship classes to be offered. I am now preparing to visit schools, institutions and neighborhoods to invite Hispanic families to attend these classes. I am already receiving calls from those who want to attend. Many parents from my school have told me they want to attend. It is a tremendous opportunity. In Prosser, 70% of the students are from Hispanic homes. The outreach we have into the Hispanic community lets these families know they are loved and welcomed to worship Jesus with us. Some churches in this area are now reflecting the changing demographics that has come to our towns and cities. Some church members are experiencing a revival of purpose and prayer as they love and care for the needs of their new neighbors in Jesus.

It has been a challenging time as we assimilated back into our “new” culture in Washington State. However, I praise God for the way he has opened doors for effective ministry in the power of the Holy Spirit. We have experienced God’s gracious care and good purpose for us here. You are very much part of this ministry outreach. I am doing all I can to take care of my family having returned to the U.S. after years of life and ministry in El Salvador, but I do need your continued support. Thank you for your faithful participation with us in the Lord’s ministry. I very much appreciate your prayers for us as I continue as a missionary with World Reach, fulfilling God’s call to proclaim the gospel. We are

Yours for souls,



Hal and Cheryl Large



Like Us On Facebook
www.facebook.com/worldreachinc

Follow Us On
twitter
[@WorldReachIntl](https://twitter.com/WorldReachIntl)