



# Evangelical Friends Mission

## October 2018 Prayer Letter

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Our purpose and passion is to fuel a worldwide movement of people who seek first the kingdom of God, planting churches that live and die to carry out the Great Commission in the spirit of the Great Commandment.



I have been watching "Chef's Table: France" on Netflix. In the first episode, a Michelin starred chef decides to stop serving meat. He says, "It's complicated? Yes. It's not easy? yes." He sighs, "But...What do you feast on? What do you feast on? What a pleasure! I have chills every day because sometimes I'm afraid." I've watched this episode quite a few times, and this resonates with me. Is it complicated - the work I do? Yes. Is it difficult? Yes. Sometimes am I afraid? yes. But today - what do I feast on? What gives me chills and makes this a pleasure and a privilege?

On the first Sunday of the month, we gather for "Little Friends and Family". When I see this photo, from a gathering in February, I think "A photo of me, loving my life". What do I feast on? Well, on this day, using Godly Play, I told the story

of Jesus being tempted in the desert. I said to the children, "I wonder what Jesus and God talked about in the desert." And one little boy answered, "I think they talked about ALL the people." Yes. I think you are right.

In our Bible Study one week we talked about the women that traveled with Jesus. We talked about what it means to be a disciple - to be called to intimate fellowship; to be an imitator of the one who called and teaches you; to be an adherent, a student; to take on the values and reproduce the teaching of the one at whose feet you sit... To know Christ, follow him, make disciples. I said to them, how does this teaching change for you if I list the disciples this way? Peter, John, Mary Magdalene, James, Phillip, Joanna, Nathaniel, Matthew, Susanna...

And one woman replied, "It just makes you think that you could be included..." Yes. You are included, dear one. What a pleasure!

Following our Advent stories, using Godly Play, a 4-year-old boy found a candle and carried it to his mum. She asked, "What is that?" He replied, "This is the light of the prophets...." Chills.

Studying Galatians with this wonderful group of women, we talked about the Holy Spirit acting within us, and the result being the fruit of the spirit. And then Paul says, "If a brother or sister falls into sin, you who are spiritual should restore that person gently." What does this mean? What does it mean to "fall into sin"? How do we restore them "gently"? And then I asked, "Are there people in your life that you trust to do this? Has this happened to you?"

And one woman says, "You have done this for me, Kathi." (I'm thinking as fast as I can... when did I do this? When did I ever approach her about "falling into sin?") She said, "I had given up on God. I didn't go to Mass any more. I didn't see a point. I had given up on Christian people. You showed me that there is still something important in this and something beautiful and meaningful." And another woman said, "Yeah. Me too." And a third woman said, "Yeah. Me too." Complicated and difficult - yes. A feast and a pleasure - absolutely.

It's midnight and that might be making me a little more poetical than I would be earlier in the evening... yet, I am so thankful once again, that God has brought me here. It's complicated? Yes. It's not easy? Yes. What a pleasure!

## **From the EFM Office**

### *Praise God...*

- For the completion of a fruitful trip to Peru and Ecuador. Dan Cammack and Roy Lujan (from Caldwell, Idaho) were able to meet with many of the key leaders of Peru Yearly Meeting and cast vision for Great Commission work. During their short stay in Ecuador they were able to meet many of the people who have been helpful to the Badgley family. It was exciting to see the opportunities that are there for reaching the Shuar tribe with the Gospel.
- For progress in the reorganization of the EFM Board. We should be able to announce soon who will be on the new board.
- For progress on a complete makeover of the EFM web site. You should be enjoying our new site very soon!

### *Please Pray...*

- That Evangelical Friends in South America will become more and more committed to sending out missionaries. Pray for the need to build a team for our new work in Ecuador.
- During the interim phase of EFM's restructuring we've not had any of our missionaries come to the U.S. for deputation. That's about to change, which is both a praise and a prayer request. Pray for Dave and Jonathan Howell as well as Bob and Debbie Adhikary as they arrive to the U.S. and begin their deputation schedules.

## **Kathi Perry**

### **Serving in Ireland (EFM)**

#### *Praise God...*

- My knee continues to heal, and I am thankful every day for improvements in my mobility, stamina, and balance.
- After a bit of a break for summer, and surgery, all of the groups are now running. I have had two moms offer to help with the toddler group for now, and we will resume our family gatherings on October 7th.
- The Holy Spirit is working through our time of Bible Study each week, and it is evident in the conversation and commitment of each one present.

#### *Please Pray...*

- For continued progress following my knee replacement. While I am thrilled with the improvements I already see, and that the pain I feel is pain that heals - I am reminded often that this recovery is a long road.
- Please continue to pray that our monthly gathering (Little Friends & Family) would be a time of learning that would engage the children, encourage and refresh the parents; and that we would experience what it is to be friends who are family.
- For our EFM team as we work through the new visa process with and for Molly Morton.

