



Native Sons

Equipping Native Leaders to Reach Native Americans

REV. ARLIS LOCKLEAR

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- We are still at app. 91% of our monthly support. To the many who are so faithful to us -THANK YOU SO MUCH!
- Northern Perspective: A quarter inch of snow can shut down businesses here and three inches of snow is considered a major storm!
- 12/11/08—it is in the 70s here!

PRAYER POINTS

- Theresa's father and step-father.
- Maxton 1st AG (our church home) as it looks for a new pastor.
- God's guidance and provision for NABC

John & Theresa Flood US Missionaries to Native Americans

213 West Second Ave
Red Springs, NC 28377
Phone: (910) 843-9358
b4theflood@juno.com
www.b4nativeamericans.com

Field Address:
US Missions
1445 N. Booneville Ave.
Springfield, MO 65802
johnflood@usmissions.org
Offering Acct. #
2570281

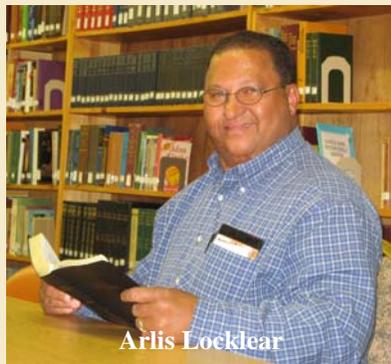
"What is my purpose in life?" It's a strange question for someone in their forties to be asking themselves, but Bro. Arlis was sensing that God wanted to lead him in a new direction.

He had been raised in the church and had always been a "good" person, but he backslid as he grew older. One night at a revival service his wife Nancy went to the altar to receive salvation and a few minutes later Bro. Arlis joined her. He says, "God changed me. He changed my mind and thoughts. I stopped going to places I used to and started wanting to go to church and started wanting to help in the church."

Not all transformations are sensational, some are quiet, but steady. Bro. Arlis not only started attending church, he got involved. He began by giving out drinks at church gatherings, then he got involved in children's ministries and then youth ministries. He says, "Whatever I learned and was passed on to me I tried to put into practice and teach others to do. It's all about training them up!" Many of the children and youth Bro. Arlis spent time with are now active in children's and youth ministries themselves as well as helping out in other ways in the churches.

But Bro. Arlis became uneasy. Some people began asking him if he was a preacher; his wife knew he was being called, but said nothing. He began fast-

ing, praying, and asking God, "What is my purpose in life?" He began getting dreams about speaking publicly, for a season every church sign he passed said things like, "Have I not called you?" He was asking, "God, is this of you?" His dreams became more intense, he was preaching before crowds of people and would wake



Arlis Locklear

up bathed in sweat. He says, "Then I knew."

"I was reading through the Bible every year and really knew God's Word well, but I knew I was not as knowledgeable as I needed to be. I was working 70-80 hours a week. I told God, 'You need to make a way for me.' The manufacturing plant I worked at shut down; this is how God made a way for me to go to school; I had to trust Him. I had known about the school; it was close, cheap, and offered exactly what I needed—Biblical training.."

"I said, 'God, if I go to that school You are

going to have to help me.' The first two semesters I cried every night. I had been out of school for so long and now I was being given so much reading to do. When I first got saved I was not a good reader, I am still not really, but God has really worked with me. I went to the chapel and fell down before God crying out, 'You need to take this pain and give me relief.' Peace came and I have not been afraid since. God has transformed my life and my reading ability. I'm like how it was with Moses, unable to speak. Before I was ashamed to stand and read, now I am no longer ashamed."

"NABC has really helped me. The college professors bring out stuff that I had never thought of. Even my family can see the difference. I teach and preach the things I am learning and it is really opening up the eyes of others, even people who have been saved for 20 and 30 years. During the Wednesday night Bible studies people are now amazed at how much they can learn in just an hour when you break God's Word down. This place really opens your mind, it will take you to deeper depths in your ministry than you could go by yourself."

Bro. Arlis is a senior at NABC and an evangelist. In the future he feels called to the pastorate, but not quite yet.

ON A PERSONAL NOTE

Don't you just hate it when someone writes, "the time has just flown by"?

I am currently working on next semester's classes. A new teacher, a missionary in residence, has rivaled my position as the toughest teacher. It seems each time a new person comes they are given the title "toughest teacher." It is a singular joy to see students becoming hungry for God's Word and starting to understand it and how to dig into it for themselves.. Students like Bro. Arlis work hard for their grades with me, but he and others tell me

they get so much out of it.

Theresa continues to love teaching kindergarten. She has severe back pain and was diagnosed with degenerative disk disease, so we would really covet your prayers for her physical healing.

Caleb has learned how to drive a stick shift and is doing pretty well. He is taking theater at school and is really enjoying it. He has also blossomed into quite the young artist.

Thank you all for your prayers, letters and

support!

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

