

January 13, 2010

Dear praying partners!

Thank you so much for faithfully praying us into 2010. We can hardly believe that it's the middle of January already. In the last quarter of 2009 God blessed us. Here are some of the highlights!

- The banquet tour was a trying but fruitful time. We had 25 opportunities to share our lives and ministries with banquet attendees. In all about 1400 people attended.
- God lead about 140 people to sign up for our newsletter.
- AND 2 people have committed to financial partnership. (We are still at about 70% of our financial need - please still pray for God's provision in this area.)
- Thanksgiving and Christmas were spent with Becky's family here in the area, but we were able to travel up to Illinois to see some of Hugh's family in mid-December.
- Several of our new contacts in Florida have expressed interest in hearing more from us. (Pray that God moves among all who have heard about our ministry needs to step up to meet the needs as God calls them.)
- Contacts in Oklahoma, New Jersey and Arkansas have also expressed interest. Pray with us that we can clearly and boldly share the needs of Bible translation and our role in the work. Pray that the Spirit moves these contacts to step up to the task by partnering with us.

This month we are looking forward to

- Worshiping at our local church here in the Dallas area. We are eager to be plugged in and refreshed after so many months on the road. We may still have a trip here and there, but time at "home" is truly a blessing.
- Becky will start teaching again each Wednesday night - the advanced ESL class through church.
- Thanks for praying for Hugh's aunt and uncle whose house burnt down on New Years Day while they were away for the holiday. Praise God that insurance is going to cover the rebuild of the house! They have been blessed immensely by their church and community and have moved into a rental until the house is rebuilt. Pray that we will also be an encouragement to them from here.
- Meeting with team member at the America's Area meetings - Jan 26-29.
- We have several visitors coming in late Jan and early Feb. We are excited to share our place with them!
- We are eager to be at our ministry roles full time. Right now we must refrain until our financial support is at 100%. The America's Area meetings would be an ideal time for us to jump into our roles. Pray that we are patient for God's timing and that God decides the January meetings are the right time. I only slightly jest. It is a challenge to keep plugging away at Partnership Development, when I (Becky) so much want to be in the role I feel God has called me to. (So, I'd especially like your specific prayers in this area.) We need a bit of a miracle to be able to start at the end of the month. If he's in it then it will happen, right? We need 30% of our monthly need to be pledged and coming in on our January statement. The 70% is there. The 30% is not. Pray with us for this miracle.

As you pray for us this month please keep these things in mind, but also, would you ask God how you might pray for us? A friend from church recently shared that as he prayed for us on our Florida trip he felt the Lord leading him to pray in a specific way. He prayed that we would grow together in this time of waiting on the Lord for his timing. There was/is something that the Lord has to teach us as we wait. If you feel it is appropriate, please do share with us how the Lord leads you to pray for us. We are dependent on His guidance for all things.  
Blessings to you all!

Hugh and Becky  
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Be encouraged; we certainly are. Thanks again for your prayers.

from Romans Chapter 8:26-39

And the Holy Spirit helps us in our weakness. For example, we don't know what God wants us to pray for. But the Holy Spirit prays for us with groanings that cannot be expressed in words. And the Father who knows all hearts knows what the Spirit is saying, for the Spirit pleads for us believers in harmony with God's own will. And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them. For God knew his people in advance, and he chose them to become like his Son, so that his Son would be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. And having chosen them, he called them to come to him. And having called them, he gave them right standing with himself. And having given them right standing, he gave them his glory.

What shall we say about such wonderful things as these? If God is for us, who can ever be against us? Since he did not spare even his own Son but gave him up for us all, won't he also give us everything else? Who dares accuse us whom God has chosen for his own? No one—for God himself has given us right standing with himself. Who then will condemn us? No one—for Christ Jesus died for us and was raised to life for us, and he is sitting in the place of honor at God's right hand, pleading for us.

Can anything ever separate us from Christ's love? Does it mean he no longer loves us if we have trouble or calamity, or are persecuted, or hungry, or destitute, or in danger, or threatened with death? (As the Scriptures say, "For your sake we are killed every day; we are being slaughtered like sheep.") No, despite all these things, overwhelming victory is ours through Christ, who loved us.

And I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from God's love. Neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither our fears for today nor our worries about tomorrow—not even the powers of hell can separate us from God's love. No power in the sky above or in the earth below—indeed, nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord.