

January Update

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ! We're pleased to share with you the wonderful things the Lord has been doing in our lives and ministry.



Len and Jennifer at Thanksgiving

Family: In December, we brought in the New Year with prayer and blessings. Some of us are still sick with the cold and flu at this point (Len and Jennifer are still dealing with symptoms). Len and Jennifer are also sick with some kind of intestinal illness that is causing typical symptoms associated with an intestinal bug. But the Lord has been faithful to keep us, and we trust Him to heal us completely.

The photo to the left was taken on Thanksgiving before all of this sickness began. We have not been well enough to take any recent photos.

One of our Board Members named Mark has been diagnosed with a medical problem, as tumors have developed inside his body around his digestive system. So he is scheduled for major surgery on January 19th, and we are all praying for his healing, as well as for the surgery to go well, if it is still necessary at that point. Please join us in praying for Mark's healing, as he has faith for the Lord to heal him.

Ministry: As we continue to administer our <u>discipleship training school</u> (DTS), we'd like to update you on the good things that God is doing with it. By the grace of God, we currently have disciples in five nations including Uganda, Nigeria, Kenya, South Sudan, and the United Kingdom.

In January, brother John, one of our graduates in Nigeria, and the DTS Facilitator for his country. sent Len the following testimony of how the Lord used the DTS to help him grow in his walk with God:

"I started my Christian journey back in 2013, experiencing ups and downs, which included...certain besetting sins, backsliding in heart, etc. Through all my struggles, I had a special interest for God and a desire to know Him personally from my heart.

My zeal to know God consumed me. Coming to know brother Len through his blogs, and enrolling in DTS was a stepping stone for my Christian journey. I did

not follow DTS studies halfheartedly, but passionately...and my commitment paid off. My progress became visible to some people that knew me before. Before joining DTS, I knew nothing about ministry, but now I am a pastor of a small congregation to the glory of God.

Before DTS I was a very timid Christian with mixture; the issues of holiness, righteousness, and separation from the world were not part of my life. Now that I have graduated from DTS, it has greatly transformed my Christian life and my knowledge about sound biblical teaching. Though I'm not perfect, I'm fighting everyday towards the goal of perfection.

Thanks, Brother John"

We give God all the glory for what He has done in brother John's life. He has recently started a ministry called Tabernacle Light, in addition to his role as a pastor. He has a vision and passion to help those who are less privileged by preaching the gospel to them and demonstrating the love of God by assisting them in practical ways as well.

Len received the following email in January from brother Grace, one of our DTS graduates, who is a pastor in Uganda, and the DTS Facilitator for his country. He wrote:

"Greetings brother Len, in the Mighty Name of Jesus Christ!

God is doing a lot through the DTS;

Knowledge of the Word has helped a lot; I'm able to know false and true teachers and teachings in this age; I with the Church are surviving many heresies here.

This discipleship training [I received] has opened doors and led to multiplication in our ministry.







John in Nigeria



Grace in Uganda

The study of prayer led to night prayers in my life that burst into fire ministry, healings and deliverances.

Our fellowship has the boldness to reach out once a week in Soroti city and suburbs for Jesus, and souls are saved, glory be to the Lord!

Blessings,

Brother Grace"

Hallelujah! To God be all the glory for what He is doing in brother Grace's ministry.

In January, Len received the following testimony from sister Collete in Kenya, who is one of our graduates and the DTS Facilitator for her country:

"Dear brother Leonard,

I used to be a regular believer -- that means going to church as a routine or being religious. I was more [inclined toward] works than faith. I joined several church activities; it was more to be seen as being pious than having a real relationship with Christ.

When I joined the DTS, things changed. I learnt discipleship and having a relationship with God. I joined a holiness-living preaching church, and this is where the call for my online ministry started. I started sending messages I learnt from the DTS and my church to a few friends. I was overly amazed when they became so interested that they started asking questions, which forced me to read and check for the truth. This was in 2017. Since then I have a congregation of over 1,000 online.

Through this ministry many have been healed, gotten jobs, visas, family reconciliations through prayers. The Lord has led me to counsel, bless, and encourage the depressed. I am very grateful to the Almighty for His privilege upon my life. I had never known I would be able to do such things.

To God be all honour and glory. He is the doer of all.

Stay blessed.

Sr. Collete"

Praise the Lord! Eternal praise shall be His forever.

We have been unable to reach one of our students named Rebecca in South Sudan for quite some time. Back in December we were unable to reach her for weeks, and then she responded to let us know she had been very sick but hoped to be back at her DTS training within a week. She had been hospitalized with malaria and typhoid. But after that we didn't hear from her again, and have been unable to reach her for weeks. Please pray for her healing and to be back in touch with us.

On another note, Len was contacted in December by a brother in Christ named Denis in Saint Petersburg, Russia, who has reached out to us in the past and received ministry from us. He doesn't speak any English, but uses an online translation software to communicate with Len. He had gotten saved around 2009, and later went back into sin. Then he contacted us a few years ago, at which time we ministered to him and by the grace of God he returned to the Lord. However, later on, he went back into deep sin again. But he was full of fear and didn't want to stay like that.

