

May 2024

Dear friends,

At the writing of this letter, my wife and I are pondering just how thankful we are for the precious Holy Spirit in our lives. The Bible gives us the words of Christ in John 14:16-17, "And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you." For those who know my wife well, you know that her favorite word in the Bible is "abide" and I believe it's easy to see why! In these two verses, not only do we see the word "abide" but we also see that the Holy Spirit is "in" us and "with" us. I am abundantly thankful for the Holy Spirit who is undoubtedly "in" us; who has given our entire family great comfort (specifically in the last three years;) and who has partnered "with" us as we strive to serve Him in our world today. Wendy and I have not only seen His hand, but also experienced His peace and comfort (even amid complicated trials) as He has so graciously promised.

During these past three years, Wendy and I have spent more time in a car than in a plane or even in our home. Due to this, we found it necessary to find a reliable vehicle that can handle the diversity of temperatures and multitude of miles we put on a car. God led us to a specific car that "checked all the boxes" for us. This was a huge answer to prayer!

Recent travels in this "new to us" car have taken us to West Virginia, Illinois, South Carolina, and Virginia. From filling a pulpit in a small rural church, to speaking at a very healthy addiction program to ministering at Springtime Ladies' Conferences, to sharing the gospel with those we meet on the way, to meeting with precious friends in ministry – God is GOOD! He continues to fill our schedule while making it possible for us to continue to reside in Virginia as we care for Wendy's mother. My mother, also in Virginia, is now on hospice in her full-time care facility. The time for her to enter Heaven's door is drawing near. It is our earnest prayer that she will make her journey peaceably and without struggle. Would you please pray for this with us?

As we prepare for upcoming meetings in Virginia, Maine, Texas, and New Mexico, we ask that you continue to pray that God will open more doors for us to help churches reach the addicted. With over 20 years of experience in this area, it is still our desire to continue to help the hurting. It is needed now more than ever. If you or someone you know is interested in helping those "without hope", please contact us and let us help you find the right curriculum and format for you and your church. There IS HOPE, and He is accessible to all those who sincerely seek Him. Additionally, God has allowed us to partner with churches that have residential treatment facilities. If you know someone who needs this type of help, please let us know and we can direct you to those options.

Friends, it is our prayer that you and your family will find a fresh view of your relationship potential "with Him" today! Abide in Him and watch Him do great and mighty things "in" you and "with" you!

For Him,

Ben and Wendy Burks