

G'day Praying Partners,

Who would have thought that one word – cancer – can put life on hold. I know that many of you have taken this journey and know what I mean by that! In some ways so much has happened, then in others ways it feels very static.

First, a health update. Last week I completed my 3rd of 4 rounds of chemo. Originally the oncologist was thinking 6 rounds, but in the meanwhile I have been diagnosed with a melanoma (early stages) on my back that needs to be removed – and that can't happen while on chemo. I'm very thankful for the reprieve, however it comes, to be honest 4-5 weeks after my last chemo will be surgery, followed by 4-6 weeks of daily radiation. In many ways it has been an incredible journey of God's faithfulness. Time and time again we have seen His hand in big and little ways. My oncologist is a Christian – my last visit she told me that she has been praying for me. It brings tears to my eyes just sharing that – I can't tell you what encouragement those words were to my very soul. God has also given me so many precious verses to sustain me through this journey, but I'll share just one. This is the amplified version: "I will rejoice and be glad in Your steadfast love, because You have seen my affliction; you have taken note of my life's distresses" Psalm 31:7. It has been an incredible journey through fear, anxiety and faith. My heart's cry through this whole trial has been – and continues to be – "please, Father, let me take this journey well, in a way that You are glorified." Please join me in praying these words – that no matter what comes into all of our lives, God would be glorified through it all!

We have taken on a new role with our mission – Faith Baptist Missions – as well. It will involve member care (missionaries) and church relations. Since leaving Australia it has been our heart's desire to continue to serve the Lord in missions. We feel uniquely qualified to serve those who are serving the Lord on the foreign field. Having technically been the pastor/wife of a local church (albeit in Australia!) for many years, we also have such a heart for those who serve on the front lines here at "home". This is a developing work, one we are SO excited about and for which we see such a need. It is a supported position – meaning we have to have support to complete the task God is setting before us. Would you join us in prayer as we seek to raise some more support. This entire mission's journey that started over 20 years ago has taught us that God has, is and will provide for ALL our needs! Jackie is busy concentrating on her healing, but Rob is busy putting together a plan and seeking God's face about what all of the new duties will entail. We are even looking forward to visiting foreign fields in the future – all the timing is in God's hands. Another verse that God has reminded us is in Psalm 71:18. Old age and gray hairs (Jackie says or no hairs) will not stop us from proclaiming God's might to another generation! Praise the Lord!

Thank you for your continued prayers as we have quite a few new things happening in our lives! We have literally felt the prayers of God's saints around the world and it has sustained us in ways we couldn't have imagined.

Shining the Light Around the World!

Rob and Jackie