

But Jesus looked at them and said, “With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.” Matthew 19:26

February, 2019

Dear Praying Friends,

We praise God for the many blessings that He has showered upon us these past months as we started getting into ministry again. He has been at work in ways beyond our expectations, showing us again that with Him all things are possible, that He is almighty God, the God of miracles.

One area where we have seen God at work is in Cathy’s health. In the last half year or so that we were still in Canada she got some chiropractic treatments that God used to cancel her issues with gluten. Since last summer she has been eating “normally” again and is doing fine with that. That alone was a huge praise, but God had even more in store for her. While we were in Canada her thyroid levels were all over the place, never where they should be. In the beginning of December we had them checked again and to our great surprise, the results were as perfect as they could be. The doctor, a believer, told us that God had done a miracle and he challenged us to believe that. Cathy’s response was “Lord, I believe; help my unbelief.” Since she had her complete thyroid removed in 2008, medically speaking she should be on thyroid meds for life and we had never considered that it could be otherwise. However, she decided to find out whether God had done a miracle, so she stopped taking the thyroid medication. **Two months later she is doing fine without the medication.** In fact, in December when things got very busy for her, God gave her a spurt of energy such as she had not had in 13 years! On top of that, God healed her vocal cords which had been damaged by the growing thyroid. The pastor of Angahuan asked whether she could get a worship team going. The first Sunday that she led worship her voice almost gave out after a few songs, but **after that she was able to practice singing with the other ladies for an hour and her voice was as strong as ever!** This after 13 years of hardly being able to sing because her vocal cords tired very quickly. We had never experienced such evident miracles of health and we praise God for His work on Cathy’s behalf.

God has also been at work in other ways. When we started re-connecting with the church in Angahuan the atmosphere there was one of discouragement and a sense of grief concerning the split that took place a



couple of years ago. Apart from the pastor and his family there were few that were still faithful attenders and even fewer potential leaders. The pastor felt very much alone and overwhelmed with the ministry there. Needless to say, he and his family were so glad that we were back to support and encourage them. Pete started preaching quite regularly and we also started supporting them with visitation.

Considering the spiritual atmosphere, we were surprised that they were participating in the Samaritan’s Purse Christmas shoe boxes program. At the end of November we accompanied to a training session a group of seven young adults/youth who were committed to working with the program. This was quite a commitment which involved teaching twelve Bible lessons to the children that would receive the shoe boxes. Most of the teachers had never taught a single Bible lesson, so the pastor asked Cathy to train and orientate them. The children loved the classes so much that they wanted to have the classes every day during the Christmas break. There was some opposition from the enemy, but generally everyone was very encouraged with how it turned out. There were a number of children who were very excited and wanted to continue learning more about God. Even a number of parents who don’t come to church were very supportive and impressed with what their children were learning. **One teacher shared an amazing testimony of an eight-year-old boy who, after only a couple of weeks of Bible teaching, was praying for others. He and some cousins were spending a night together and when in the middle of the night the other two were scared by some noise, he got up and prayed for them.**

We feel that this ministry to the children is really helping more people of Angahuan to become more open to the Gospel. We sense that God is truly at work



and with time we will see fruit that a few years ago we could not have imagined. One of the teachers is keen to keep some sort of children's ministry going, but so far she

hasn't started it up again. We are trying to encourage her in that, but we don't want to push her; we want God to move her forward. **Please pray that in His time, she will be motivated to get something started and that she would have support from others.**

In December the pastor also asked Cathy to start a worship team, which has been quite time-consuming but well worth it. Pete projects the songs onto the wall so that people can see the words, which has been a big help. The Purhepecha people are generally not very expressive in showing gratitude, so we felt very honored when one of the older men publicly thanked us for transforming the singing in church. He said that now more than just one or two people can sing along because they can see the words and learn the songs.

Another area in which we are supporting pastor Isidro is helping with the Bible study in Corupo, a village about 10 minutes drive from Angahuan. Pastor Isidro and his wife had started visiting a family there while we were in Canada, but were not able to go regularly because they don't have a vehicle. There is only a handful of believers and now that we have been going there more regularly the people of the village are threatening to put a stop to our meetings. This seems

Thank-you for your faithful prayers. We pray that God would demonstrate His power in whatever situation you face as well! God bless you.

In Christ,

Pete + Cathy

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(Note: Our phone is an internet phone with an Ontario phone number; it does not cost us anything when you call us.)

to have discouraged a few others who were showing interest, but the couple hosting the meetings seem encouraged to continue in spite of the threats. **Please pray for protection over the group and also for discernment and wisdom for pastor Isidro and us to know how to respond to the threats. Pray also that the few believers will continue to grow in their faith and that this village will soon become more open to the Gospel.**

In our last letter we mentioned a young man, Everardo, who accepted Christ along with his mother and aunt. It appears that his dad is against any evangelical involvement, so we have not been able to go back to visit them. **Please continue to pray that God would be at work in their hearts.** Everardo's grandparents are believers, so we trust that God is using them to make a difference in that family.

We are making some progress with the language; however, we have not started "classes" yet. We are hoping to start after conference.

Please pray for our annual WEC Mexico conference coming up February 18-21.

Family news: Josiah is very encouraged by his studies at Capernwray and **during the March break is going on a two-week tour of Israel.** His parents are just a bit jealous, but so excited for him. ChristyAnn is also looking forward to **a short-term missions trip to her beloved Mexico.** Towards the end of April she will be going with a group to northern Mexico to build a house for a family. From there she will be coming to visit us and to get her wisdom teeth removed.