

## The Williams Family - Harvest Baptist Missions

Ministry Update / Prayer Letter

April 2017

**Dear Steve,**

*"...do all to the glory of God."* 1 Corinthians 10:31b

Greetings Friends! Isaiah 43:7 states, *"Even every one that is called by my name: for I have created him for my glory, I have formed him; yea, I have made him."* Over the past couple of years, this verse has become so precious to me and is core to much of my teaching and preaching. While many struggle with their "purpose in life," the Bible makes it abundantly clear that we were created to glorify God. Certainly, the next logical question becomes, "How do I do that?" The answer to this question is also clearly spelled out in Scripture - to become more like Jesus. Jesus Christ pleased God in all things and was fully submitted to His Father's will. When we endeavor to become more like Jesus, we joyfully fulfill the purpose that God created us for - for His glory! What are you specifically doing to become more like Jesus?

While much of this letter reflects work that I do when I'm not performing my "typical HBM Director" duties, as you can see, much of it certainly overlaps. As I've said in the past, the work of directing a missions agency is not as "glamorous" as one might imagine. Often, it can be mundane and monotonous. That is by no means meant to be a complaint. I love the work I do with our HBM missionary families and consider myself to truly have a "great job." God has given me the privilege of working with so many choice servants and I endeavor to do my best to be a daily blessing to them. As I carry on this great work, I am also motivated to carry on the greater work of the ministry of the Gospel. I desire to be busy in the Lord's great harvest field and the activities you will read about below are my (our) personal efforts to do just that - be involved daily in Great Commission work. Your prayers and financial support enable us to do just that and we are so incredibly grateful for your investment in our lives! Overall, the work of our HBM missionary families continues to flourish as lives throughout the world are being changed by the power of the Gospel. Please continue to pray for our faithful servants on the field: Laodima Family (Togo), Bowman Family (Ireland), Freeman Family (RVG Valley, South Texas), Pinos Family (Philippines), Catriz Family (Philippines), and the Yoder Family (North America).



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## Upcoming Togo, Africa Trip - Fall 2017

We are currently working with HBM Missionary David Laodima to plan a return trip to Togo in the last quarter of this year. There are several primary objectives for this trip:

- to assist with the celebration of the main church in Lome, Savior Baptist Church, as it moves from "mission" status to a "fully indigenous independent church."
- to conduct our second marriage conference. In 2011, we had over 100 couples attend our conference and it was such a huge blessing.
- conduct biblical counseling training among Bro. David's leadership team.

While the final cost of this trip is not yet determined, it is expected to exceed \$5000 as Kris, Abbey, and myself plan to travel to Togo. Please be in prayer as the details of this trip come together. If the Lord would lead you to give a financial gift towards this trip, please send it through HBM, designated as "Togo Trip."



2011 Togo Marriage Conference Attendees

## Restore Biblical Counseling

The biblical counseling ministry that was started following my ACBC certification in 2014 has continued to flourish. Throughout the first quarter of this year, I have averaged around five counseling sessions per week. I am greatly encouraged by the growth of the counselees that I have been privileged to work with. One individual has even decided to pursue counseling training that would better equip her to counsel women who are struggling with life's challenges. It is always my desire to "reproduce" myself and without question, many more biblical counselors are needed. Along these lines, I have enjoyed teaching a class on relational evangelism and discipleship in our church's Bible Institute this semester. As part of this topic, I have endeavored to focus on the

**Restore**

natural overlap of counseling. From my perspective, biblical counseling is discipleship - personal ministry of the Word through conversation. Every Christian is called to speak the truth in love to his neighbor and help them grow in Christ-likeness. If you are interested in learning more about biblical counseling and various training opportunities, here are a couple of helpful websites: [www.bciohio.com](http://www.bciohio.com) and <https://biblicalcounseling.com>.

