

MisSion CriTikal

#8 – The Soul Meter – Ya Gotta Have One

It takes tweaking – and lots of it. All the alterations of the tent post lengths and positioning, seemed to never end. The trashed tent that Lenny first thought of as a treasure, must have had a mind of its own. It was like it refused to be anything valuable to others. The three day construction phase of MisSion CriTikal on the grassy hill above the tiny village was more than a challenge.

As the tent slowly went up, Lenny's excitement about his tent treasure was going down hill, and fast. It was like every place he looked at the tent revealed another rip, another place to be mended. His heart kept asking the question, more often each day, 'why was God giving the teen team (plus 8 yr old Willy) such a hard way to go, to share His gospel with lost and needy village people?' If He really wanted to teens to share the Gospel on the hillside, God would send down an angel with a brand new tent with sturdy poles and clear easy directions to put it together. But...

Daenum had been noticing Lenny's sinking spirit and it weighed heavily on his heart. Dae had led Lenny to heaven's eternal salvation in Jesus Christ, on the very spot the tent was being built. Another thing that was noticed, was Willy. Willy seemed to have chosen Lenny as a role model – someone to look up to. The 8 yr old's teen sister, Lyla was watching the attitudes of each of the group and was certainly learning both good and bad.

There were no bright lights or whistles or God speaking in loud directions as Dae's prayers fervently asked for an answer. What is His answer to the declining spirit in the mission, even before the tent was fully constructed. But God answered Dae – in a way no one would have thought of:

EVERYONE NEEDS A SOUL METER!

Have you ever noticed how God sometimes gives you an answer, that might be half an answer? He gives you the seed answer that you must cultivate and develop with His further guidance. The soul meter answer was like that.

Dae thought about how meters measure stuff and tell you if it's good or bad, hot or cold, slow or fast, up or down. At breakfast

the next morning, Dae thought about the soul meter and also the many places the tent required mending, to save Lenny's treasure. More prayer from Dae's heart went heavenward and the soul meter began to take shape. Much of the details would be explained after lunch when everyone got together at the mission.

Lenny was the last one to arrive, just dropping his bike on the ground in a careless manner. Dae announced, "Hey guys! I'd like everyone to gather together for our first meeting under our new mission roof." Everyone except Lenny was light-hearted about this first, as he sat indian fashion in the circle of others around the strong tent posts.

Dae began, "I'd like lead us in prayer as we begin today. Dear Lord, we thank you deeply for leading Lenny to this tent treasure that fits our mission needs so well. Jesus, we easily see all the places the tent needs further work, but we know you love us, the villagers, and all we reach out to. Please dear Lord show us how to use our soul meter to your glory. Amen."

Dae continued, "God has given our mission a soul meter that doesn't require batteries or long directions. It's not a meter you hold in your hand, but in your heart and in mine, each and every day. Now first, I want each of you sitting here to look up. You need to clearly see all the rips and places our lovely tent needs mending. That tent is EXACTLY what God wanted us to have – to make our soul meter work and to see more of His precious love."

"Lots of meters have a 'cold' on one side and a 'hot' on the other, or a minus over here and a plus over there. Well, our soul meter has 'rips' over here and 'souls to be saved and strengthened' over there. Our soul meter measures where our heart is, spiritually."

"Do we let Satan discourage us with the continuing work on God's tent gift to us? Or do we focus our faith and trust on the souls, that will soon sit right where we are now, hearing God's perfect plan to alter their lives and hopes in indescribable ways?"

"I'm guessing each of us would like to help teach in this mission. Well, I got news for you – you already are. You're teaching each other how much you pay attention to your own Soul Meter."