

The Williams Family - Harvest Baptist Missions

Ministry Update / Prayer Letter

February 2015

Dear Faithful Co-laborers,

Greetings Friends! Below is an update of the Lord's work in our lives through the ministry of Harvest Baptist Missions. Many thanks for your faithful support of our family and this work.

"Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted." Galatians 6:1

ACBC Certification

For the past couple of years I have taken many biblical counseling classes, completed the extremely challenging examination process, and spent one year working weekly with a counseling mentor. All of this work has finally culminated in certification with the Association of Certified Biblical Counselors (ACBC, formerly NANC). Without



Association of Certified
Biblical Counselors



question, this has been one of the best, most educationally productive phases of my life. While I feel that I still have much to learn, I also acknowledge that I have grown considerably as a

biblical counselor during this process. The Lord has blessed with many opportunities to provide counseling during this training time. With the establishment of the Restore Biblical Counseling ministry, I am excited to see how the Lord will use these efforts to lead people into a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ as well as help believers to glorify God by becoming more like His Son. Please pray as I currently have several quite challenging cases before me. Pray for direction as well as I desire to teach the principles of biblical counseling to our missionary families serving around the world.

Harvest Baptist Missions Update

The majority of my day-to-day work revolves around the functioning of the ministry of HBM. Every week presents new and varied challenges, from processing missionary support, fielding calls from supporting churches, assisting with prayer letter communication, assisting with needed governmental documents, paying bills, and the list goes on and on. Most of this work is not "glamorous" but needed in the overall endeavor of keeping our missionaries on the field.

Without question, it is work that God has called me to do and work that I absolutely love to do. I am honored to work with each of the families that God has linked us together with. Would you actively pray with us about several current needs / projects?

- **Laodima Family** – Work continues on the 6th church plant in the village of Davie. On this site, both a church building and orphanage are being constructed. Work progresses very nicely and God's people have given substantially towards this new work. Pray for Bro. David, his family, and his co-workers as they continue to reach Togo for Christ.
- **Catriz Family** – Manny and Violy recently returned to the Philippines following a six month visit to the U.S. Pray that new support would materialize that will help them to be even more effective in the Subic area. These humble servants have given their lives to see work of the Lord advanced in their corner of the world. Bro. Manny struggles with fairly severe arthritis that can hamper his daily work. Pray for relief of his pain and discomfort. What a privilege to serve these great folks!
- **Pinos Family** – Napoleon and Esther are two more of God's choice servants. Their humility reflects that of our Lord and largely explains why their ministry has been so fruitful over the decades of their labors. Pray for strength, resources, health, and wisdom as they continue to advance the cause of Christ in Quezon City.
- **Bowman Family** – Shawn, JohnnieAnne and their five boys continue to faithfully labor in Ireland. The Golden Vale Baptist Church is doing well as the Bowman's continue to shine their light into the lives of those to which God has called them. They await some rather important news from the Irish government regarding the renewal of their visas – please continue to pray with us about the Lord's will in this matter.
- **Freeman Family** – Aaron, Melissa and the kids continue to faithfully labor in Rio Grande City, Texas. The Iglesia Bautista Esperanza is doing well and making a difference for the Cause of Christ in the Rio Grande Valley. Pray for the folks of this young church to continue to grow in their faithfulness to the Lord. Pray for the continued safety of the Freeman family as they minister in an area that is known for considerable drug-related violence.



My heart is tied to these wonderful servants of the Lord and I consider it an incredible privilege to assist their ministries in the small way that we do through the work of HBM.

In addition to the day-to-day activities of overseeing the work of Harvest Baptist Missions, I continually find myself busy with such things as

- **PureMen Ministry** - studying / preparing for the weekly men's discipleship ministry I have been working with for more than 8 years now,
- **Prison Ministry** - preaching in various prisons in Ohio (next up, Lorain Correctional Institute this Thursday afternoon),
- **Good Shepherd Baptist Missions Administrative Team** planning such things as upcoming Pastor Training Schools, Missionary Training Schools, and now actively searching for Dr. DH Easter's replacement as he officially retired from GSBM at the end of last year.
- **Marriage Conferences** – organizing events and preparing teaching lessons for the several conferences we conduct each year.
- **Missions, Men's Conferences, Pulpit Supply, etc.** – Preparing messages in an effort to be a blessing and encouragement during the various speaking opportunities that the Lord provides.
- Working with the First Baptist Christian School as Athletic Director and Varsity Soccer Coach – a great discipleship ministry as I actively strive to keep Christ and the importance of our testimony as the primary importance in athletic competition.

PureMen

Family Update

I am grateful for the family that God has given me the responsibility to lead. With each passing month, I fall more in love with my wife than I ever thought imaginable. This year, we will celebrate our 27th year of marriage. God has been so good to us! Corey recently wrapped up his final basketball season at First Baptist Christian School and along with that his high school sports career. It has been a joy to watch him compete over these past few years. This weekend he heads to Washington DC on an all expense paid trip to represent Ohio in the VFW Voice of Democracy national competition. He has already won over \$9K in scholarships with his essay, "Why Veterans are Important to our Nation's History and Future."



Pray for him as he travels and represents Ohio in that nation's capitol. Our oldest son, Tyler, is currently deployed overseas. Prayers are greatly appreciated for him and his family during this challenging time. Abbey is thrilled with our newest family member – Tucker – an 8-week old golden retriever puppy. Our last golden, Buddy, died this past year and not having a dog in the house proved to be a real void. Now, if we can only get through these challenging days and nights of having a young puppy in the house!

As always, thank you so much for the love, prayers, and support that you have given us over these many years together. We are so blessed to have such wonderful, faithful ministry partners!

Sincerely,

The Williams Family (Steve, Kris, Corey and Abbey)