

01/03/07



KRISH'S CORNER

GLOBAL HEARTWARMING

Ring in a new year is always exciting with renewal, hope, affirmations and resolutions that are designed to orchestrate change and create momentum. Many things are looked upon with anticipation and many more are forgotten because of the anguish they caused when no more pain was needed. Friendships are forged and new partnerships blossom as the future beckons us like an architect that wants to give you a blueprint for the masterpiece that is your life. This New Year's Eve was supposed to be one where tomorrow would be heralded with song and dance and yesteryear would become the memory it was created to be.

In a church basement in Springfield, Colorado, surrounded by snow drifts that blocked out the view of the neighbor, I was suddenly reminded that this New Year was destined to be different. The youth and adults in our group had become hostage to Mother Nature and the sudden benefactors of a small community that made a resolution that our future would be built on the foundation of their love. Their outpouring in warmth and generosity was surpassed only by the individual acts of kindness that gave a halo to a tough time. The resolution I made was to learn to be patient and as I failed time and again, I marveled at the spirit of total strangers floating in and out of our discomfort with a radiance that could and did melt the frozen landscape. This memory should last longer than most.

Fathers and sons came together and mothers and daughters hugged in long embraces as the reunion was complete in a parking lot crowded with families and a church filled with love. The microphone beckoning the sound bite and the spousal nod of completion seemed to end the odyssey. Wayne, the fellow motorist stranded with his big rig alongside us, will trudge many more miles looking for the next scheduled stop. The pastor of the church that took us in will continue his work to humanity. The other personnel who each carried the baton of giving in the relay race of our journey will all have something else to do. The youth group and their leaders will plan other trips. This father will fight back the tears of understanding as he says to his son – *Happy New Year. Thanks for warming my heart. I have so much to learn from you.*

*"The riches of this world are vain,
They vanish in a day.*

*But sweet the treasures of God's love-
They never pass away!" - Bosch*