

August, 2008

Bio for Oli and Judy Jacobsen – New Tribes Mission

Oli was born in 1945 in the Faeroe Islands, a country belonging to Denmark, but with its own internal government and language, located between Scotland and Iceland. He was born into a Christian family, the 4th of 6 children (3 boys, 3 girls). From a child on, he was taken regularly to church, and received good teaching. At the age of 13, when his brother in law came into his room questioning him on his own personal relationship with the Lord, he put his trust in Christ.

At 15, when he was done with school, Oli spent two years on various fishing boats in the north Atlantic. It was during this time that he became interested in sharing his testimony and the gospel and giving out tracts in various small villages around the Faeroe Islands. One day while visiting one of the church leaders to get more tracts for distribution, he was reminded "not to forget Iceland." Sometime later, Oli and his two friends were challenged with the need in Iceland, and at 17 they moved to Iceland as "tent making missionaries", working to support themselves as well as carrying out their main goal of spreading the gospel in that country.

One day two years later the Lord used several things to challenge Oli further. The Lord was speaking to him through some scriptures. Then, as he picked up the newspaper and read about the millions starving for physical bread in the world, it spoke to Oli about the millions starving for the Bread of Life.

Feeling the Lord had something for him in the area of spreading the gospel to unreached people groups, but not knowing how or when, Oli went back home to the Faeroe Islands. At the first service he attended upon returning home, a fellow from England was telling folks about the work of New Tribes Mission, a mission devoted to getting the gospel to the unreached people groups of the world. This was the country's first exposure to hear of such a work. Oli immediately felt that was what the Lord had for him. He talked to the man after the service (through an interpreter), asking for more information. Desiring to apply, but was unable to fill out the application himself because he couldn't speak English, the speaker helped Oli fill it out. But how could he attend a school in America when he couldn't even speak the language. "No problem" he was assured. A few months later, in September of 1965, he was in Jersey Shore, Pennsylvania attending NTM School of Intercultural Studies (NTM SIS). Because he enjoyed studying and read a lot, he was able to pick up the English language in a short time.

While attending NTM's Language Institute, Oli met Judy, a NTBI student. A year later they were married. In January 1969, Oli and Judy were asked to join the teaching staff of NTM's Missionary Training Center. This they did, and in 1976 Oli became the director of the school.

The Lord has blessed Oli and Judy with 2 boys: Dan (39) - (wife, Christy and 5 children, Anna, Sarah, Rachel, Justin and Leslie) working/ministering in Alabama after having served with NTM for 14 years in Mongolia; and Don (35) - (wife, Helena, sons Nate and Tyler and daughter Natalie) married and working as a construction supervisor in Wisconsin.

In 1983, Oli and Judy transferred to the Philippines where Oli assumed the responsibilities of Field Chairman (Director).

In January 1994 Oli and Judy moved to Sanford, Florida where Oli began another new ministry, serving as a member of the Executive Committee of NTM. In May 2001 Oli became Chairman of the Executive Committee of NTM, giving oversight to the Mission worldwide. Oli and Judy do a lot of traveling to the various fields where NTM ministers, speaking and being an encouragement to our missionaries at their annual field conferences as well as taking time with the leadership, helping them give direction to the NTM ministries in that country. They also are very involved in working with some of the newer sending countries of NTM.

Summary:

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| Born and raised in the Faroe Islands | |
| Served as a “tent making” missionary in Iceland | 1963 – 1964 |
| Studied at NTM Missionary Training Center | 1954 – 1968 |
| Staff at NTM Missionary Training Center | 1968 – 1976 |
| Director of NTM Missionary Training Center | 1976 – 1983 |
| Field Director of NTM Philippines | 1983 – 1993 |
| Member of NTM Executive Committee (Asia Coordinator) | 1993 – 2001 |
| Chairman of NTM Executive Committee | 2001 – 2007 |
| Chairman of NTM International Ministries | 2007 - |