

# The Almond Branch of CMI

Cyrus Ministries International  
Rich & Kay Fick, Directors

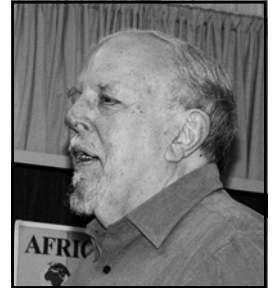
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## Knowing, Receiving, and Living in God's Mercy *by Rich Fick*

*"And the LORD passed before him and proclaimed, 'The LORD, the LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abounding in goodness and truth...'"* (Exodus 34:6)

When Moses asked God to show him His glory, God told him He would proclaim His name to him and in this way make His glory known to Moses. God wants to reveal His ways and plans to us so we can fulfill His destiny for us. He does this by proclaiming His name to us. Because we need His help, He reveals Himself as our Provider, our Shepherd, our Healer etc. Even more than His help, we need His ways and His glorious nature developed in us in order to become all He wants us to be. We need His provision so we can do what He wants us to do--but more than that we need His character--His glory--so that we can be all He wants us to be.



God gave Moses a monumental task. God chose him to be the vessel He would use to bring the children of Israel out of their bondage to the Egyptians, into the land God would give them. God had a destiny for the nation of Israel. They were to be a nation of priests. They were to have a land, and a special city where God would have them build Him a temple so they would have a place to worship Him, and He would have a place to visit them. When God told Moses to bring the people from Mount Sinai into the land promised them He said, "My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest" (Exodus 33:14 NKJ). He not only promised Moses that He would be with him and the nation of Israel, but also that He would give Moses rest. God would reveal His plan of victory to Moses, step by step, so that Moses could live in the will and plan of God, and God would lead His people into His appointed place for them.

God had a destiny for His people and for the land which was under the dominion of the Canaanites. The Canaanites, an idolatrous people worshipping many heathen gods, had desecrated their land. They were killing their children, sacrificing them to their gods in order to obtain their favor. God was now bringing the children of Israel out of Egypt into the land of their destiny.

We are all, in one way or another, called to be like Moses. God has a destiny for us and for the children He gives us. We are called to live as priests before Him, coming out of our bondage to sin and the ways of Satan and this world. We are to lead others in the ways God has provided for us so that they too can come out of the world's ways (Babylon) and into the ways of God's heavenly kingdom. In Christ, our spirits already have access into the Heavenly Kingdom, the New Jerusalem. Now we are called to bring these ways into all of our being and our lives, so that the kingdom of God can be manifested in us and through us into all the earth. God reminds us that He will be with us and will bring us into His rest. He will guide, direct, and empower us. Jesus has won the victory over all the enemies of our soul and spirit, and He will lead us in the ways of God. He is our heavenly High Priest, called to bring God's ways into us through His Holy Spirit so we can serve God and be victorious over all of our enemies in our life on this earth.

Moses asked for a revelation of God's glory. He felt He needed this also to complete the task God assigned to Him. God honored this request. He told him that He would not allow Moses to see His face, because the light of His face would be too much for Moses to bear, but He would reveal His glorious names. Names were used to identify the person and often the character of the person as well. God said, "I will make all My goodness pass before you, and I will proclaim the name of the LORD before you" (Exodus 33:19 NKJ). The Bible account continues, "And the LORD passed before him and proclaimed, 'The LORD, the LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abounding in goodness and truth'" (Exodus 34:6-7 NKJ).

God began the revelation of His glory by declaring to Moses that He had a personal name, "YAHWEH." Fearful of breaking the first commandment, the Jewish leaders did not want to pronounce the personal name YAHWEH. In deference to them, Bible translators wrote "LORD" whenever the word "YHWH" occurred in the original Hebrew. God first began revealing His glory to Moses by telling him that He was a personal Being--a God with a personality. The heathen gods are distant from the people who worship them. God is telling Moses that He wants to be personal with him. Through Christ, we can know God personally. Since Jesus and the Father are of the same nature, their Divine character is the same. That is why Jesus said, "If anyone has seen me he has seen My Father."

