

*Colossians 3:16*

*Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly,  
teaching and admonishing one another  
in all wisdom,  
singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs,  
with thankfulness in your hearts to God.*



This is our Celebration of Missions week at First CRC. We have invited some of our missionaries to share a devotional this week. Today's is from Eric and Penny, with Pacific Island Ministries, working with tribes in Papua New Guinea.



***Philemon 1:4-7***

*I thank my God always when I remember you in my prayers, because I hear of your love and of the faith that you have toward the Lord Jesus and for all the saints, and I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective for the full knowledge of every good thing that is in us for the sake of Christ. For I have derived much joy and comfort from your love, my brother, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you.*

Not only did Paul have a great passion to share the Christian faith with others, he also wanted to see believers, especially leaders, eager to communicate about the deep joy available in the person of Christ.

In Paul's one page letter to Philemon, he presents a striking prayer request for his reader in verse 6: *"I pray that you may be active in sharing your faith so that you will have a full understanding of every good thing we have in Christ."*

A great way to get started sharing our faith is by praying for the unchurched near our home. Before we share the Word of Life with those in our vicinity, it's well that we pray for them.

Pray for those who are outside of Christ by name. If the names are unknown, hey, there's a resource to help us out. *Blesseveryhome.com* will give you the names of your neighbors and encourage you to pray for them, reach out to them and disciple them. By praying for them we are asking the Holy Spirit to stir in their hearts before we engage with them.

The Holy Spirit is committed to bringing non-Christians out of the darkness and into the marvelous light of Jesus Christ! There's great rejoicing in heaven over one darkness dweller comes to the light!

*Eric*