



# Native Sons



## Equipping Native Leaders to Reach Native Americans

### SISTER DIANE WALTERS

#### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- We are now at app. 90% of our monthly support
- NABC appointed a new President and Vice President in September, both Lumbee. President Gilbert Walker (see 3/06 newsletter) and Vice President Brother Cregg Jones. I hope to write about each and their vision for the school in further issues.

#### PRAYER POINTS

- That our budget be fully raised.
- Sensitivity to the culture and grace and favor among the people

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"You think you know everything about being a Christian until you become one." Sister Diane Walters is a student in one of my classes who felt compelled to begin Bible College after being given the position of Assistant Adult Bible teacher at church. She grew up in a holiness church but said, "I've been to the altar many times, the earliest when I was 8 or 9., but then my life would return to the same old stuff. I got involved with the wrong people from the 7th grade through high school, but I went to church every Sunday and was often at the altar." She was serious when at the altar, "but then my life would return to the same old stuff. God's Word was like another language to me then."

Diane got involved in drinking, smoking, drugs, etc. while in high school. Her parents sent her to stay with an aunt during her Junior year in high school and she could have stayed there, but wanted to return home to her friends, "but life had changed again. When I returned my Mom had backslidden, and she used to be powerfully used of the Lord in healing prayers for others. My parents separated. I felt lost. After returning from Michigan I began looking for someone who would love me for who I am." She was married shortly after

graduating from high school. "During my first five years of marriage I started going back to church in order to raise my kids in it. Then I got a retail job and had to work Sundays, so for the next five years I was out of church. I also compared my own spirituality to what my Mom's had been and I could not keep up. God put me in a church that loved me and was a good example, but I was working over 40 hours a week and trying to raise three kids too.



Sister Diane Walters

Besides her spiritual ups and downs, her own marriage has not always been easy, but she sees God's hand of faithfulness in the ups and downs.

The Lord often speaks to Sister Diane through dreams. She once had a dream that she was standing at a podium in front of a fireplace with a mantle. "My dad was on one

side of me and my pastor on the other. I knew that God was calling me into the ministry, but I felt, 'no way' because of issues in my personal life." She says, "I came to the point where I said, 'Lord, if you will accept me for who I am, you will never have to worry about me no more.'"

After being given the position of Assistant Adult Bible teacher at church Diane says, "I felt inadequate to be before adults." She looked into another Bible College, but her pastor encouraged her to attend NABC. She started taking night classes but says, "I knew with the night classes that I needed to go full-time eventually." Again she wondered, "how can this happen?" But things changed at work enabling her to attend full-time. She is now a sophomore and in her third full-time semester. "I've come to love this place. I'm like a sponge soaking everything up. I've been walking serious with the Lord for the last five years now; the school has helped me gain discipline in my spiritual life, and helped me gain confidence and knowledge about God's Word."

"You think you know, but there is always more." NABC is equipping Native leaders for service.

### ON A PERSONAL NOTE

Much has happened since the last newsletter. We have moved to the field and are settling in slowly. Caleb has started high school, Theresa is back teaching 4th and 7th grade in a local academy and I have begun teaching at NABC. We are all doing well, but the summer has been hectic.

At the beginning of August I went to visit my mother and brother after he had called saying he did not think our Mom would live much longer. After visiting them for a week I returned home, needed to install a fourteen post fence for insurance reasons (done in 107<sup>o</sup>

weather in 3 days), then took a week of pre-scheduled vacation at the end of which Mick again called to tell me Mom had gone to be with the Lord. The entire next week was spent in travel, funeral and burial arrangements and I missed my first week of classes, Theresa missed half a week of classes and I have been scrambling to catch up since.

Thank-you all for your prayers regarding Mick and Mom. In spite of the sorrow of her loss I really cannot describe the peace that comes with knowing that since she knew the Lord she is with Him now.

We are making friends, enjoying our new

church and I am really enjoying teaching and the students.



John enrolled in the "new body" by Jesus in 3 days program with some phenomenal results