*Continues on Page 2*

## Living with an Eternal Perspective *(continued from Page 1)*

God then continued by revealing His name “merciful.” He knows our need. He created us with a measure of ability; man can do good things with his own abilities. God also created us with the ability to receive power, revelation, and wisdom from other spiritual beings. Angels can empower us. Angels ministered to Jesus, when He was weak like us. Evil angels can also empower people. Civilizations have done seemingly monumental tasks, like the building of the pyramids, under the empowerment of spiritual beings. There are many people who receive power from a “higher power.” Some Christians even relegate Jesus to be but one of the many “higher powers.” But God reigns above all. We can be empowered by the mind and will of God through Christ. We can do all things through the strength of God through Jesus Christ. The power of God in Christ enabled Jesus to do great and mighty things, even casting out other spiritual powers resident in people. The supernatural power of God in Christ, in us, can enable us to do more than we can do as mere humans. The supernatural power of God in us can also enable us to do more than those who are infested with power from evil spiritual beings.

In His mercy, God reveals to us our need of His power and strength. God in His mercy lets us know that, by ourselves, we cannot overcome the evil powers that inhabit people, enabling them to do things that mere mortals cannot do. God in His mercy shows us our need of His Divine power and nature. He has provided the way for us to receive this power through Christ. He has provided the way for us to receive a new nature that has overcome sin, through Christ. Jesus Himself was dependent on the mercy and power of God to be in Him so that He could be and do all God had called Him to be and do. When He became human, He laid aside His power as God, so that He could be weak like us in all things. He was still God, by nature, but He was made weak like us for the suffering of death. The Bible says, “*But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, for the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, that He, by the grace of God, might taste death for everyone*” (Hebrews 2:9 NKJ). Jesus received mercy and grace from God so He could give God’s mercy and grace to us. We can glorify the name of YAHWEH by crying out for mercy in all things, receiving it, and then glorifying the name of YAHWEH. This is to be our lifestyle.

David understood this truth. When his enemies were all around him he said, “*Oh, turn to me, and have mercy on me! Give Your strength to Your servant, and save the son of Your maidservant*” (Psalm 86:16 NKJ). David had had personal experiences with God’s mercy. Previously in this chapter he had given testimony to God by saying, “*I will praise You, O Lord my God, with all my heart, and I will glorify Your name forevermore. For great is Your mercy toward me, and You have delivered my soul from the depths of Sheol*” (Psalm 86:12-13 NKJ).

Jesus understood this truth. When He was about to raise Lazarus, He realized that in doing this He would invite the hatred of the Jewish leaders. He knew that they would be infuriated with Him and would seek to put Him to death. But He also knew that raising Lazarus would glorify God’s name. He said, “*Now My soul is troubled, and what shall I say? ‘Father, save Me from this hour’? But for this purpose I came to this hour. Father, glorify Your name*” (John 12:27-28 NKJ). When the time came to go to the cross, Jesus first prayed that God might find another way. When He realized that the cross was the only way and was the way for God to glorify His name, He then prayed for the strength to do the Father’s will. He knew the suffering He would have to endure. He knew that He would have to enter hell for us with our sinful ways and desires. He knew that He would be separated from His Father and only have the power He would receive here in Gethsemane to be able to complete the task set before Him. He trusted in God’s mercy and His willingness to impart into Him the power He would need. The Bible says of His prayer in Gethsemane, “*...who, in the days of His flesh, when He had offered up prayers and supplications, with vehement cries and tears to Him who was able to save Him from death, and was heard because of His godly fear*” (Hebrews 5:12 NKJ).

God is merciful. He allows us to have difficulties and trials so that we learn to trust in His mercy. He trains us in His ways so we can be prepared for even greater trials, so He can impart into us even greater measures of His power and grace. He does all these things so we learn we can trust Him and glorify His great character and nature and His mighty name.

I believe we have entered into a great time of experiencing God’s mercy. God is showing great favor to us who are living in Christ. He is refining us, purifying us, and filling us with His power and nature. He is giving us supernatural revelation and wisdom in our endeavors. He is preparing us to receive supernatural power to heal the sick, to receive properties and resources to provide places of worship, healing, revelation and comfort for those who are weary. He is raising up leaders in business, education, government and all segments of our society so that His kingdom principles, ways and Spirit can reign. He is restoring the working together of the fivefold ministries so that His people can be fully trained, equipped and empowered in these coming days. The Bible says, “*You will arise and have mercy on Zion; for the time to favor her, yes, the set time, has come*” (Psalm 102:13 NKJ).

