



Operation Amigos

Giving Service Opportunities to Winter Texans

"...Your hand will guide me..." Ps. 139:10a

*Anyone can have a dream. Many individuals have great ideas and plans. Tom is a firm believer that no matter how good it may seem, a ministry vision has no value whatsoever if you don't see the Lord's regular intervention in the journey. He calls these incidents of confirmation, 'God's finger pointings'. Read these recent entries to his journal and praise the Lord that His hand is guiding in **Operation Amigos**.*

July 3, 2010

God's Hand in my Week

This was an amazing week filled with opportunities for God to show Himself and His leadership in this project.

It began with a Saturday breakfast with the new Director of Development for the Network. It was an important meeting because without that individual being in agreement with the Winter Texan project, it would be very difficult to proceed. This is how that meeting went.

"Oh yes, I heard about that project and I don't want anything to do with it. In fact, I told Glenn, the CEO of the WRN, to just sell that property and buy a building down town to put the station in..."

My heart almost stopped beating when I heard how definite his position was and I hadn't even told him anything about the project. In fact, I wasn't sure if I wanted to tell him, but I knew that this would be necessary. Here was an opportunity for the Lord to show Himself to be for or against this idea. While the fellow was talking, I bowed my head, sending a quick 'fax' to heaven asking the Lord for His direction, control and will to be evident in the meeting.

I unrolled the printed drafts, which had been put together by a good friend, and gave a brief description of what the proposal is and the rationale for doing it. I'm sure my mouth hung open when he responded, "I didn't understand this at all. I do now. It is a great vision. How can I help?" THAT WAS AMAZING!

The second thing that happened this week was to me also a God thing. We have well drawn plans for the buildings done by a godly guy who uses an advanced computer design program. He has designed buildings for an orphanage in Bolivia and a school in India. When he heard of our project, he offered his wonderful help in drafting plans for the facilities. However, since he is not an architect or engineer, we must have a Texas certified architect to help get the approvals of that state.

Another friend gave me the name of an architect in Dallas he suggested might be willing to help us with the licensing. It was very daunting to call up a perfect stranger, introduce myself and the network and ask for an enormous favor. I spent a little time in prayer before I called asking the Lord to show Himself and His will in this. It is His project, not mine. I made the call and left a message on the answering machine. Within 10 minutes or so, he returned my call. I told him who I am, stating that I have been a career missionary with HCJB Global in Quito, Ecuador. His response was definitely unexpected, "You are not going to believe this, but I was in Quito on a project in 1973 and lived just up the hill from HCJB." There was an immediate connection. I explained the project and our need for an architect that would review the plans, make sure that we're legal and safe in what we are proposing and would lend support to get the necessary government approvals. He said, "I'll look at the plans and I'm sure we can find a way to get you the help you need."

July 11, 2010

Over-sold Flights Can be a Blessing

As a result of God's clear answer to prayer regarding the complete change in attitude of the new Director of Development and the willingness of the architect in Dallas to help with our project, I sensed a need to go to McAllen to get some things started, however, air fares to Texas (Lois won't let me travel alone anymore) really weren't in the budget. Once again we said, "Lord, if this trip is in your plan, you'll have to provide the funds." The return flight from attending the happy event of our oldest grandson's wedding in Pittsburg, Pa. had a stop-over in Chicago. When the ticket agent offered the price of our ticket, plus \$200.00 to give up our seats, because of over-booking, we looked at each other and said, "Hey, let's do it." Eight long hours later (Omaha is not a fun airport) we arrived home, tired but pleased with the \$750.00 voucher that more than paid for the tickets to Texas. Hey, that was a God thing, one of His finger pointings.

Coincidences? No way. God showed Himself present in major situations of what we now call **Operation Amigos**. We're still heading in the right direction.

Prayer Requests:

Matching Grants I presented two individuals with the opportunity of providing matching grants to help us launch the project this fall. We'll see what happens.

A Used Utility Van With work groups coming to begin the site work for the sewer lines later this year, a durable, used van for hauling people and supplies, would be an asset.

In His Grip,

Tom & Lois