

January 2020

Pastors, Family, and Friends,

Thank you again for your prayers and support. Without your investment in our ministry, we would not be able to get to the field where God has called us.

The month of January took us out of California and into the vast state of Texas. The drive from El Paso to the 35 Corridor was, as my wife puts it, "a whole lot of nothing." We enjoyed having meetings in parts of Texas we'd never been to before. Throughout the month, we drove up and down the 35 corridor four times, going to meetings in the San Antonio, Fort Worth, and Austin areas. It was a blessing to be able to share the Gospel with several people throughout the month.

There were a few different occasions that stood out to us in January through which we got to see the hand of God at work.

At our first meeting of the year in the Los Angeles area before we left California, the pastor announced after I finished preaching that he and the church had decided months prior to our meeting that they were going to take us on for support. It was a blessing to be able to start the year off on that note, and to see that a church was looking forward to us coming for several months.

Secondly, there was a church in the little town of Grandview, TX that we had a very strong connection with the Sunday we were there. The way the pastor and I met was a divine appointment of God in and of itself. Back in June of last year, the (currently bi-vocational) pastor just so happened to be working in Los Angeles of all places. He just so happened to visit my home church in Lancaster, CA on one of the very last Sundays I was there before starting deputation. It just so happened to be the night when my pastor announced to the church I was going to be a missionary to Nigeria. The pastor and I just so happened to cross paths in the large parking lot after the service. He came up to me and invited me to come present at his church, and we booked a meeting for January. (It's amazing when it's a pastor coming to a missionary!) After I finished preaching at this church, there was a brief Q&A session. Towards the end of this session, one man rose his hand and said something to the effect of: "I don't have a question. I just want to say that we ought to take this couple on for support."

The pastor replied with, "I was thinking the same thing."

That night, the church gathered around the altar and had a special time of prayer for us, and I saw them already preparing for our prayer letters to start being hung on the wall.

Thirdly, it was a blessing to see God provide places for us to stay. We are thankful for a pastor in Cedar Park and the pastor in Grandview who extended our hotel stays for an extra night. We are also very thankful for a pastor in Weatherford who allowed us to stay in his missions apartment for two weeks, literally saving us hundreds in lodging expenses.

Please continue to pray for safety as we drive, and that we'll be finished raising support by Christmas. Again, thank you so much for your partnership!! God bless!

Your ambassadors to Nigeria,

Garan and Anneliese Patrick