



# MISSION AVIATION

## NEWS FROM THE HILDEBRANDTS

AUG 2022



*“But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ, and be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ...” Philippians 3: 7-9a*

### Dear Friends,

The verses above, written by Paul to the church in Philippi, are ones I have read often but probably never seen lived out as clearly as I did in the life of one young man in eastern Chad this July.

During my latest trip to Africa, I had the opportunity to spend a night in a small village along the Sudan border. I was there to pick up several evangelists, as well as provide time for a British pastor to visit the local church and explore ministry possibilities. As we gathered at the local pastor's home, a young man whom I had never met before sat down next to me. He introduced himself in very broken French and it was clear that Arabic would be his preferred language. With a big smile on his face, he immediately began to tell me of what God had done in his life. He shared with me that he had

grown up as a Muslim and had been trained as an Islamic religious leader. He told me that he had everything he physically needed during those years, but lacked any peace in his life. He then met a Christian man in his city who offered to study the Bible with him in order to compare it with the Koran. He proudly agreed since he thought he could prove the Christian's faith to be false. My young friend instead experienced turmoil in his heart as he considered the truths of Scripture and who Christ is. He eventually surrendered his life to Jesus and at that moment experienced true peace for the first time in his life!

When his family found out about his conversion they were furious and considered putting him to death. Instead, they decided to strip him of everything he had in hopes that he would desert his newfound faith. They took away his young wife, who was expecting their first child, and gave her to another man. They kicked him out of his home and disowned him as a member of the family. When asked if he would recant, he stated that he would gladly lose all he had and even his life for what he had found in Christ!

By God's grace, Ibrahim is still standing firm in his faith five years later and is eager to share what God has done in his life with anyone he meets.

Since my time with Ibrahim, I have felt convicted about how easily even small problems in my life can steal my joy and make me feel like a victim. On the other hand, I saw that when Ibrahim lost every earthly thing he had, he clung more tightly to Christ and found joy and peace that is inexpressible. May we all who have 'tasted and seen that the Lord is good' be filled with the same joy and be ready to share the peace that is within us with the world!

In addition to this particular flight, I had the privilege of carrying out about a dozen other mission and church related flights throughout southern Chad and into Cameroon. I felt truly blessed to again witness the work that God is performing in this special part of Africa!

### Family Update

Immediately after my last trip to Chad our family was able to enjoy a week together with Mariah and Julia in Santa Clarita. The Lord has provided for them incredibly making their education in California significantly less expensive than it would have been here in Canada. They have both become members at their respective churches and enjoy serving there and at their school. Mariah is entering her 4th year of the Bible/Business program, while Julia is entering her 3rd year in the Biblical Counselling



The 8 of us together again...only missing Josh

program. It was so nice to have Grace join us and surprise her sisters with a little visit too!



Training students to fly safely in the mountains

### Back at Prairie Aviation Training Centre

Looking ahead, I expect to continue serving as a flight instructor with MAF at the Bible college. Although I have only been back two weeks, I've already been reminded of the blessing it is to invest in the lives of our students. These are very important years for them as they work hard at completing their training in order to become licensed pilots, while also growing in their faith and discerning God's will for their futures. This past week I had the opportunity to lead a prayer meeting with staff and students specifically for the country of Chad. One student later told me how much it had impacted her and that she is considering whether God might be leading her into full-time ministry overseas.

We praise God for how He continues to work in the hearts and lives of these young men and women and gives them a passion to spend their lives for His glory!

Thank you to our faithful prayer and financial supporters for making the ministry in Chad and at Prairie possible!

In Christ,

*Kalvin & Dorilee*