

FAMILY UPDATE

Dear Friends,

“Blessed be the Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and of all comfort, who comforts us in all our tribulation that we may be able to comfort those who are in any trouble, with the comfort with which we are comforted by God.” (2 Cor. 1:3)

After I was converted to Christianity I struggled trying to be perfect. I remember my brother commenting that if I truly was a Christian I should live like one; he saw sin in me that I did not know what to do with or how to overcome. I have learned that it is outright deception, pride and pretense to think I can live in self-righteousness. All have sinned and fall short, as long as we rise up when we fall we are good (Proverbs 24:16) (Romans 3:23). God is glorified if we are weak because He is our strength. Christianity is not about projecting the outward image of sinless perfection, hiding our struggles and failures. If we are growing in Christ, there will be outward fruits of Christian living for Jesus came to save His people from their sins (from the penalty and practice of sin). We live in weakness knowing that God’s grace is sufficient for us and strength is perfected in weakness (2 Cor. 12:19). Hard times press us to seek the Lord. For the past months God has been teaching many things about how to make Him my chief joy, strength and trust in terms of provision and physical health. Indeed He has upheld and carried us and for this we give God praise. Thank you for your support and prayers standing

with us in this ministry.

The children are growing. Sometimes it is easy to groan under the nitty-gritty of life because it is often inconvenient and messy. Though they take a lot of work, these precious little ones can be very good helpers too; it is amazing how much they can do!

Zion (age 2) the precious littlest is not so little anymore, is excited and volunteers to go potty and to sweep the kitchen floor! He loves to sing the praises of the Lord; ask him to sing and he’ll sing for you perpetually.

Evangel has gone through a season of foolishness; we continue to remind him to live up to his name “Good News”; he is a good helper and very responsible when it comes to putting things in the right place.

Lemuel is the smart boy, inquisitive, curious, and a bundle of energy. He is learning to write and read 3-4 letter words very well. He loves to study and needs his hands occupied all the time. At cooking time he loves to cut vegies or set the table; he is fast and efficient.

Esther is compassionate, strives to be a blessing to others, likes to write cursive and read stories to her younger siblings; she likes to write stories about her brothers in her journal.

Justice usually enjoys working especially outside jobs. He is filled with the zeal of the Lord to do what is right. It is a big deal to him when he sees injustices.

Joshua is my walking book. He loves to read and write in his free

time. He is a faithful and efficient worker. He purposely strives in his heart to honor his parents.

Christian is a diligent and responsible young man who finds satisfaction in the work of his hands. He just finished our root cellar. He has built for himself a reputation as a quality worker and is often employed by various neighbors in the area. He may possibly go to Florida as a student to study for a BA while at the same time learning how to establish and manage a Christian school.

Eugene is a mighty warrior for the Lord Jesus. He is a defender of the faith and does the best he can to advance God’s cause on the earth. He is always ready in season to give an answer for the hope that is within us. He is a bold witness for the Lord, never backs down or retreats but stands his ground, moving forward in the mission and battle. In January we discovered that Eugene had prostate cancer. He went for natural therapies on the West Coast for a month and since then has been doing some home protocols. It seems to be under control now.

I am doing well, rejoicing in hope and in the goodness of the Lord, remembering to thank Him from whom all blessings flow.

“The Lord God is a Sun and a Shield, the Lord gives grace and glory, no good thing will He withhold from those who walk uprightly.” Psalm 84:11

~ Edna Clingman ~