

Seeking, Seeing, and Sharing Restoration



"There is just so much hurt and pain" said an elderly First Nation woman as I sat with her in her home in the remote native community of Ahousaht, located off the west coast of Vancouver Island, British Columbia. This comment came just after she had finished telling me how on the previous day her family had been split apart by a family member who vanished after hearing of his terminal illness and the fear of the burden this would bring on his family. We sat that morning and prayed that God would bring healing to her and her family and that her family may be restored in this difficult time.

As I left and walked down the dirt road in front of her house, the word "restore" stuck with me. I began to reflect on all of the situations that had taken place in the final weeks of January in which I had been praying for restoration. I reflected on the devastation in Haiti, the prayers for peace and joy for a family in mourning, events in my personal life and with staff members, and this woman's family again.

That evening, still processing the earlier events and conversations, I was challenged not only to see the restoration needed but that which was being provided around me. It was in those following moments that I saw past prayers answered. For years the BC Mission Boat Society has been praying that God would restore a missionary couple to come back and live in Ahousaht. Today there is not only one couple but also two more individuals living there with this purpose. We have also been praying that God would restore the hearts of the people of Ahousaht which I was able to see that evening when I was invited to a Christian fellowship event. There I met many new people who were seeking to hear more about Christ and what it meant to live it out daily.

It is with great joy that we rejoice this Easter season because Jesus has provided us with even greater restoration than this. It is through Jesus' death and resurrection that we have been given a restoration that is not temporary but eternal.

It is because of this joy and desire to share this message that the BC Mission Boat Society was created and went on to launch its first mission boat trip in 2000 to reach remote coastal communities. We were asked by many First Nation communities to come back and help as the Christian community had become diminishing or nonexistent in many of the remote coastal communities. Missionaries had first reached and provided witness along the coast over a hundred years ago but funding and support later ran out and communities on the coast were no longer visited or supported. Today in our 10th summer, the BC Mission Boat Society is reconnecting with over 20 remote coastal communities, 7 on a year round basis, with the focus of sharing God's love to all that we meet through action, words and deeds. We continue to share this message by building relationships with those that do and don't know of God's love and the eternal restoration found only in him.

If you too share this passion of reaching out or maybe just want to experience this in a safe environment, please go to our website, www.bcmissionboat.org and contact us to find out how you can join us in one of our mission trips, support us through prayer or with a donation.