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AMUNDSON ANTHEM

– DECEMBER 2020 –

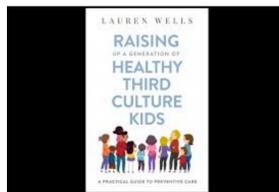
For to us a child is born, to us a son is given;
and the government shall be upon his shoulder,
and his name shall be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace
(Isaiah 9:6)

It has been called the greatest story ever told. A story of God's sovereignty over sin, God's grace in the lives of sinners, and it instills hope, peace, and joy in the hearts of mankind. It is the story of the God-man Jesus Christ being born of a virgin, living a sinless perfect life, and then dying on the cross to accomplish something that was as humans could never do - defeat the effect of sin in our lives. We can never be good enough, we can never give enough to the church, we can never perform enough good deeds or civic service to earn God's favor, but our rock solid hope is that we don't have too - because Christ already did everything we need to do.

For our ministries with ABWE, 2020 has most definitely been a paradoxical year. In a year where so many people's lives were brought to a halt, God has truly blessed ABWE and the ministries that we have around the year. We could tell countless stories of missionaries fearing a loss of their ministry were astounded to see God multiply their efforts and actually reach more people virtually than they ever did physically. We have had to retool, refocus, and change our plans in the midst of this global pandemic, but we have also seen a fabulous focus on discipleship among our missionaries as normal life has come to a screeching halt for them and the people they work with.

ABWE has also seen a phenomenal year in terms of interest in missions. This year we will have appointed roughly 58 new missionaries, and we had over 200 people attend our 24 Hour Demo seeking to understand more about ABWE and where they might fit into global missions. The pandemic has also through some major changes into the way that we have historically trained our missionaries and as we pivoted from in-person to virtual training where it was needed.

As we finish this year Heather has also started a book study with roughly 20 missionary Mom's and teachers around the world. She has three different times each week with the Mom's as they discuss how to raise Healthy Third-Culture kids. If you have an interest in understanding the missionary kids that you are praying for - we would highly encourage you to get a copy of the book.



Family News

As we finish 2020 we are celebrating that Caleb and Hannah are both home from college now for a few weeks. Caleb is in finals week right now (all virtual) and Hannah is completely finished. Please pray for them as they find some odds jobs to pick up some money for college as well as prayers for each University as they decide what does next semester look like in the midst of the spiking coronavirus cases. Elizabeth and Esther are continuing with their cyber school classes and we continue to work on adjusting their medications to help them maintain their emotional swings.

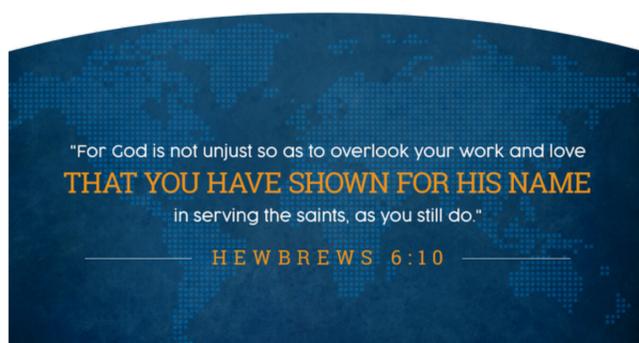
Doug's Dad is doing better but still dealing with complications of cancer and currently there is another operation scheduled in January. We are thankful that most all of our family was able to celebrate Thanksgiving out on the farm in West Virginia this year. It was fun to see the next generation of kids begin to make their own memories out on the farm.

Due to COVID I wasn't able to go in person to do my first 70.3 mile triathlon so I did it on my own locally and finished in 7 hrs and 21 minutes! In November I was able to finish my 8th marathon.

THANK YOU!!

Heather and I cannot say THANK YOU enough to so many of you for your prayers for our ministry and family these many years with ABWE. We also want to say thank you for those who contributed toward the birthday cards for our MK's in 2021. Through your gifts we are fully supplied for the coming months! May God continue to bless your church and family as we all celebrate our risen Saviour!!

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