## **From B. and D. A.**

### **Serving in Nepal (EFM)**

#### *Praise God...*

- That the monsoon did not do damage in our area.
- We are having a celebration for our daughter's marriage in the village.

#### *Please Pray...*

- For new ways for us to evangelize as the anti-conversion law is in place.
- That in spite of that law, Hindus will continue to come to Christ.

## **From Russ and Sarah Badgley**

### **Serving in Ecuador (EFM)**

#### *Praise God...*

- For the many people who have housed us, given donations of funds, toiletries and even loaned vehicles during our medical stay in Houston Texas.
- That our family was able to be reunited together after paperwork delays for Russ & the older kids while Matthew & Sarah went ahead to a Children's hospital.
- That our kids can access good medical care in this season.

#### *Please Pray...*

- Health: Please pray for Matthew. He has had odd neurological issues, and we are still pending a diagnosis. Emma for recovery after surgery for a torn meniscus tear and ruptured ACL. Joe to recover from a chronic virus and fatigue.
- That the doctors have wisdom in caring for the children & Matthew's difficult diagnosis process.
- For peace and comfort during this trying season.

## **From Dave and Cindy Aufrance**

### **Serving in Hong Kong (EFC-ER)**

#### *Praise God...*

- On October 1, RiverGrace celebrates its first anniversary of becoming an independent church and 7<sup>th</sup> here since it started as a fellowship in one of our local churches. We thank God for the leading us through the many adjustments of the past year.

#### *Please Pray...*

- That we'll make some good contacts with the students in the school where we meet as the school year just started.
- For the Christians in China who've faced increasing pressure, discrimination, and in some cases, persecution.

**From Molly Morton**  
**Currently waiting to depart for Ireland (EFM)**

*Praise God...*

- Good visit with Dan Cammack when he was in town a few weeks ago. He visited my home church in Glendora, CA and was able to connect with my church family as well as we had a nice lunch together afterwards.
- Hope Radio 24/7 facilitated a telethon fundraiser in August. I had a big part in engineering all the shows that week and we had a decent amount of donations.
- So exciting to see both my nephews and my niece start school again this month. Dominic is a freshman in high school, Ethan is in 6th grade and Julia is in her second year of pre-school. I'm thoroughly enjoying the time I get to spend with them and the rest of my family.

*Please Pray...*

- My visa process is ongoing. I am confident that not one bit of this lengthy process is a surprise to God. He knew all along that this is how it would progress. I praise God for that confidence because I know it is from him since I would normally have lots of anxiety and worry about all of this, but I have a peace that only comes from God. Please pray for my teammates and director as they continue to carry most of the weight of this process.
- For the health of my family. Three of us had a cold this weekend. We all keep up a very busy schedule and don't make enough time to rest.

**From Brad and Chelsea Carpenter**  
**Serving in Rwanda (EFM)**

*Praise God...*

- We had a full, busy summer and we praise God for all that he helped us do and for all that he did. We are thankful for the ways he sustained us in the midst of all the activity.
- That several new groups that we are discipling in whole-life discipleship are showing excitement to be learning from the Lord and are responding with obedience.
- For a return to life-giving home and family rhythms after so much travel in the summer.

*Please Pray...*

- For wisdom in the current conversations about Evangelical Friends Church - Rwanda sending a missionary to Uganda.
- For wisdom as we map out and finish the year for whole-life discipleship.
- For the trainings happening this month with groups in Goma, Kayonza, and Kigali.

**From Samson and Priscilla Retnaraj**  
**Serving in Nepal (EFM)**

*Praise God...*

- The CHE Training at Paurahi Friends church in which 15 people participated and learnt various things in connection to Leadership training, and some health topics where 'prevention is better than cure' was stressed.
- Gokarna our CHE Trainer in Chitwan, has been given an additional responsibility as Associate pastor of Jhurjhure Friends church and commissioned in the recently held Regional gathering of Chitwan Friends in Bhandara (Chitwan)
- The leaders group in Surkhet led by Janak who came together in learning about the Business model of CHE development in church.

*Please Pray...*

- Thiru (Janak's wife) who is in an advanced state of pregnancy and expected to go into labor any day this week. Suzanna their 6-year-old daughter recently celebrated her birthday with friends and relatives.
- All the 6 leaders of the West Nepal Friends' who have received a Seed Grant to help start a small business after completion of their Discipleship Training, to help them become self-supported and raise their own support as church leaders. The money has been invested in small businesses and the loan refunded after 6 months.
- The CHE Refresher training to be held in October for leaders from 3-4 communities in Cha'pur where CHE model of Development in churches has helped extensively in bringing about growth and development and we have trained leaders in different churches in the last 5-6 years.

