



Speaking Hope to the World®

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### Prayer Requests

- **Praise:** With the help of a wonderful tutor, John Edward passed math and was able to graduate.
- **Pray:** June is a busy travel month for Andy.
- **Pray:** As a family, we desire to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

If you would like to be removed from our mailing list or would like to receive it by email, please let Kathy know at [knapier@twr.org](mailto:knapier@twr.org). You can also contact us at (919) 460-3791, [anapier@twr.org](mailto:anapier@twr.org), or [facebook.com/TWRNapier](https://www.facebook.com/TWRNapier).

How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, who bring glad tidings of good things. (Romans 10:15b)



# footsteps

FROM 

The Napier Family Quarterly Newsletter

June 2021

## More Radios for Africa

Over the past 18 months, I've been heavily involved in TWR's "Radios for Africa" campaign. This project involves putting radios in the hands of Africans who could never afford to buy a radio on their own. These radios will then be used to listen to TWR. Not only did I travel to Malawi to experience the project in person as well as to record interviews, but in the months that followed, I've traveled to radio stations in the U.S. to conduct on-air fundraising events. At each station, we ask listeners to donate \$50 per radio (which covers the purchase price, shipment, customs, and distribution of each radio). Let me tell you about one particular stop. In late April, I was in Barber-ton, OH, at Heartfelt Radio. Going into the two-day campaign, we expected to raise 120 radios. But the generous people of northeast Ohio stepped forward, and at last count, 377 radios had been given! It was a perfect example of Ephesians 3:20-21 (NKJV):

"Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen."



## Reaching the Masses One Listener at a Time

"I say to you that likewise there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine just persons who need no repentance." (Luke 15:7, NKJV)

300 languages. 190 countries. Over 4 billion people around the world can tune in to TWR in their heart language. That's MASS media! And yet, God uses TWR to speak to listeners individually. One of the most common testimonies that all Christian radio stations receive is "I heard just the right song or just the right message at just the right time ... It was as if God was speaking directly to me!" Well, He was. His Word is timeless, and it's "living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart" (Hebrews 4:12, NKJV). There can be no doubt that our all-knowing, ever-present, sovereign



God is certainly able to draw an individual to Himself by having that person tune in at "just the right time." For this reason, we're excited about our "Radios for Africa" campaign. While we are broadcasting to a potential audience of billions, we are still speaking to one listener at a time. As Branko Bjelajac, TWR's vice-president for ministry in Africa, explained on a recent episode of *Footsteps*, "We are a media organization, but salvation comes one at a time. Each individual is important to our Lord Jesus. So, even if we reach one person in the Nubian Desert in East Africa ... this counts for a new salvation. Angels will sing!"

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18  
"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."

You know these things are easy to do when your faith isn't tested. The pandemic has hit us all in one way or another. The first week of March both of my parents became sick with stomach issues and then other symptoms hit them. After my dad wound up in the ER he was tested for Covid-19. The results came back as positive and my mom had it too. They were both very sick, but it hit my dad hard. I was scared and struggled being so far away from them. I can't say I was rejoicing, but I was praying and praising God for the wonderful godly parents He had blessed me with. I prayed for their healing, but I also prayed that God's will would be done. After three long weeks, they began to improve to the point that I felt they were out of the woods. As much as I wanted to be there for them, God used His people to be His hands and feet to them. I'm so thankful for family, friends, and their church family who allowed God to use them to minister to my parents. I was able to visit with them at the end of March while we were in the Smoky Mountain area for spring break. It was so good to be with them for a few hours. My heart rejoiced in seeing them doing so well.



## Family Happenings

### Kidney Stone!

I was awakened at 4 am on a Sunday morning with pain in my abdomen. I quickly dashed to the bathroom. I remember thinking, "I wonder if I have food poisoning?" I started feeling nauseous, and I began to notice discomfort on the left side of my back. I didn't want to bother Kathy, so I tried to sit in the recliner in the living room. That felt awkward. I went back to the bed, but I could never get comfortable. For the next two hours, the pain intensified. Kathy recognized the symptoms. "You might have a kidney stone," she told me. Then, the pain elevated several notches. I dropped to my knees and slumped over the edge of the bed. I could hardly speak. Struggling, I told my wife, "I think I need to go to the emergency room!"



A CT scan at the hospital confirmed that it was a kidney stone. The first pain medication did nothing. Thankfully, morphine helped ... a lot! From Sunday morning until Tuesday evening, I remained in the hospital and tried to pass the stone, but it didn't move. Because my creatinine level had continued to rise, something had to be done to prevent permanent damage to my kidney, so the urologist performed surgery and successfully removed the stone. As a parting gift, the doctor inserted a foot-long stent between my left kidney and bladder that remained in place for about a week. That's where I'll stop with the details.

**THANK YOU FOR ALL OF YOUR PRAYERS!** And, thank you for your kind notes—especially the ones from fellow members of the kidney stone club who empathized with my pain. This experience has reminded me that our Lord Jesus also has firsthand knowledge of our pain and suffering. He chose to leave His throne in Heaven and "became flesh and dwelt among us" (John 1:14a, ESV). The Scriptures even point out that "Jesus wept" (John 11:35, ESV). Furthermore, "we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses" (Hebrews 4:15a, ESV) because He lived in a human body just like ours. Now, I don't know if Jesus ever suffered through a kidney stone, but He certainly experienced the excruciating torture of Roman crucifixion ... without morphine! I mean that seriously. Now that's amazing love! May He be praised!

**SIDE NOTE:** I began writing this story the day following my surgery. But when I returned to it a few days later, I had to do quite a bit of editing and rewriting. I said to Kathy, "I probably shouldn't have tried to work on the newsletter so soon after surgery. I might not have been thinking clearly." Kathy just looked at me, shook her head, and replied, "Reckon?"

### John Edward's 18<sup>th</sup> Birthday

Our youngest son is now an adult. On April 30, John Edward turned 18! Where have the years gone? Kathy and I remember the difficult pregnancy (including a kidney stone as a matter of fact). We remember how he was born with hip dysplasia ... his urethra surgery to remove valves ... his hernia surgery ... his double elevator palsy in his eyes ... his fear of storms ... his love of stuffed animals and classic westerns ... his years as a cub scout ... his shyness in Sunday school ... his stubborn homeschool years ... his baseball and soccer games ... his academically tough high school years at Triangle Math and Science Academy ...



and just recently, his graduation. Our "little boy" is not only taller than both his parents, but he has become a man. And we celebrated his birthday by giving him a present fit for a man. Remember how we said he loved "classic westerns?" Well, John Edward now has his own Henry Lever Action .22 Frontier Rifle. He's quite proud of it, and honestly, he's already a pretty good shot with it!

