

“ I would have lost heart, unless I had believed that I would see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living.
Wait on the LORD; Be of good courage, and He shall strengthen your heart; Wait, I say, on the LORD!”

Psalm 27:13,14

At prayer meeting last night Pastor shared a message on Psalm 27. The circumstances in David’s life would make it easy to become discouraged. The same is true for us. Fear of circumstances or the unknown can hinder our spiritual growth. The circumstances we often find ourselves in can rob us of joy and be discouraging. Even the people in our lives can sometimes cause discouragement. But in verse 13, we see that faith can be an antidote to fear. David says, “I would have lost heart, unless I had believed”. David had faith and trusted that God was in control. ...“that I would see the goodness of the LORD” ...David was focused on the blessings of God and not his circumstances. ...“the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.” David expected and experienced the fullness of God’s goodness at that very moment in time. It is true that we live in very uncertain times today. Fires, floods, a pandemic, our country with so many divisions and seemingly at war within itself. There is much to be discouraged about. But, let us be like David and lift our eyes heavenward. Let us remember and believe that God is in control. We can trust Him in all things. And then, let us see those around us who need Jesus and in spite of our circumstances, let us be an encouragement to others as we show the love of Jesus to them.

Thank you for praying for us this last month and especially for Chris. On the 5th of August, he had a heart Cath and a stent was inserted into one of the main arteries. What we learned a week later at his follow up appointment with the cardiologist is that Chris did not have a blockage. The artery was dissecting or tearing. They used a stent to make the repair. The cardiologist said that it was a good thing Chris went to the ER when he did. Again, we are reminded of God’s goodness and faithfulness to us. We praise the Lord that Chris is growing stronger each day.

We ask that you pray for our team in Niger and especially Sahel Academy. On the 24th of August, the waters of the Niger river overflowed the dike and the walls surrounding a Bible School compound and Sahel Academy (a school for missionary children) broke and both campuses were flooded. An effort to salvage personal belongings and school equipment and materials was made over several days but much was lost. Both compounds are under approximately five foot of water. Those who were living on those compounds found temporary housing in the community. However, some of them have now evacuated a second time as the rising river has now breached another dike. Yesterday, we heard that approximately 375,000 people are displaced because of this flooding. Many nationals have lost their homes and gardens...everything.

SIM, the mission who owns Sahel Academy, has found two large houses in the community that will be used for the elementary and secondary classes. There is much work to be done to get these buildings ready for classes to begin. They are hoping to begin school by the end of September. Please pray for administrators and teachers who are working around the clock to get the school up and running. Many of them were in homes that were flooded and they are still trying to get settled themselves. They are weary and tired. This has been a very heavy burden. They need your prayers. At the same time, they are trying to be an encouragement and help to the many nationals who have suffered lost. Pray that God would use this tragedy for His glory and that many will see the love of Jesus through the mission community and national churches and come to a saving faith in Jesus Christ. If you would like to help financially with the many needs, let us know and we will help direct you.

As we write this update, our dear friends and colleagues, Steve and Julie Nunemaker are in Niamey, Niger. They are teaching a two week module for our bible school there in addition to teaching a Tri-M course for Pastors. Pray for Steve as he teaches each night for the next two weeks in addition to teaching a morning class for the Pastors. Pray for the students as they work during the day and then faithfully attend these night classes. Pray that they will grow much in the knowledge and grace of our Lord and that He will use them to impact Niger and beyond for His glory! Again, please pray for good health for all involved.

As you know, we cancelled our trip to NH due to Chris' health issues. We are excited to tell you that we will be traveling again soon. We will be flying to NH on the 25th of September to visit Dan and Marsha Haynes. We will be making a presentation in their home church the morning of the 27th. We will return to Florida the 28th so it is just a weekend trip. But, we are excited to begin traveling and encouraging our missionaries again. Pray for us as we travel, for safety and good health. Pray that we will be an encouragement to Dan and Marsha and also to their home church family.

Faith Baptist Mission has missionaries in nine countries around the world. COVID has greatly affected their ministries and lives. In some places, threats of terrorism are very real. In some places, borders are closed. In some places, they cannot travel outside of the city. It can be discouraging and at times you can feel isolated. The work continues and much needs to be done. Would you pray that God would encourage them during these days? Would you pray that the God of the harvest would send more laborers into His fields?

We are thankful for each one of you! We are humbled by your faithful prayers and support on our behalf! In these uncertain days, let us remember to keep our eyes focused on Jesus, being confident that He is in control and we can trust Him completely. We want you to know that we do pray for you! If you have specific prayer requests that you would like for us to pray for, please send us an email.

Thankful for God's goodness in the circumstances of our lives!

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