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SERVING WITH  THE NAVIGATORS

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“Shalom in the Home!”

“You are just like *Shalom in the Home*,” said MariaLisa (holding Bible in photo). It made sense later what she was getting at after Judy and I saw this TV show. It features a rabbi who spends time ministering to families in crisis and difficulties, teaching them and counseling them often with biblical insights. The next time we spoke I told her that Judy and I had seen the program and we both chuckled.



These are some of the new believers we are discipling in our home Bible study.

Shalom in the Home. Honestly, there isn't always “shalom” in our home and yet we are called to minister to others! Judy and I love each other and our children with all our hearts, but like most of us, we come from dear families that we love who nonetheless had dysfunctions to one degree or another. We have sinful natures that we have inherited as well going all the way back to the Garden. Perfect models of family shalom we are not.

But we really DO have shalom in our home. Not because we have it all together, but we do have the ONE who is THE TRUE SHALOM in our home. Shalom means peace. Jesus is OUR SHALOM. He is first our Shalom with God and then our Shalom with each other. The apostle Paul says in 2 Corinthians 4:7,

“But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us.”

As we get to know our unsaved community we are shocked at the great lack of shalom in homes all around us with little or no hope of getting it! This is our opportunity to minister Christ. People often share with us the pain of strained marital relationships. We have seen divorces and couples on the verge. One family just divorced and saddened us so because we have known them for a while and our financial constraints had not permitted us the time to minister to them. Their family situation sadly continues to deteriorate. We are heartbroken even more for their three precious children who will know this horrible pain all of their lives! Like many, many others they have no church family or hope.

We can't begin to tell the all stories here, of victories in Jesus and heartbreaks, as we minister to families in great pain. Doors fly open to their hurting relatives and others in their lives, regularly. For example, the brother of a couple we brought to Christ is going through a very difficult divorce and is in

anguish dealing with his ex-wife and heartbreak over raising his three children properly. I met with another man over lunch at his job to disciple him in the faith. His co-workers approached him afterwards wanting to discuss the Bible with us the next time! They are not believers! Opportunities to share Jesus (Shalom) are opening and pouring in all around us!

We really need your help to help them in three absolutely critical ways:

1. We need your faithful prayer support.
2. We need your continued financial support.
3. We need more than ever for many others of you to prayerfully consider increasing your giving and/or joining our financial support team for the first time.

Judy and I long to bring Shalom, Jesus, to the many lost families all around us but we simply can't do it without you! The already high cost of living in the suburbs of NYC always seems to rise. **But you can really set us free to set others free!** As Jesus said in Luke 4:18:

“The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach the good news to the poor, He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

Thank you, thank you, thank you . . . to many of you who so faithfully and sacrificially partner with us, literally holding us up. **We love you and thank you all!**

Ernie and Judy Scalabrin