

Thank you for carrying us through your prayers...

And He Himself shall walk ahead... Two days to go!

"Sometimes the lions' mouths are shut; Sometimes God bids us fight or fly; Sometimes He feeds us by the brook; Sometimes the flowing stream runs dry. Sometimes the burning flames are quenched, Sometimes with sevenfold heat they glow; Sometimes His hand divides the waves; Sometimes His billows overflow. Sometimes He turns the sword aside; Sometimes He lets the sharp blade smite; Sometimes our foes are at our heels, Sometimes He hides us from their sight. We may not choose, nor would we dare, The path in which our feet shall tread; Enough that He that path hath made, And He Himself shall walk ahead. The danger that His love allows Is safer than our fears may know; The peril that His care permits Is our defense where'er we go." (Annie Johnson Flint)

I keep coming back to this poem by Annie Johnson Flint, and it speaks so deeply to the season of my life right now. The poem captures faith—the shut mouths, flowing streams, quenched flames, and overflowing billows. It reminds us that every circumstance is in God's hands, and that we 'may not choose, nor would we dare' the path we walk, but that our safety and security comes from knowing He 'Himself shall walk ahead.'

It's hard to believe, but it has been more than four months since I last sent out a Prayer Update. And can you believe that this coming October will mark twenty years of serving the Lord in his harvest fields? What an incredible journey it has been!

Since I returned from Tanzania in April, I have needed to take some time to reflect on my journey. I felt a deep need to be in the presence of the Lord, spending extra time in His Word to ensure that I am still on track with His will for my life. It was also important for me to spend quality time with Kobus and our boys. We were blessed to visit Jacques and Taylor in Minneapolis at the beginning of July, and it also provided us the opportunity to visit with some of our dearest friends there.

This time has also been filled with hard work. I have been collaborating with a wonderful team from our home church, The Woodlands First Baptist Church, to develop a new Bible Study for small groups. We have identified sixteen lessons from our three DFC Manuals, and the study will be used by both of our campuses from January to April/May 2026. I am so deeply thankful for this incredible team who diligently works through each lesson weekly, streamlining the content and pouring their own unique gifts into this study. I believe this Bible Study is going to be a tremendous blessing, and I've already received so many requests for a copy of the final product from Bible Study leaders, churches, and individuals.

In addition to that, our church offers ESL classes to many people in our community. These classes offer such a great opportunity to minister to these students, many of whom are not yet Christian. I have been working on putting together a specific Discipling Manual that can be used by all of our ESL teachers.

Both this manual and the new Church Bible Study will be translated into Swahili, hopefully to be used by our AICT Churches and also as a part of the AICT catechism program in Tanzania, which prepares believers for baptism.

Now, with just two days before my departure to Tanzania, my focus is turning to this upcoming trip. We will be conducting four trainings in four different areas, and I would appreciate your prayers for our

Coordinators, Co-Teachers, and our students who will be traveling from different regions. Please also extend your prayerful covering over Kobus, Jacques, and Wiehan while I am away. And finally, please pray for safe travels for me as I will once again be traveling far and wide on dangerous roads.

Thank you for walking this journey with us, you are such an important part of all that we do... Please remember, you are loved, deeply appreciated and prayed for.

“Every time you cross my mind, I break out in exclamations of thanks to God. Each exclamation is a trigger to prayer. I find myself praying for you with a glad heart. I am so pleased that you have continued on in this with us, believing and proclaiming God’s Message, from the day you heard it right up to the present. There has never been the slightest doubt in my mind that the God who started this great work in you would keep at it and bring it to a flourishing finish on the very day Christ Jesus appears.” Philippians 1:3

