

# JIM & LYNN ADAMS



36 YEARS LATER . . .

**BIG CHANGES AHEAD!**

## Can You Relate?

Sometimes you really believe that you know what God's plan is for you, but it doesn't work out the way you pictured. Well... it's happening again.

But first, some background.

In 1976, we had been married for two years and we were in the middle of our third year at San Jose Bible College when we heard God's call through a presentation by a missionary to Santiago, Chile. With direction and support from our spiritual leaders at college and our

home church (Central Christian Church), we began to present our *Chile For Christ* vision.

Thanks to Jim's mastery of the 1970's cutting edge communications technology (a slide projector),



"RAISING SUPPORT" 1976



JIM IN LANGUAGE SCHOOL



LATIN AMERICAN TEAM  
MINISTRIES 1977



This work we are preparing for... it's not an obsession.  
OK, it's kind of like an obsession. It's a calling.



JIM – STREET MARKET  
MINISTRY IN SANTIAGO



1977 TOMMY WAS BORN IN  
SANTIAGO



1977 "MISSIONARY BABY"  
WITH WOODY PHILLIPS JR.



1978 – CHILEAN  
HOME CHURCH

we did a reasonably effective presentation of our ministry dream.

About a month before we were supposed to fly out, we had raised \$180 in pledged monthly support.

We prayerfully determined to leave for language school in Costa Rica, trusting the Lord for our daily bread. Of course, the Lord would first have to provide what we needed for our *one way* tickets. So we prayed for \$2,000 cash – an impossible sum! The very next day we opened an envelope to find two checks for \$1,000 each. The gift came from a family that Jim knew in junior high but hadn't seen for over 10 years. Praise God!

So we took off for Costa Rica. Eight months later we were in Santiago.

We loved living and working in Chile. We never had much, but we had what we needed. It was an exciting time and we were very thankful to be living and working there. We returned to the States in 1978 so Jim could finish Bible college.

### **Better Than Expected**

We really expected to return to the mission field. It didn't happen the way we pictured it.

Instead, for 34 years the Lord has blessed us with a wonderful life in the U.S., filled with family, dear friends and challenging ministry.

All those years we held onto the "distant dream" of returning to full time missions. We believed that this desire of our hearts was given to us by the Lord. It never distracted us from the ministry at hand, but the vision never faded.

### **Back To The Future!**

We are "retiring" from *pastoral* ministry on Sept. 1 after 20 years at Cornerstone Worship Center and 14 years in California, North Dakota, Minnesota and Idaho. God used those years to prepare us for *a kind of ministry that we would never have imagined way back in 1977.*

### **BIG CHANGES AHEAD: WE ARE RETURNING TO FULL TIME MISSIONARY WORK!**

### **A Reservation Education**

In 2004, Lynn was hired to produce a series of lessons about the Navajo for our local schools. Her work on those lessons prepared her to develop hands-on, activity-based educational materials for young people.

Then Jim got involved and produced his first video in 2006 for *Navajo Art & Culture Lessons*. He has continued to study video production ever since.

But, no... We are *not* moving to the Navajo Reservation.

### **So What's The Connection?**

Let's picture a generous believer you know who is very willing to contribute to worthy ministries. Let's also assume that they do not have unlimited wealth. Therefore, your friend must decide which ministries they will support. How do they make their decision?

Perhaps they pray. Maybe they do some background checks. But what if they *knew* the leader of one of those ministries? What if they've been in their home, know their



## In 1976 people would say, “Jim, you should train other missionaries how to do their slide shows!”

children and have heard their heart? What if they have somehow managed, even though vicariously, to *experience* what that leader sees and feels; to share in their sorrows and their joys; to be moved by their vision, their passion, *their story*?

### Think About It

Wouldn't they be more likely to pray for that leader than for someone they barely knew? Wouldn't they be inclined to give generously to them from their limited resources?

We think you'll agree: Once a believer shares a *heart connection* with a missionary, they no longer pray and give only “because there're supposed to” – they become true partners with them in the mission.

