

Sending Church:

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Dear Praying Friends,

These are trying times. Paul warned us that the last days would be perilous times, and he wasn't kidding. As difficult as these last days have become, it is heart-warming to be reminded that the Lord our God is our refuge and fortress! We can run to Him and be safe, even though we must still endure these trying times. As Christians, we have it better than anyone else and we ought to have a desire to share the knowledge of safety in Jesus with the world!

Toward the end of July, our family celebrated four years of residence in Canada. We are thrilled to be in this place, serving our Saviour. We previously reported that we had been removed from the immigration pool for Permanent Residence (PR) due to the expiration of my English test. We had found no one offering English tests due to COVID, which meant that we would have to wait until things opened up before we could begin our immigration process again. Praise the Lord, we were able to find one group that is still offering the approved English test, right here in Edmonton! Lord willing, Becky and I will take our English test during the month of August, and reapply for PR as quickly as possible. Please pray that we

I will say of the
LORD, *He is my
refuge and my
fortress: my God;
in him will I
trust.*

—Psalm 91:2

will have no issues getting back into the immigration pool, and that we will quickly receive an Invitation to Apply (ITA).

At the end of July, Becky and I celebrated our 23rd wedding anniversary. In many ways it does not seem possible that we have been married this long, and we are so thankful that the Lord has allowed us to be together for these years. We pray

that the Lord will give us many more years together to faithfully serve our Saviour!

Our oldest son, James, flew to Texas to spend time with his grandparents and our sending church. We missed him greatly, but he was a tremendous help to his grandparents. On his return, at the beginning of August, he was required by Canadian guidelines to self-quarantine for 14 days. This is been especially hard for Becky, because she wants to hug her boy! Still, we are thankful for James' willingness to go and be a help to his grandparents.

Our youngest son, Jason, had another trip to the ER toward the end of July. He did not have a seizure, but there were other symptoms that required medical attention. The ER nurses were certain that they detected an irregular heartbeat, but the ECG did not show this. They planned to

order a 24-hour heart monitor for Jason, but that seems to have fallen between the cracks. Thankfully, Jason's referral to the neurologist finally went through, and he will have his first visit in mid-August. Please pray that we are able to find answers and proper treatment for Jason.



The City of Edmonton, following the lead of Calgary, passed a temporary by-law making masks mandatory in all public places. This bylaw is set to expire on 31 December, 2020. The bylaw states that masks are to be worn by every individual over the age of 2 in every church service, not just on entering or exiting our facility. This has caused some folks to rethink their faithfulness to the Lord and His church, and it has made some visitors hesitant to attend. We are thankful to the Lord for those who have remained faithful (member and visitor alike) in the face of this new bylaw.

The Devonshire Retirement Village remains under lockdown conditions, and we have not been able to return there for an outreach service since March. We are praying that the Lord will open the door for us to return to them in September, but there is no guarantee of that.

We were able to make contact with Terry Truman again. She was instrumental in opening the door for us to begin holding services at Devonshire Retirement Village. After the one service we held there, and before the lockdown began, she asked many good questions about salvation. It was clear that she was lost, and that the Holy Spirit was dealing with her heart. We have been praying for her salvation ever since March. When we reconnected with Terry, she was quick to inform us

that she has trusted Christ as her Saviour sometime during the lockdown (she doesn't remember the exact day and time, but she sure remembers the event)! What a blessing to know that another lost sheep has been found by the Shepherd!

Of course, anytime the Lord is blessing, the Devil will fight. As we study the life of Job, we learn that the Devil will attack in three areas: Possessions, Poor Health, and People. The Devil has definitely attacked in the past in the area of Possessions. Recently he has attacked through the area of Poor Health, as Jason, Becky, and I have dealt with various issues. As we see with Job, when Satan's attacks fail, he simply responds by "turning up the heat." Sadly, this has come in the form of my own extended family levelling horrible, yet false, accusations against myself, my immediate family members, my parents, our sending church, and our church plant in Edmonton. Some may have seen these attacks on social media, as these family members, under the control of the Devil, seek to destroy our ministry for the Lord. The only reason I bring this up is 1) to assure those who have seen these accusations of their falsehood, and 2) to beg for your prayers against the attack of Satan, that we will endure and "come forth as gold (Job 23:10)."

We appreciate each one of you who stand behind us in prayer. Now, more than ever, we need your prayers, as we battle the Devil.

The Night Cometh!

