

the Tangemans

January 2020

Happy New Year! 2020 – can you believe it? Thank you for being on this journey with us. The last six months were packed – though you wouldn't know it from our dramatic lack of updates. We are so grateful that you are faithful to pray and support us even during quiet times. The theme for 2019 was overwhelmingly one of learning to listen to the voice of God. That was emphasized during significant times of “waiting.” Waiting on the Lord, watching him work, recounting all he has done and eagerly anticipating what he is planning to do next. We are impatient people – at least I (Benjamin) am. But this year of waiting, watching and meditating on the great name God has made for himself, the great things he is doing now and the greater things to come has given me tremendous perspective for life. I am more thankful, patient and eager to make the most out of every opportunity – even if that opportunity is to be still and listen.

It would take a longer letter than you have time for to tell you about everything that has happened since our last update - but here is a quick summary.

- **Vacation** - We took a vacation with our Talbott family in September. Twenty-five people “ascended” to Boone, NC, for a week of “R&R.”
- **The School at Cardinal Drive** – Ruth has begun homeschooling. It's such an amazing privilege to watch our kids learn and discover new things. It's hard and taxing but we are already seeing the benefits and we are so glad for such a good community of people around us to go through it together.
- **College** - At the request of TWR, Benjamin is going back to school. He started his first courses towards a degree in Organizational Leadership from Waldorf University. Your prayers are appreciated.
- **First Deputation** - We were home long enough to do the laundry and enroll in college before we headed out once again. Our first stop to the Jensen's in GA and then on to the Harrison's, who pastor North Glencoe Baptist Church in Glencoe, Alabama. We got to spend six days catching up and sharing our ministry with the church. We felt very loved by both families these dear families. Thom was especially good for Benjamin during those days in the life of a pastor.
- **Birthdays** – 31(x2), 6, 4 and 1.5 going on 15. Emmett made it to 4 on August 5th, Penny turned 6 on October 3rd and Ruth and Benjamin shared their 31st on the 13th - the tenth year they have celebrated their birthdays together.
- **“Generosity: The Backbone of God's Economy”** - Benjamin had the privilege of preaching at our church on November 10th. His sermon – titled above – is online if you would like to listen.
<https://sgcapex.org/resources/sermons/generosity-is-the-backbone-of-gods-economy>
- **Ruthless Organizing** – The Lord has been leading Ruth to be more active with her business – Ruthless Organizing. She has been an organizing coach for over a decade, but her actual business hasn't been active since before kids. So, we are ramping that back up as another step of obedience.
- **Transitions** – Beginning in 2020 Benjamin has been asked to take the role of Deputy Director of Global IT/IS (Information Technology & Systems). He will be coming alongside the current director – Ben Lykins – and help care for this mission critical work. Benjamin is very honored and excited about this opportunity. The “power” of Ben is “exponential”.... *crickets* “Ben squared”... *(he's here all week folks.)*

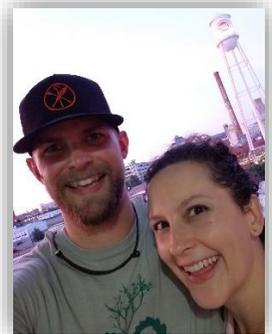
>>>>----->

The closing verse of the passage that Benjamin preached from is 2 Corinthians 9:15 - “Thanks be to God for his inexpressible gift!” That verse transitions us well to thank you again for your joint effort with us in the ministry of the gospel. It has been a slow road, but we are so grateful that you are in this with us and we look forward to what God has

in store for us as we begin 2020. We already have some encouraging prospects for new ministry partner opportunities along with a new coach to help us to stay focused and motivated amidst all the other responsibilities of life.

Things for Prayer:

- Pray for us as we manage new responsibilities and opportunities at home, church and TWR.
- Pray for Ruth as she continues building a relationship with Robin (the JW). Pray for good opportunities to speak truth and for the Lord to prepare Robin's heart to hear it.
- Also, pray for us as we love on a neighborhood boy, Ja'bari, who we find in our home a lot. He needs Jesus and we are glad that we get to live and speak the gospel in front of him. Pray for more opportunities.
- We had several new supporters join the team! Pray for more!



Much love and many, abundant blessings!

Benjamin, Ruth,
Penny, Emmett & Thea