



# GREETINGS FROM THE GRIFFINS

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## Serving



Jim & Feryl, Bill & Cindy, Carol Anne & Meredith

February found us at Standing Stones Retreat Center; 17 miles west of Wickenburg, Az. We were serving with the SOWER ministry with two other SOWER couples.

It was our good pleasure to meet and work with these strong Christians. We were the newest members of this work group, as both other couples have been doing projects with SOWER for more than fifteen years. It was said recently in our work group that we are living in a spiritual cocoon; surrounded by dedicated Christians. It certainly feels just like that, and is a very welcome change from being on the front lines without fellow warriors. We have group devotions daily, biblical discussions, and of course life without coarse humor or bad language. What a blessing it is. Along with the SOWERs there were several couples that were volunteering on an independent basis.

Cynthia is one of the independent volunteers, and was a major source of the delicious deserts and baked goods that were served to the guests as well as the workers. What a blessing it was for Cindy to fellowship with other women. She really enjoyed the camaraderie.



Cynthia & Cindy

Cindy did many things like laundry, housekeeping, and setting the beautiful tables for the guest dining room. It was a perfect setting for her to use her spiritual gift of Helps.



Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father.

Col. 3:16-17

This was our first SOWER project, and we truly enjoyed the fellowship along with the ability to help a worthwhile ministry. This ministry provides a place for full-time Christian workers to come for rest and spiritual counseling that enables them to continue in the work the Lord has called them to. We know on a firsthand basis what most of these workers are going through. We went through a major "burn out" in 2009. Exhausted, frustrated, and convinced that we had utterly failed the Lord in our inability to remain faithful to His calling, we left the ministry completely and went into a deep depression. We call it our "cave year". Like Elijah in 1 Kings 18, we experienced the Lord doing mighty things through us. But just as chapter 19 reveals the downside and satanic attacks that often accompany

spiritual highs, we too went and hid. A couple that we did not previously know offered us a job, and a place to stay while we healed. They were such a blessing and an answer to our pain and anguish. God used them and their giving hearts to bless us. We moved into a small cabin in the Williams area rent free and simply existed. Bill worked on the cabin doing repairs and improvements. Cindy took a job at Subway down the road. We attended a small Church in Flagstaff, and slowly, day by day, the wounds were healed. We were able to take long walks in the woods to cleanse our souls and quietly speak with our Savior. Through these walks we could feel the Lord reaching out to us. A year later the Lord came to us and said "It is time to go back to work" It was at this time that we founded Perfect Peace Ministries Inc. and headed back into the mission field in Belize. As chapter 19 ends Elijah returns to the work of the Lord. And so did we.



Bill is building a replacement part for the three point hitch on this tractor. He was able to weld some heavy steel into a new bracket that will enable the use of the other implements. Then, of course he has to try it



out doing some landscape work around the property. There was a lot

to do leveling out water retention areas and future building sites. The other volunteers were busy building a roof structure over the water tanks and pumping station. The ministry has their own well and two large storage tanks, which is necessary in the desert.



JERRY

Last week we sent out a prayer request concerning a ministry opportunity, and then a few days later we informed you that the Lord did answer that request. The answer was no. Now we can give you the details of that situation. The Stepping Stones Retreat Center's managing couple will be leaving, taking a full-time position in a local church. They asked us to consider joining another couple to manage the center. It was a very tempting offer and one we could see ourselves doing but we did not want to take the position based only on our personal feelings. The Lord has given us a peace about turning it down at this time.

We are now back on Mt Lemmon and will be until the end of October. We will be here as camp hosts again and are looking forward to ministering to the people the Lord bring to us. Please continue to pray for us, the ministry, and the finances we need to remain in the ministry the Lord has called us to.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PRAYER AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT