



Native Sons

Equipping Native Pastors to reach Native Americans

DAVID LOCKLEAR

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- We are now at app. 58% of our monthly support
- The largest population of Native Americans east of the Mississippi is the Iroquois Nation located in upstate NY and Canada. The Iroquois Nation consists of app. 80,000 Native Americans representing 6 tribes: the Mohawk, Oneida, Seneca, Onondaga, Cayuga, & Tuscarora.

PRAYER POINTS

- Full healing for Theresa
- Raising financial & prayer support
- Safe travel

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"I was hoping you would ask me that."

David Locklear is Native American of Robeson County and a sophomore at NABC. While talking he mentioned that it was "hard for a non-Indian to minister to an Indian." I wanted to know why.

"Indian people have a bad history with whites and blacks. The first settlers brought Christ, but tried to change Indian culture." For instance, "the boarding schools were often run by missionaries and pastors." At the boarding schools the Native students were forced to look like the whites running the schools. They experienced sexual and physical abuse from the hands of priests and ministers. It was a very rough experience."

The boarding schools were prominent from app 1900-1950. They were an attempt to eradicate Native culture. Native children were forced from their homes into these school. At the schools they were not allowed to speak their own language, wear traditional clothing, wear their hair long, or dance and play traditional Native music. Real violence was done to Native culture and families. I recently discovered that the policy of beating Mohawk children for speaking Mohawk at school occurred right into the 1970s. The hurts of history are not far away for Native Americans and are ongoing today in many ways.

O N A P E R S O N A L N O T E

Theresa had back surgery 2 days before Thanksgiving to correct spinal stenosis and the bulging disc. The surgery went well and she returned home on Thanksgiving. She is recovering well, but needs to be careful not to over-exert her back while it continues to heal.

We are planning to go to South Carolina over Christmas for vacation. We will be spending the week relaxing, much needed as far as John is concerned and will be visiting with Levi & Alicia while there.

Caleb is now learning how to improvise

"Native Americans stick to their own ways" David said. "From the time I was a little boy I was always into Native culture. I was involved in the powwows, dance, etc. When I was a teen I began singing and speaking at the powwows and became well known. When I was 22 I was traveling with a guy that played drums (in the powwows). He got saved and I



Brother David Locklear

was hanging out with him. He started inviting preachers to the powwows. Two years ago I was 'MC'ing a New Year "Sobriety Night" celebration. There was a Native preacher there and I was the last person in the prayer line. When he came to me he stated, 'When you quit hanging around with those boys (the one's David

on his guitar. As he improves he is listening to music more critically. We hear comments like, "This song only has two cords and three notes to it. Can we change the station?"

Levi has finished the hands on training of Nuke school has run a nuclear reactor on his own. He is staying in South Carolina until the spring to add chemical training to what he has already learned. He is also seeking to get his bachelor's in nuclear engineering. Alicia is working on an accounting degree.

was drinking and partying with) the Lord will start using you."

What did David think of this word? He states, "I left it alone. I went out and got totally drunk. I was hung-over all day, but was amazed at what had been said to me. The next day I went to church and gave my heart to the Lord. At that time I was told I was a leader. I hung onto that word. Getting saved and leadership are tied together for me."

"I chose NABC, because it is called **Native American Bible College.**" David still sings with a Native drum group and feels that he is called of God to NABC. "The importance of this school is that it trains for ministry—particularly for Lumbees to go beyond Robeson to other tribes." David states, "I am not sure where, but know that I am called to other Native Americans. I want to reach them for Christ. I feel called to reach those in the traditional Native culture."

NABC exists to equip Native leaders. Who better to send than someone who knows and understands the culture? There is much hurt and today, it takes a Native American to reach a Native American.



Coming soon to an Assembly near you: "Indiana Flood: Raider of the Last Church"