

**A REPORT FROM LEE AND MARCIE TOSTI**  
**GREATER PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND**  
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Someone sent this note to me recently: "It's a beautiful thing to hear God's plan for men's and women's roles being honored.... It's struck me recently that while the woman's role seems to involve more submission, men are also having to submit (to God) in their role as well. Some men aren't "natural born leaders," but still have to be decisive, take initiative, face conflict bravely, and make the best choices they can for their families' spiritual and physical well-being. Other men are decisive and courageous, but not naturally "good at" being selfless, being understanding, or showing women honor. All that to say, I have a lot of appreciation for men for submitting to God's plan for them and I don't envy their role. Someone pointed out to me recently that in marriage men imitate Christ by being the heads of their families as Christ is the head of the church and women, by being submissive to their head, imitate Christ as He submitted His will to the Father's will while on earth and focused on being pleasing to Him. I was impressed that Jesus is the perfect example for both roles. Thank you again for the exhortation today!"

Another person told me this recently: "I think that a struggle that I'll have to face is accepting, that the perfection God intends for me may (will) not make me feel "good enough" in the worldly sense that I often struggle with."

It's a complex world, full of nuance, danger, opportunity, responsibility, wisdom, and ramification. These quotes (used with permission) are small windows into big hearts here, and hopefully they give you a spiritual glimpse into the work. I am grateful that God arranged for us to work together in the same congregation. I appreciate that our brother sees the situation clearly and is determined to accept God's way. I am grateful that our sister encouraged me for work done and to be a better husband.

"If you take care of the environment, the fish will be able to take care of themselves" —Aquatics Technician and brother in the Lord. Many lovingly ask how things are going here. Having been with this congregation for nineteen months, much of what I myself have been doing regards the "environment." Paul refers to "laying a foundation" (1 Corinthians 3.10). Ezekiel refers to "building up the wall" (Ezekiel 22.30). Timothy was sent to Corinth to remind them of the "ways which are in Christ" (1 Corinthians 4.17), including "holding firmly to the traditions" (1 Corinthians 11.2). I'm no Paul or Ezekiel or Timothy, and much else is being done, but a big part of my focus has been reminding us of who we, the group, are (and who we aren't), why we work together, what we do together, how we interact, etc. How is the work going? Well, I think. Thanks for asking. And thanks be to God for His patience!

"In places where there were strong men" —older man intimately familiar with situation(s). The question was, "In that general area of the country, in those specific congregations where that specific false teaching crept in and took hold, why or how did it happen?" Among the diagnoses was that the truth was upheld in places where there were strong men. It's so obvious. It's so simple. It's also so important and helpful to hear this reminder.

"Alleluia!" Mrs. Beth exclaimed when she came up out of the waters of baptism! "I am ready to die!" Mrs. Rhea said a few days before she went home to the Lord! Rhea and Ruth were nursing home roommates for six years. Mike Roy, Rhea's son, from Nashville, taught Ruth the gospel when he visited his mother. Praise God for Mike's good example and work. At the same time, Ruth told us that the person with the greatest influence on her was...Rhea. Convalescent, but consistently assembling. Bed-ridden (at times), but beaming with joy (at times). Not a scholar in the Word, but non-stop talking to others about the Word. God uses every one of His faithful children! And Mrs. Ruth hasn't missed a Sunday since.

We march on in our Bible classes and in our preaching and reading and to fellowship and to the breaking of bread and to prayer. "Such were some of you" applies to us more and more each week. It is pleasant for us to dwell in unity.

I hope I've given you a sufficient taste of the situation here. Feel free to reach out to me. Thank you for your interest and your support!

*continued on the next page*

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*Can you find the  
Smelters that  
are in these  
pictures?*

