

From the Editor

Written by David McNabb
Wednesday, 01 July 2009 13:49 -

As of about a year ago, several of us had already moved to Paden, Oklahoma at the word of the Lord. Here, God had provided us a house of worship, as well as houses and employment opportunities as we needed them. We quickly settled in and became accustomed to the slower pace, compared to the hustle and bustle of city life. The blessings of the Lord greatly multiplied to us, and we praised Him every step of the way for His presence, guidance, and comfort.

While finding the area to be a wonderful place to live, we also fell in love with the people of Paden and the surrounding areas. Many here have gone out of their way to make us feel welcome, and to include us in this tight-knit community. Paden, in particular, is much like a big family. In fact, many of the residents here are related to each other in one way or another. But even though we were transplanted into the town, we still were made to feel like an integral part of it.

This month, our community – our Paden family – was faced with the tragic death of 20-year-old A.J. Lee due to an automobile accident. While we newcomers did not know him, we shared the feeling of loss as the town grieved. Our hearts and prayers go out to A.J.'s family and friends, and to the community of which we are a part, and which has become a part of us.

One man's sin brought death upon all of us. From that day until now, mankind is engaged in a war against the enemy called death. It is the way of all men, and while we struggle to delay it, nothing can prevent it. Yet while this month brought us the grief that comes with the passing of a loved one (and no doubt to many others who suffered loss this month as well), this month was also a time of remembrance and celebration.

Whereas by one man's disobedience, sin passed on all men, and death by sin, so also, through the obedience of one man – our Lord Jesus Christ – has righteousness passed on all those who believe. No longer does sin reign over us unto death, but (if we will believe in our hearts in the great sacrifice of the Lamb of God who came to take away the sins of the world, and repent of our sins) grace reigns through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord! Praise be to His holy name!

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in

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heaven for you, Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time" (1 Peter 1:3-5). Hallelujah!