*Father, we rejoice in Your mercy and grace. We rejoice that You lead us to trust in You so we know Your great mercy and know the depths of Your love as we live for you and allow us to be vessels of Your mercy and grace and love to others. Amen.*

## Tim Bottoms' Testimony

Dear Jesus,

I had my first meeting with Rich today at Cyrus Ministries; it was amazing; you are amazing. I caught a glimpse of what my future will soon be walking with you. You gave me comfort and beyond comfort when I gave to you my shame and guilt and betrayal of you. You accepted me and received all of my sin with open arms. I will never forget that look of concern with a subtle smile. I saw your face. You are truly awesome, My Father. I want to walk with you now and forever more. May you take my will, destroy it and replace it with Yours. My everlasting, ever-loving, ever-forgiving Father, I love you now and forever. Thank you for loving me. —Tim

**You have taken my darkness and replaced it with Light and Life!**

**God is good all the time and He is with us all the time.**

I have just recently escaped Satan's grip of addiction that had ruled over half of my life. There was actually not much that I did; I just allowed God to help me and prayed a lot. By God's grace and Jesus' blood I am a new creation, made to serve God and spread the Good News — to deliver bread to people.

I laugh as I write this because my first job that God blessed me with was a bread delivery driver. This was before he showed me the relevance and His humor in it all. I soon after found out that is what I am to do with my life (not physically, but spiritually). When I was 12, I gave my heart to Jesus, my personal Lord and Savior. Within a year, I was experimenting with drugs and alcohol. When we let God in, soon after Satan comes barging in; well I fell for it. But for the next 14 years there was a constant spiritual battle going on within me. I always believed that God would reign victorious over my life, but the last couple of years I began to feel hopeless and wasn't sure. Well, it wasn't up to me anymore once I gave my heart to Jesus, it belonged to Him, Praise God!

I now know what trying to walk alone is like. It is dark, hopeless and full of fear. I daily ask God to destroy my will and replace it with His will, for my will is self-destructive and leads me to an early death, eternal death. God continues to bless me daily, shows me the way, Praise God, Hallelujah! Our Redeemer lives; my Redeemer lives! I praise God for all the people that never stopped praying for me.

I love you all and God has answered your prayer.

—Tim

### A New Artist

Sometimes God gives us gifts later in life. Matt Lawlor has been given the desire to draw to express his love for Jesus. And Jesus is teaching him how to draw! Here Jesus raises Jairus' daughter to life, a story from the book of Matthew.



### Give Thanks to the Lord for:

- † The excitement and deepening relationship with God experienced by those participating in the [How to Hear the Voice of God](#) series
- † The restoration of lives as God touches people through personal prayer ministry
- † The number of new people becoming involved with the ministry
- † The faithful support of people who've been blessed
- † God's plan to increasingly make His grace and glory known through CMI
- † The Holy Spirit's continuing work as we meet with small groups.

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*The Almond Branch of CMI* is available by mail or as a download from the web site. If you would like to receive the newsletter, write to us at the Cyrus Ministries International mailing address to the right, or email us at

[almondbranchcyrus@comcast.net](mailto:almondbranchcyrus@comcast.net)

We would love to hear from you!  
Becky Davis & Lyn Rowley

*If you have a testimony from a CMI meeting, we'd like to hear from you!*

## Lucy Ngunjiui – Visits Big Rock

*Some people come into our lives and quickly go. Some stay for awhile and leave footprints on our hearts. And we are never, ever the same. Anonymous*

When I met Lucy in Kiambu, Kenya in April of 2004 while traveling with Rich and Kay Fick for Cyrus Ministries, I had no idea that she was, indeed one of those friends that would leave *footprints on my heart*. She acted as my translator, when I shared with the children and teachers, my purpose for being in Kenya. During the time Lucy and I spent together, we each felt that the Lord had given us a similar message of His plan and purpose for even the youngest child. Then as we corresponded via email and spoke occasionally by cell phone, it was clear that the Lord had brought us together for His purposes. In April, 2007 I was blessed to have Lucy, her husband Lameck and her daughter, Hope-Lyn visit here in Chicago. Lucy also visited Big Rock and had an opportunity to share her heart for the people of Kenya.