So Len found a Pentecostal pastor named Mike in Minnesota from Ukraine who speaks Russian fluently. Together Len and Mike called Denis and ministered to him. Len led Denis in prayer to repent and come back to Christ, and then prayed for deliverance for him, after which he experienced peace in his heart and felt better. He has since made some major changes in his life, getting rid of the things that were part of his sinful lifestyle. Praise the Lord. Right now he is trying to quit cigarettes, so that is something you could pray for him about. He has tried before in the past and failed, so he doesn't have much hope he'll be able to quit this time. He also says he has no faith and focuses on verses in Hebrews that say he can never repent. But Len continues to encourage him to just fully return to the Lord and receive God's mercy, and never go back to that sinful lifestyle.

On Sunday January 8th, Len received the following email from brother Denis. He wrote:

"Dear brother Len.

Today I was at a service in a congregation of Pentecostals who believe in holiness both internally and externally, I have known them for several years. They often prayed for me. Their pastor Mark is an American, and has been serving in Russia for a long time. I didn't want to go to the service today at all, and when I was going I was in a terrible state mentally, psychologically, emotionally in everything.

Arriving I just sat down and listened without faith, and practically without hope. The sermon ended.

and I was called forward [in order for them] to pray for me, and a few more people came out to pray for me, and I myself prayed. [Afterward I was] starting to go back into the hall to sit in my place, and already with the desire to leave the congregation and go home.

Suddenly in my heart and soul there was a desire to kneel, and the Lord began to crush me, touching my hard and callous heart. I began to cry, to break. my heart began to soften, and I perfectly understand that the source of this experience is the Spirit of God, for which I praise the Lord!

[Throughout] the many years of my apostasy, this is the first resurrection of the Lord that I have experienced so much. From the bottom of my heart, brother Len, I want to express my gratitude to you for your service to me, for every prayer, for every letter, for faith and your heart, God bless you. Brother Len, I don't want to lose this in any way, I'm afraid to lose what God began to work with me today and to touch my heart, I really need Him to continue to crush my heart and cleanse it, so that I would be in the spirit of repentance and contrition, so that my dirty mind -- my mind full of impurity and doubts -- is cleansed, so that my dirty and black soul is cleansed, so that my heart is contrite and lamented, so that it would be cleansed by His truth and His Spirit, so that my faith would be strengthened, so that I could be filled with love for people and God, in order to devote the rest of my life to the Lord.

Brother Len, support me in prayer please, I don't want the devil to steal it. Tomorrow I will meet with the pastor for a talk. I really hope not to lose...The most urgent need for me now is a contrite heart, a heart clean from all dirt, in the spirit of repentance and faith with love and the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. God bless you."

This is truly a miracle from God. Hallelujah! He doesn't even seem like the same person in a way. Prior to this, he still felt he may be beyond hope and eternally condemned already. Please join us in praying for Denis to be set free from cigarette addiction, and to receive God's love, mercy, and forgiveness. In closing, we have much to praise God for, and many opportunities for you to join us in prayer.

Praise the Lord with us for the many answers to prayer:

- 1. For blessing us with our time of prayer together as a family on New Years Eve.
- 2. For the wonderful work the Lord has done in the lives of our three DTS National Facilitators.
- 3. For the amazing work the Lord is doing in the life of brother Denis in Saint Petersburg, Russia.
- 4. For the measure of healing we have received so far from the sinus cold/flu, and for the ones in our household who are now completely healed of it.
- 5. For the opportunity to assist each of our students in becoming disciples of Christ and fulfilling their callings.

6. For the Lord's leading, guidance, wisdom, and help administering the Doulos Training School (DTS), and for the progress the students are making.

Prayer needs:

- For the Lord to heal all of us who are still sick with the sinus cold/flu and the intestinal sickness, especially Len and Jennifer from the sinus cold and intestinal bug.
- 2. For the Lord to heal sister Rebecca in South Sudan from malaria and typhoid and help her to get back in touch with us.
- For the Lord to give brother Denis a broken and contrite heart, a pure heart filled with love and faith, a clear conscience, and the gift of the Holy Spirit.
- 4. For the Lord to heal brother Mark (our Board Member) and give him a completely successful surgery on January 19th, if it is still necessary.
- 5. For the Lord to provide for all the needs of our DTS students.
- 6. For the Lord to assist us with the administration of the Doulos Training School (DTS), as well as develop through it many disciples who multiply disciples.
- For the Lord to help all of our DTS students to find LTG partners (another Christian to meet with weekly for discipleship in a Life Transformation Group).
- 8. For the Lord to fulfill His purposes for us and our ministry.

with love from all of us.

The Lacroixs

There are two ways to donate to Doulos Missions International. You may either send a check or money order by mail to:

Doulos Missions International PO Box 5526 Manchester, NH 03108-5526