



My name is Kristi Fanning, from the spring of 2015 until February 2016 I was involved in an internship with UIM. The Bible school I was attending, Frontier School of the Bible, required me to experience an internship since my major was missions. I lived in central British Columbia learning about the ministry to First Nation's people. I was given a broad perspective of what missionary life looks like, although I know it does not even come close to covering it all. My first month in Houston, B.C., I volunteered at Rock Nest Ranch as a camp counselor/cabin leader to the First Nation's kids and teens. I was able to see the cultural and religious differences between the kids and me. Many of them are taught tribal dances and chants, as well as fear of the spiritual world, whereas I believe in the fear of the LORD (Prov. 1:7).

After camp, I became a gypsy! Actually, I had the privilege of traveling to visit each local UIM missionary couple for a few days. Terrace was as far west as Fort St. James was east in my travels. Although the tribes vary in beliefs, they all have similar history. For example, older generations were forced into residential schools in the 1920s. That still leaves resentment toward the White Man and his religion. Hurt and anger have been passed down generationally. Therefore, to fearlessly share the Gospel with them one must first show love and trustworthiness, coupled with prayer against the schemes of the devil.

The First Nation's people group has the highest suicidal ratings. After I moved from Houston to Fraser Lake, B.C., I began studying about the First Nation's history, culture and religion. They are a spiritual people, but they tap into the wrong spiritual force. I believe this sin is what causes the "great depression" amongst the First Nation's people. Their only hope, as for all people, is by grace through faith in Jesus Christ (Eph. 2:8-9).

I had the privilege of practicing hospitality. Also, I grew in the knowledge of Christ as my ultimate Counselor, Provider and Friend. He has taught me about the evils of the spiritual realm, as well as that the power of Christ's name is greater. I have found victory in my life through Christ Jesus to walk in purity and love.