

December 6, 2021

Merry Christmas Steppin Out Partners & Faithful Supporters,

Wow! Can you believe we're just a couple weeks away from Christmas 2021! I know they say time flies, but for some reason this particular year has gone by at rapid speed. In church this past Sunday our Pastor spoke on the promise from our Lord that He is coming quickly. Some mock this promise, some doubt and others just refuse to accept that there is coming a day when the heavens and earth shall pass away and Judgement is eminent. However, IT IS TRUE! He IS coming quickly and we must be ready and watching. Anxious for His return!

Not only has this year flown by, but it's taken with it some of dearest friends. The loss (in this life) has been sad, unexpected for some, and deeply mournful. But we are grateful that their testimony was one of praise for their salvation. Death is swallowed up in victory!

I don't plan to rehearse all the projects that Steppin Out has been involved in this past year as all of you have received our updates/reports and are well aware of what God has continued to do through this ministry, but I do want to reflect back on our time spent partnering with Samaritan's Purse assisting them with Disaster Response in Louisiana. These opportunities to serve the Lord in times of devastation, destruction, loss and heartache seem to always come with great reward! I know that sounds contradictory, but for most of the people we go to assist, they will testify that had it not been for this tragedy they would have not seen God at work in their lives. When they cried out for help, help came! You and I both know that sometimes it takes a tragedy/crisis in our lives to get our attention and to drop us to our knees. Our God is loving, kind, merciful and full of grace, but he is also just, righteous and holy. Nothing comes into our lives that He is not aware of and that is out of His control. He uses ALL things for his Glory and our good!

As I sit here and write out this Christmas/end of year newsletter, John is resting on the sofa recuperating from his second (last one 4 yrs ago) knee replacement surgery. He was so anxious to get this done for one purpose and one only; that is so he can function once again at the same level he was at before all the damage was done to his worn/tired out knees. Soon he will back to servicing equipment, making material list and driving the excavator before you know it. Recovery is going really well and therapy (in his eyes) is only a necessary exercise 😊.

We have several Camp ministries that have already contacted him with their "wish" list and of course Disaster Response projects will always be in need of help. So, we would appreciate your prayers for John's quick recovery and for decisions to be made on where and what projects to start first. Also, as I write this letter, Joel and Jared are returning home from Nashville where they led a team of 4 men from the Berlin, OH area to put on the addition to the Glenclyff property for Cottage Cove Ministries. These efficient group of guys had the walls up and framing done in 24 hrs.

As I close, let me say - We are so blessed to have you as a Partner in ministry! You encourage us with your faithful support and God uses that faithfulness as affirmation for the Call he has placed on our lives and for the ministry of Steppin Out Missions. Your support goes far beyond the small little town of Sugarcreek; God uses Steppin Out Missions to support National Pastors in Ivory Coast, Liberia and Bolivia. We have a Bible School in Golikro that trains National Pastors and leaders. We send support for medical, building, schooling, farming, emergencies, etc to these very same places as the needs are shared with us. We may never be able to travel once again to some of these locations, but our God is not limited or held by boundaries! He is active and at work all across the world and we (you/us) have the privilege of joining Him in that work.

May God bless you for being obedient to His call. **Merry Christmas** and Blessings for the New Year!!

John & Shirley Corley

Steppin Out Missions

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