We are convinced that missionaries would be much more effective if their partners back home (both existing and potential) could somehow connect at a *heart level* with them, with their families and with their work. That is where we –

Creative Impact Ministries (Jim & Lynn) – come in.

### Creative Impact Ministries

We are called to produce short “films” (and supplemental materials) for missionaries that go beyond the presentation of facts and figures related to need; something more than a request for help, or prayer or money; films that touch the heart too!

### REALLY . . .

AREN'T YOU MORE LIKELY TO PRAY FOR, GIVE TO OR VISIT SOMEONE YOU KNOW?

God ushered us through a unique blend of experiences that has prepared us for this assignment: to assist missionaries to communicate through video on a relational, heart-felt level that might otherwise be impossible without traveling to the field and spending time with them.

### OUR FAMILY!



1980



1987



1995



2000



### OLD SCHOOL “CUT & PASTE”

In 1976 we used manual typewriters for our newsletters. After typing our story – error free! – we literally cut it out and pasted it onto our “layout” (made with blue pencil and rulers). Headlines were created with rub-on letters individually positioned on blue lines. Photos (not digital!) were cut out and pasted into our layout.

### Can You Hear Me Now?

For two years we never once called home to talk to family. We couldn't afford it! Our only communication with supporters, friends and family was by international post. And the term “snail mail” was no joke: A letter would take a month or more to make it's way from Chile to the U.S.

Cameras were analog and telephones were connected to the wall. In fact, we never had a phone in Santiago. The waiting list to get a phone line was two years out and the cost was over \$2,000.





# Mission Possible: To assist missionaries to make, maintain and enhance *heart-felt, personal connections* with their partners back home.

## The Irony Of It All

Of course, it is beyond ironic that we are attempting to communicate our heart to you via a newsletter...

We are using print media because we do not yet have the equipment



and funding to craft the kind of video that would represent the quality we envision. We are hoping that you might pray about that and about how you might partner with us.

We are bold to ask (in print!) because you already know and trust us. Hopefully, our relationship with you has prepared you to hear our heart in this and then to discern God's leading.

To summarize . . .

## Our Mission Statement

Creative Impact Ministries will help missionaries to share their vision, their successes, struggles and needs in a *personal, honest, relational* way that will more effectively build partnerships with people "back home."

Specifically, we will provide:

- Professional-quality HD videos that vividly portray their life, their

testimony, family, and ministry. People will *experience* something of their *story... their heart!*

- There will, of course, be factual information about the ministry, special projects, ongoing need, etc. But we will always be after that "something extra" that helps to make the *personal connection* with the missionary.
- Additionally, we will design special units (lesson plans, posters, and crafts) that feature the missionaries and their work. These will be used in Children's Programs, Vacation Bible School and/or Youth Groups. (Connecting with all ages!)
- We desire to do all this at no charge to the missionaries.

## Your Part

No cliché: Please pray for us!

**WE HAVE AN INVITATION TO DO SEVERAL FILMS IN THE GOLDEN TRIANGLE (THAILAND, MYANMAR & LAOS).**

Would you consider helping us?

We have enclosed a response form.

Thanks for reading. We hope that our next communication will be something you can **watch!**

By the way, we are open to suggestions from you about missionaries who might be interested in our ministry.



CHRISTMAS 2009

## ON THE REZ



LYNN & HER NAVAJO GRANDMA – RED MESA, AZ



JIM & ELMER YAZZIE CANYON DE CHELLY, AZ

Creative Impact (Jim & Lynn) developed a public school curriculum called **Navajo Art & Culture Lessons**.

GO TO [CREATIVEIMPACTMINISTRIES.ORG](http://CREATIVEIMPACTMINISTRIES.ORG) TO SEE OUR VERY FIRST PROJECT.

(PLEASE NOTE: THIS VIDEO IS PURELY EDUCATIONAL. IT IS NOT INTENDED TO REACH THE HEART.)