The Lord has placed Lucy in a position of great influence through her work as a radio talk show host in Nairobi, Kenya. Her radio program, telecast in Kikuyu (the native language of her tribe and about 20% of the Kenyan population) or Swahili is heard not only in Kenya, but around the globe via the internet. While the station that she works for is not a Christian station, she is able to still pray and minister to people on the radio. There have been many testimonies of changed lives and transformation of families through her witness. As a matter of fact, there are a large number of Kenyan people living in the Chicago area, who know Lucy through that radio program and were able to meet her for the first time during her visit. During this visit to the United States she shared and ministered in churches and fellowships in Chicago, Minneapolis, Boston, South Carolina, and the Atlanta area. Lucy shared with me that because of her notoriety, many, many people come to her looking for monetary assistance and for prayer and ministry. Because of this great need, Lucy is currently attending a Bible College in Nairobi to receive further training. As a well known Evangelist and Preacher, Lucy usually has 10 or more invitations for every Sunday.

Lucy told me that after Rich prayed for her during her visit to Big Rock, her ministry has been taken to another level of anointing and authority. Rich prayed for the fire of the Lord to anoint her words and for boldness for her as she shared the Word of the Lord. He prayed that she would proclaim God's destiny for the people of Kenya as well as the nation of Kenya. She told me that she is anxious to spend more time in the future with CMI to receive training and prayer and to have more time to get know the people affiliated with CMI.

Please join with me and stand with Lucy in prayer for the people and the nation of Kenya. We have been brought together to bring glory and honor to the Lord as we fulfill His plan.

—Lyn Rowley

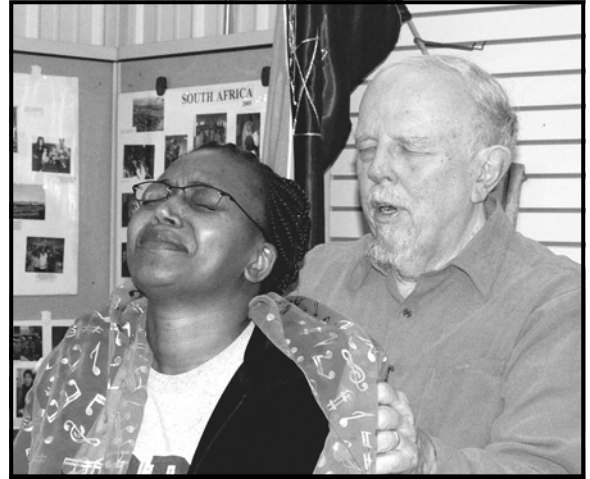
## Pastor Syam Babu Mari Visits Big Rock

Pastor Syam visited Big Rock March 31. He has a prophetic and healing ministry in India with 500 pastors. After serving 17 years as a Pastor, Pastor Syam began a strong pursuit for the Lord. The Lord has blessed him with a wonderful touch from heaven that has blessed the Hindus, Tsunami victims, a lost Jewish tribe and multitudes of poverty villages throughout India. His heart's desire is for all of India to be taken for the Lord. Please pray for his family and the millions of souls he plans to take for the Kingdom!

Those present at the meeting were privileged to hear first hand about his ministry and love for the Lord.

The International Ministry of CMI continues to grow and reach out to the nations. God is doing a work bringing ministries and CMI together to network for His kingdom!

—Lorisa Wonsley



Rich prays for Lucy



Pastor Syam, his wife  
and two children

*Want a first-hand experience? Come to a meeting!*

**Hearing God’s Voice Study — Tuesday Nights**

Our God is an AWESOME GOD--He reigns in heaven above, and earth below!--in our Hearts and in our journals!--God speaks to us in many ways--through His Word, the Bible--through other People in our lives--sometimes through dreams (very Biblical, as Joseph, etc.)

He speaks to us in our spirit--(Spirit to spirit)--puts His spontaneous thoughts into our mind--and specifically, also, what I've experienced in this class, in amazement!--the dialogue I have with my Jesus, thru journaling!--quieting myself before Him, fixing my eyes on Him, in Faith, waiting for His answer-to my questions, and His immediate response and encouragements--as I 'flow' in journaling!--I've realized how deeply HE desires to dialogue with us--if we but quiet ourselves before Him, and 'tune in' what He is saying to us!--It's an awesome experience in spiritual growth and deeper relationship with My Lord and 'Best Friend'!--I'm filled with such gratitude and more awareness of His Wonderful Presence in my life every day!

In Love with JESUS  
—Chris Freise

**Saturday Nights at Big Rock**

Wow! A testimony about Saturday night worship at Cyrus...where do we start?!? We have all been so incredibly blessed as a family at the wonderful worship that we have had with the Lord that we each wanted to share a piece of it.