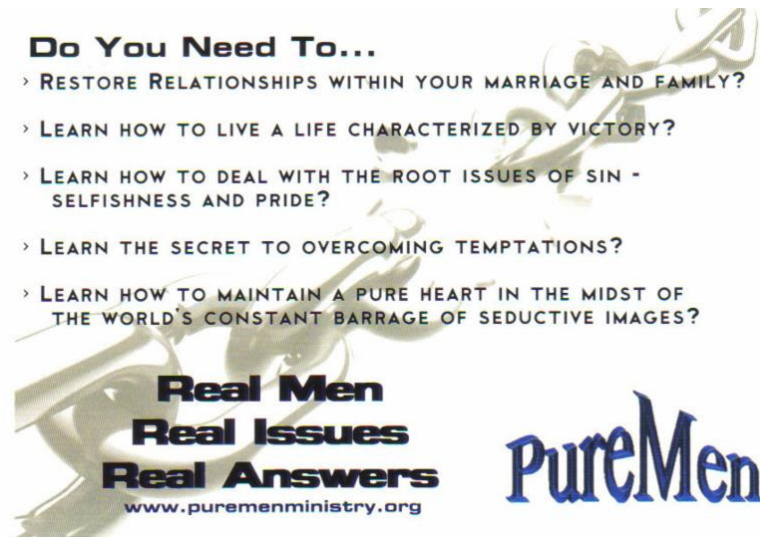


## PureMen Ministry

In late March, I finished up the 9th PureMen Bible study group at CRBC. While the theme of this study has been finding lasting freedom from addiction, its primary focus has been discipleship - making men more like Jesus Christ. Even after ten years of conducting this ministry, I remain as passionate as ever about the topic of purity, greatly desiring more men to be reached with the true freedom from sin that the Gospel affords. I appreciate your prayers as I endeavor this summer to plan "the next step" for this ministry, wanting more to be exposed to the wonderful truths and promises found in God's all sufficient Word. If you are interested in having me share the message of PureMen at a men's meeting in your church, don't hesitate to contact me. [www.puremenministry.org](http://www.puremenministry.org)

### Do You Need To...

- > RESTORE RELATIONSHIPS WITHIN YOUR MARRIAGE AND FAMILY?
- > LEARN HOW TO LIVE A LIFE CHARACTERIZED BY VICTORY?
- > LEARN HOW TO DEAL WITH THE ROOT ISSUES OF SIN - SELFISHNESS AND PRIDE?
- > LEARN THE SECRET TO OVERCOMING TEMPTATIONS?
- > LEARN HOW TO MAINTAIN A PURE HEART IN THE MIDST OF THE WORLD'S CONSTANT BARRAGE OF SEDUCTIVE IMAGES?



PureMen

## New HBM Website Update

After many years, we have updated our website - check it out at [www.harvestbaptistmissions.org](http://www.harvestbaptistmissions.org) On the website, you can get updates about each of our ministries as well as our current missionary families. Much thanks to Iler Networking and Computing ([www.iler.com](http://www.iler.com)) who donated their time to design and host our new website.



## Family Update

With Easter upon us, Kris has been busily preparing the CRBC Choir for our Easter Cantata. In addition, she has been my "counseling buddy" as I include her on all cases I have with women. Her insights have been invaluable during our sessions together. Corey will be graduating from LCCC next month and heading off to Ohio State in the Fall to continue his pre-med coursework. Kris and I are extremely proud of the hard work and dedication he has exhibited in his extremely challenging course load. Abbey is finishing up the 7th grade at First Baptist and



is already looking forward to the next volleyball season. In late March, our oldest son Tyler returned from his 4th USAF deployment to the Middle East. During his post deployment leave, he was able to come home with his family for a couple of weeks. It was wonderful to spend some quality time with them. While he was in town, he got some great news - he was

selected to go to Officer Training School and will be trained to be a pilot. We are so proud of the godly young man he has become.

Truly, God has been good to us and we are so thankful for each of you who have labored with us for so many years now. May the Lord bless you and you continue to faithfully serve Him!

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As always, thank you for your constant care for our family.

May the Lord continue to bless each of you as you faithfully serve Him!

Sincerely,

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

Harvest Baptist Missions, 4116 Columbia Road, North Olmsted, OH 44070

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