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Dear Friends and family,

As a family we shall never forget the emotional turbulence experienced surrounding Edward's heart surgery last April. We are grateful to many of you who have prayed for us and expressed your concern in many different ways. We use this news letter to share with you some happy and encouraging developments.



Health matters

We are discovering that recovery from a 'burn-out' is a very slow process, with many ups and downs. It involves a change in lifestyle, building in regular times of rest during the day and learning to say 'no' to interesting and useful propositions! But we are very grateful to report that Anneke's health is slowly improving. For example, after more than 18 months taking sleeping tablets, she has now had 4 weeks of reasonably good nights without these tablets.

Edward's heart surgery in April and the complications that followed, weakened his frame. It was a deep dip, but he has been steadily improving. Since he came home in June, he has weekly physiotherapy sessions, goes for a blood test every 2 weeks, and takes a couple of tablets every day. Thankfully he no longer requires a special diet and was strong enough to return to school at the beginning of September. He now cycles to and from school twice a week, 20 minutes each way. About 5 months after his operation we noticed that Edward began to do some things he was not able to do before surgery. At last he has begun to enjoy some of its benefits!



Our 'Ebenezer meal'

We were kindly offered the use of a chalet in Switzerland for a 3 week family vacation, 3 weeks without internet and computers! The change of scenery (Holland has no mountains!) and the change in rhythm was very good for all of us. One evening we went together to a nice local restaurant to celebrate together our "Ebenezer meal," an event to thank our children for pulling together so well during those months of crisis, an event that will help us remember that "Thus far has the LORD helped us" (1 Samuel 7:12). Has the Lord been good to

you in some special way? Why not do something 'odd' or special to help remember it? Samuel chose to set up a stone! We enjoyed a nice meal! What can you do?



Girls on the move

When in hospital it felt like life came to a halt. We dropped everything to deal with a crisis. But during a crisis, life goes on. Our youngest daughter, Julie (12), changed school and has now started secondary education. Elsa (18) successfully finished her International Baccalaureate, and now

moved into a room in Veenendaal beginning a 4 year course in nursing. And a big and exciting piece of news is that in July, Vikki (20) and Steven de Jager got engaged! They are making plans to marry next summer.



When should I forgive?

We all agree that we Christians should forgive. The parable of the two debtors in Matthew 18:21-35 explains very clearly why we should forgive, namely, because the Lord has first forgiven us. Do we deserve to be forgiven? No! Do others deserve our forgiveness? No! The act of forgiveness is always an act of grace. Where Christians sometimes disagree is on the timing of forgiveness: Should we wait for the offender to repent before we forgive? Should we forgive before we see repentance? When should we communicate our forgiveness? These and other interesting and very practical matters are treated in a new book titled "The transforming power of Forgiveness," published in German last September [copies may be ordered from:

www.daniel-verlag.de or you may listen to its main theme in English and French at: www.philipnunn.com under Audio].

Other teaching opportunities

Our family health concerns have absorbed much time and energy during these last 6 months, but we were also happy to spend more time close to our home here in Eindhoven, and to contribute with Bible teaching at some assemblies here in Holland, at a youth camp, a family camp in Doncaster, UK, and a family conference in Knüll, Germany. Years ago, Carlos Villamil and I wrote in Spanish a 10 lesson Bible course on Christian baptism titled "Should I be baptized?" It was later adopted into the series of Emmaus Correspondence Bible courses [see:

http://www.ecsministries.org/Page_3.aspx?id=159618]. Recently we finished its translation into English. If interested, you may download a free copy from: www.philipnunn.com under eBooks.



Again, our felt thanks for your interest, your prayers and support. "May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all" 2 Cor. 13:14.

- Philip & Anneke