

29 August 2019

“The Spirit of the Lord God is upon Me, because the Lord has anointed Me to preach good tidings to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound;” Isaiah 61:1

“Also the sons of the foreigner who join themselves to the Lord, to serve Him, and to love the name of the Lord, to be His servants—everyone who keeps from defiling the Sabbath, and holds fast My covenant—even them I will bring to My holy mountain, and make them joyful in My house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on My altar; for My house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations.”
Isaiah 56:6,7

Dear Friend,

Greetings from hot, humid and nervous Orlando!
We have a hurricane bearing down on us that is expected to hit this weekend or early next week, just in time for my trip to Asia! This is the most recent storm tracking (and I am not making this up ☺). Elaine and I would really appreciate your prayers for us, our staff in Orlando and our neighbors. Hurricanes have a way of helping people focus!



The verses above are ones from my recent quiet times. The first are prophecies about Jesus and the latter is about us (as Gentiles) being included in these incredible promises from our Lord.

Over the past two months, I have stayed here in Orlando and been on calls every other day with friends in Southeast Asia. Most of it has been related to my transition to Geoff as our newly appointed operations leader for SE Asia (who is doing a great job!) and also preparation for my trip next week to Malaysia. We live in such amazing times that I can just start a conversation with people 10,000 miles away and work on things together for free! The world has really changed but the point I have been thinking about is this really is the fulfillment of the words of the prophet Isaiah. Malaysia is one of the largest Muslim countries in the world and yet people are coming to Jesus even in these strongholds. Liberty is being proclaimed to the captives and the prisons are being opened.

In my new role of working with Area Leadership teams I have been preparing for a global survey of 2500 people on six continents regarding their spiritual views and perspectives on Jesus and His followers. It is the fourth year we are doing this and I will share with you more about this in our next letter.

Please do pray for this upcoming trip where we will be training our operations leaders (including two from Indonesia). I have not travelled all summer and this trip is more than three weeks long. Please pray for Elaine and April and Westley in our home, as well as David who lives close by. And, if you get this in time, please remember to pray about the hurricane.

We love you and appreciate your partnership with us in sharing the liberating news of the gospel of our Lord Jesus,

Mark & Elaine