**From Voicu and Ana Marian**  
**Serving in Romania (EFC-ER)**

*Praise God...*

- For a safe trip to Warsaw, many opportunities to pray with and for Polish Christians.
- Florin and Daniela, parents of a former student, attending church with us regularly.
- Many answered prayers for our family; being able to extend God's blessings to those around us.

*Please Pray...*

- For a new year at the public school; good relationships with kids and parents; open hearts for the gospel.
- For two couples from the village who attend church (parents of our students) to be born again.
- For direction for the future for Johnny as he seeks the Lord; wisdom for Christina in decisions; protection from evil and God's will for our family.

## **From Abe and Diane Bible Serving in Ukraine (EFC-ER)**

### ***Praise God...***

- Diane had knee surgery September 20 to resolve an issue of many months. Was able to do it in Kiev! The latest procedures and it only cost \$700! Isn't God good providing for His children?
- Kicked off a new term with training Financial Freedom leaders. 160 attended and 70% were new! That was the prayer, to reach new areas of Ukraine.
- Abe held the first Church Planting conference also in September and everyone found it encouraging. These are men who are in various stages of church planting whom he has worked with for at least a year.

### ***Please Pray...***

- Abe will be holding an Evangelism conference early October. This is an effort to reach out to more men who might become involved in church planting. Right now, there is a possibility of 110 men coming. Pray for a good first-time contact with these men. Abe has experienced a lot of pushback in getting this going. Pray that Satan would be defeated in stopping this vital task of the church.
- Pray for ongoing healing for Diane as she has many trips (5 hours by bus) to Kiev for follow up and a rigorous rehab program.
- We will be walking step by step again financially this year. Pray that God would provide the right amounts for the right times. We have enough designated for Financial Freedom till the end of the year, but we need to see God's resources for the evangelism and church planting conferences, as well, as for a team who is going to Russia to teach the same thing Abe has been teaching in Ukraine. We are at peace! God's hand is never shortened.

## **From David Thomas EFM Whole-Life Discipleship**

### ***Praise God (Thailand)...***

- For an excellent coaching trip for Scott Purser and David Thomas (September 12-15) who met with Ben Kibbe, Solomon, Yosapa, Charlee and Pla. Praise God for progress in preparing their two teams and especially for their growth and appreciation of using Bible-story-telling as a tool to take their people deeper into God's Word. Praise God for their preparing some excellent plans for exploring the communities they will focus their ministry in.

### ***Please Pray (Thailand)...***

- For God's favor and blessing to rest on these leaders as they implement their plans to continue preparing their teams and as together they seek the Holy Spirit's guidance in exploring and selecting the communities he will lead them to.

### ***Praise God (Rwanda)...***

- For growing excitement for whole-life discipleship among Friends Church leaders in Burundi and in DR Congo (Goma and Uvira), and for personal testimonies of transformation among these leaders. This is the fruit we want to see from seeds planted in the D for D Foundations workshops our Rwandan D for D leaders facilitated earlier this year.
- For a great team of D for D national leaders in Augustin Simparinka, Gerard, Tertullien and Brad Carpenter! Praise God for many other leaders these men are investing in. Thank God for the gifts they have, for their maturity and growth in Christ, for their ministry experience, and for the many opportunities they have to invest in and equip other leaders.

### ***Please Pray (Rwanda)...***

- For the establishment of disciple-making movements in Rwanda, Burundi and in DR Congo (Goma, and Uvira)! May God's Kingdom come, and his will be done in the lives of these leaders, their families, their churches and in their communities!
- With the expansion into Burundi, Congo and into other parts of Rwanda continue to pray for our Rwandan D for D leaders for clear focus, excellent administration, freedom to delegate, growth in coaching skills, and for wisdom to empower other leaders releasing all into greater ministry. Pray for rest, strength, protection and God's favor to rest on them!

### ***Praise God (Cambodia)...***

- For the Swards, the Radcliffs, Elise and the Hernandez family with EFC-SW in Cambodia, and for their desire to plant whole-life, disciple-making, church-planting, community-transforming movements among the people groups they serve.

### ***Please Pray (Cambodia)...***

- For continued growth in the Khmer (said 'kamai') language for Robert and Sara Radcliff and Elise Paty, for growing insight into Cambodian culture, and for growing friendships among the people they are learning from.
- For the Sward family and for Elise as they settle into life in Stueng Treng (Northern Cambodia). Pray for favor and for new relationships to be built and for all the necessary details of living in a new place to come together well for them.