



July 18, 2009

To Our Faithful Supporters of the American Indian Christian Mission:

I can recall as a young person, standing as a congregation singing at the top of my lungs, *"Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise Him all creatures here below. Praise Him above the Heavenly host. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost, Amen."*

What an absolute awesome year that we at the AICM have had. This year, although difficult at times, has been a year filled with blessings upon blessings upon blessings. We have been completely awestruck at times at the providential care of our Lord Jesus Christ. And you have been a huge part of that care as well. You have continued to walk alongside of us through prayer and support and it has allowed us to Evangelize and Equip Native Americans for Christ. Because of the prayers that have been offered up and the dedication of the staff here, we have witnessed over 23 baptisms and several re-dedications to Christ! My friends, God is working and moving in this place. We are excited for the future and what the LORD has in store for us. And even more, we are extremely excited that you travel with us and experience the blessings of the LORD together.

We at the AICM are excited to be rolling out a new vision for the work here at the mission. Several months of prayer has brought us to a place in which we feel that God is calling us to go. If we are going to effectively Evangelize and Equip Native Americans, then it is my belief that we need to be intentional in how we do it. It is our desire to move this ministry back into a ministry. Much of the past vision has been met and it's time to chart new ground and move forward in Evangelizing and Equipping. In order to do that, God has given us a vision that will indeed be intentional and proactive in ministry. I have attached our 2009-2019 Vision to share with you. Please cover this vision in prayer as we strive to fulfill its words and meaning. There will be much more information coming out in the coming months as to this God given vision and how we intend on living this vision. Much of the Fall Smoke Signals will be dedicated to this among other things. On our website, www.aicm.org you can see a video concerning just a part of this new vision. You can also visit www.nehemiahproject.wordpress.com and keep up with what we are doing with the vision and how we are doing.

In closing, please continue to keep us in your prayers. We also ask that you continue to support the work that is being done here. Please prayerfully consider what you can give to this mission financially. It takes money to keep this place going so we can continue Evangelizing and Equipping Native Americans. We are confident that God will bless us and He'll bless you in your efforts. So having said all of that, I will gladly close this letter and begin singing the ole familiar tune that we all have sung for many, many years. "*Praise God from whom all blessings flow...*"

Serving His Kids

Patrick Lester
Executive Director



The Nehemiah Project: Building Lives; One Life at a Time

The American Indian Christian Mission exists to Evangelize and Equip Native Americans for Christ.

AICM 10 Year Vision (2009-2019)

- I. The AICM will provide a quality Christian education through a combination day and boarding school.
 - a. We will increase the number of day students and boarding students at the American Indian Christian School.
 - b. We will begin a vocational training program within the school utilizing a donated building and equipment (welders, saws, planers).
 - c. We will maintain our K-8 accreditation.
 - d. We will provide a Christian education for 9-12 grades.

- II. The AICM will partner with organizations engaged in ministry to Native Americans.
 - a. We will establish relationships with several native pastors.
 - b. We will continue to be a major conduit for the AICM through the ACC (Apache Christian Connection).
 - c. We will train and equip Native Americans for Christian ministry both on and off campus.

- III. The AICM will with the help of supporting churches become involved in planting churches
 - a. We will become involved in planting churches within the reservations to effectively Equip and Evangelize.
 - b. We will plant 2 churches within 5 years and 5 churches within 10 years.
 - c. We will utilize Native Americans to support and minister the churches.

- IV. The AICM will in conjunction with other interested churches and supporters build and fully operate “*The Bruised Reed Ministry*” to assist the parents of AICM students.
- a. We will be a safe haven on campus for AICM children and mothers for 20-60 days.
 - b. We will provide the opportunity for parents to acquire a GED while participating in the program.
 - c. We will require all participants of this ministry, to complete a Spiritual Emphasis Study.
 - d. We will also require that participants volunteer their gifts and talents at the AICM.
- V. The AICM will provide **F.E.A.S.T. (Family Encouragement and Study Time)**.
- a. We will provide spiritual food for our brothers and sisters in order to better “Equip and Evangelize” the families of students at the AICM Christian School.
 - b. We will offer lunch and or dinner to parents and allow the AICM more of an opportunity to minister to each family member through small study and devotion (This will happen on pickup and drop-off days).