When asked why do you like Saturday night worship, Nathan (5) said, “Because I really like Sunday School and they really talk about Jesus.” Sarah (8) added, “How Mr. Fick talks is just wonderful – that is why I like Saturday night service. Mommy Karen cannot even begin to describe in words the depth and beauty her worship has reached with the Lord during and as a result of Saturday night worship. Daddy Marion loves that he is not told how to worship – he wants and is able to worship Jesus more freely. The presence of the Lord is truly felt and has touched our whole family during our worship at Cyrus. Are there more reasons? Yes, just come on Saturday nights and discover them, too!

—The Henry Family

**Use the Tools! — Thursday Nights**

What would you think if you came upon a man trying to break boards over his knee and nail them together by pushing the nails in with his thumb--with a saw and a hammer lying within arm’s reach? What foolishness!

God has given His people a full assortment of “tools” for accomplishing His will on the earth and establishing His Kingdom in our midst, and He has put within us His Holy Spirit to teach us how to use them.

At the Ministry Center on Thursday evenings, we are putting into practice the use of some of these tools—such as praise & worship, listening, beholding, praying, and proclaiming. We are worshiping the Lord with our voices, with instruments, and with the sound of the shofar (Psalm 150). As the Lord shows us what is on His heart, we share what we have seen or heard, and then either pray about it or make appropriate proclamations concerning the matter. Proverbs 18:21 tells us death and life are in the power of the tongue. It’s exciting to participate with the Lord in speaking death to the schemes of the enemy and life to the plans and purposes of God!

Won’t you come and join us? It’s Thursdays at 7 P.M. at the Ministry Center.

—Kay

**Algonquin Home Group Meeting**

We, Robert & Janice Froberg, are blessed to have Rich & Kay Fick come to our home monthly, on a Monday evening. They lead and shepherd us and all who attend, as we worship and pray and hear from God. Many different people have attended over the years from the Fox Valley area.

Many testimonies have occurred, as people bring deep needs and pains. The Holy Spirit has brought healing and deliverance, using each person’s gifts to edify each other. Rich & Kay Fick’s wisdom is teaching us how to grow in Jesus, and how to minister to each other. This fellowship is a wonderful supplement to anyone’s spiritual growth.

—Froberg Family

**Please join us in prayer for:**

- † People to be drawn to the Friday night worship led by young adults, and for God to receive all the glory He deserves as we gather
- † Increased attendance at our anointed monthly retreats
- † God’s guidance as we plan and prepare for another “Institute” in August & September
- † The international people whom God is drawing to the Institute to be able to get visas, and to have the financial means to get here

- † Aylin to be granted a visa so she & Dan can come here in July
- † The fulfillment of words and visions God has given for CMI
- † A mighty anointing on the men’s group meeting to encourage one another in a deeper walk with Jesus and victory over addictions.
- † Intercessory prayer support and financial provision for all the Lord is calling CMI to accomplish
- † People with needed technical skills to be available

*Do we have your email address for prayer requests and web site updates?*

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Get a calendar at  
[www.cyrusministries.com](http://www.cyrusministries.com)—  
just click the  
“Current Activities” button

OR pick up a copy  
at Big Rock,  
OR call us for a copy!



*Serving God as  
He Unites  
Heaven and  
Earth in Christ.*

### *Upcoming Events*

- ▶ **Retreats**—Saturdays 10AM-4:30PM —May 26, June 16 and July 21
- ▶ **Fellowship Meals** (bring a dish to pass)—Saturdays 5PM, May 26, June 16 and July 21
- ▶ **Worship Service**—Saturdays, 6PM, May 12, 19, 26, June 9, 16, 23, 30, July 14, 21, 28
- ▶ **Praise & Worship**— Friday 7PM, May 4, 11, 18, 25, June 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 and July 14, 21, 28

### *Regular Meetings*

- ▶ **Holiest of All Study** @Big Rock Mondays @1-3PM
- ▶ **Path to Holiness Study** @Big Rock Tuesdays @6PM
- ▶ **Ministering God's Voice** @Big Rock Tuesdays @7PM
- ▶ **Sharing, Worship & Prayer** @Big Rock Thursdays @7PM

**May 26 Retreat: Becoming Partakers of His Holiness**  
**June 16 Retreat: Healing Through Seeing Jesus**

**Watch for calendar updates for July once Rich & Kay know when Dan will be visiting at the Ministry Center!**