

The Williams Family - Harvest Baptist Missions

Ministry Update / Prayer Letter

June 2016

Greetings!

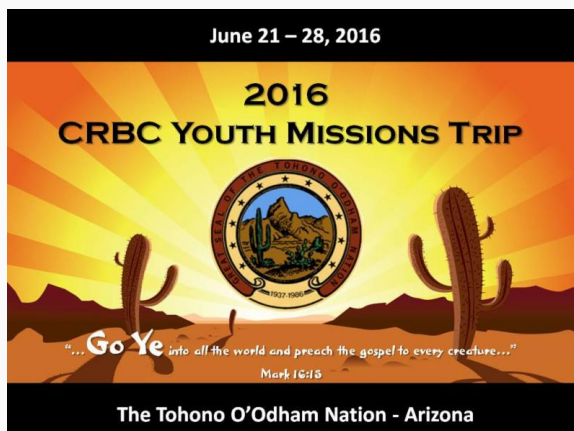
"...There has not failed one word of all His good promise..." 1 Kings 8:56

There have been countless times over the years where I have been buoyed up by this great verse. When my faith is weak or falters, I often turn to this verse and am reminded once again that our God is faithful! I am so grateful for the "*exceeding great and precious promises*" (2 Pet. 1:3) that are given to believers whereby we can stand confidently in the risen Christ in the midst a very unstable world. What promises are you trusting God for today? Remember, His promises do not fail!

Youth Missions Trip - Tohono O'odham Indian Reservation

After many months of fundraising and preparation, we are ready to lead the CRBC Youth Group on a mission's trip to minister to the Tohono O'odham Indian Reservation in Southern Arizona. This is the seventh such trip we have led teens on over the years of our ministry with HBM. All these trips have been extremely challenging, yet extremely rewarding as well. Our teens have worked hard to raise the \$11K that was needed to fully fund the trip. While on the reservation, the teens will be leading two different full-day "Day Camps" that includes Bible teaching, games, crafts, lunch, and songs. We will finish our outreach with a graduation day / ceremony on Sunday, June 26th.

Following that great week of ministry, we will head with the teens to the Grand Canyon for a one day adventure, experiencing God's grand creation. From there, its back down to Phoenix where the team will catch a flight back to Cleveland. We greatly appreciate your prayers for safety, boldness, wisdom, and Holy Spirit leadership as we minister out West later this month. The actual dates of our trip are 6/21 - 6/28/16.





Laodima Family Furlough

The David Laodima family are our HBM missionaries in Togo, West Africa. Their work there is very robust and flourishing. They are working towards a brief five month furlough here in the States from early August till the end of the year. I will soon be assisting in setting up meetings with their supporting churches. I wanted to mention this here because we still have a significant need that has not yet been met.

The Laodima's are in need of a solid, road-worthy vehicle to use during their five month stay. If all goes well with their visa applications, they will be bringing the entire family (David, Justine, and their three boys) on this furlough. If you have or know of a vehicle that they may be able to utilize during this time (August - December 2016), please contact me. The Lord has provided vehicles for them to use during past furloughs and we expect Him to do the same again. Perhaps He will use you to see that this need is met?!

Ministry Activities Update



Our ministry of **Restore Biblical Counseling** continues to flourish. Presently, I have eight active counseling cases that I am working with. This number is fairly close to the limit that I can personally accommodate. I certainly covet your prayers as I meet with these folks

on a weekly basis, opening the Word of God to find truth-based answers to the various struggles that they are dealing with. It is my strong desire to carry the principles of biblical counseling to the mission field, teaching our missionaries and their co-workers how to effectively use the Word of God in counseling their members as well as an effective tool for evangelism. Kris and I were able to conduct two excellent Marriage Retreats for churches earlier this year. Building strong, God-honoring marriages continues to be burden that Kris and I both share. We are always open to organizing and conducting these events for other churches. If you are interested in having such an event, don't hesitate to contact me.

The day-to-day work of HBM continues to be a labor of love after these many years. All of our missionary families seem to be thriving in their respective ministries. Your faithful support has made it possible for us to stand with them and for that we are eternally grateful. Please continue to lift them up in prayer as they actively evangelize and disciple people in the areas where the Lord has called them.



Graduation

Over the past decade, I have invested a significant amount of time advancing my growth as a believer through the pursuit of education. During this time, I have earned several degrees as well as counseling certification through the Association of Certified Biblical Counselors. In late May, we traveled to Dothan, Alabama for graduation services at Bethany Divinity College and Seminary. I graduated with a PhD in Religion, with a concentration in Counseling. While this will likely be the final degree that I will pursue, I am still as excited as ever about learning and growing. The more I read and learn, the more I endeavor to grow to become more like Christ. The further I get down life's road, the more I realize how much more I have yet to learn. A big thanks to those who have encouraged and prayed for me through these endeavors. If you would like an electronic copy of my dissertation project - "God's Abounding Grace in the Battle over Pornography," drop me an email and I'll be happy to send it along to you.



Family Update

In late May, Kris and I became grandparents again! Tyler and Ashli welcomed their second child, Evan Tyler into the world on May 28th. Both mom and baby are



doing well (as well as dad and Anah too). We will be heading to New Mexico at the end of this week to meet our new grandson. Needless to say, we are very excited!

Corey finished his first year of college with straight A's. We are so proud of how hard he has studied as he tackled some very challenging classes in his first year of Pre-Med studies. Abbey is finishing up the 6th grade this week and is looking forward to a fun-filled summer break (including our upcoming trip to NM!).

Kris and I will celebrate 28 wonderful years of marriage later this month and continue to rejoice in God's manifold blessings in our lives. During the month of June, we expect to travel about 4000 miles in our van. Please pray for safety on the road as well as the mechanical performance of our vehicle.

As always, thank you for your constant care for our family. We have a great, faithful, and encouraging support team for which we are so thankful! May the Lord continue to bless each of you as you faithfully serve Him!

Sincerely,

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