



Speak to the heart, to
reach the heart.

Dear Friends in the Lord,

One of my favorite Bible verses is Nahum 1:7, which begins, "The Lord is good." I sure am grateful to serve a God who is good, and whose wrath against sin and evil and rebellion has already been appeased through the judgment that fell on His own Son at Calvary.

Thank you so much for praying for us! It seems like with each passing year, we sense an even greater need for prayer. How prone we are to wander, and how quickly backsliding would be our spiritual lot, were it not for the amazing grace of the Lord.

Chris was blessed at the end of 2011 with a new job, as a valet at a beachfront hotel. He loves the work, the pay is much better, and he is in a much better environment than his previous job. In mid-January, Pearl began a live-in nanny job in West Palm Beach, about an hour north of us. She comes home on some weekends. The job is alright, but pray for her, as she is still unsettled in her spirit.

Caleb played football on a homeschool team last fall. He did very well, and was even named to the all-county team. In the final game, he sustained a neck injury which took several painful weeks to heal. He will graduate in May, so he is actively preparing for college, although he's not sure where God will have him attend.

At our Haitian church, we have begun another year, hopeful of God's rich outpouring of fruitfulness. We began with a baptismal service on January 1. Last week we welcomed a family of four as our newest members. We've also had three new visitors since the beginning of the year. Two of them are young ladies who have already returned again.

I will be going to Haiti from Feb. 18 to Mar. 3, to teach a seminary course at BMM's Haiti Baptist Seminary in Jacmel. It has been nine years since my last trip to Haiti. Please pray that God will use me. I may also have the opportunity to visit a family from our church that lives half of their time in Haiti.

Below are some specific needs and praises, but let me ask especially that you pray for our financial needs. Gracious extra gifts brought us through the end of the year, but since December we have learned of \$465/month of dropped or reduced support, from several churches. We know many people are struggling, and we trust in God's promises, but we do need wisdom to know what God would have us to do. Here are some other items:

- Praise the Lord for employment for our children!
- Pray for a new conversational ESL (English as a Second Language) class that Teresa began last week at church.
- Praise the Lord for a slowly increasing sense of "ownership" with regard to the church and its ministries.
- Continue praying for Caleb as he prepares for graduation and college, and makes decisions about his future.
- Pray for Pearl to know exactly what God wants for her, and that she could get the finances to be able to go back to college.
- Ask for God's blessings on Mark's trip to Haiti, and for Teresa and the rest at home.

We hope that you are finding great blessings in loving and serving the Lord. May the richness of His goodness and grace be a part of your testimony throughout 2012!

Sincerely in Christ,

Mark & Teresa Jacobsen

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Ministry Focus:

*Great Commission ministry
in the language of peoples'
hearts:*

*"...unless you utter by the
tongue words easy to
understand, how will it be
known what is spoken?"*

1 Corinthians 14:9