

# DECEMBER 2019



Dear Friends,

***'As you go, proclaim this message: "The kingdom of heaven has come near." Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy, drive out demons. Freely you have received; freely give. Do not get any gold or silver or copper to take with you in your belts— no bag for the journey or extra shirt or sandals or a staff, for the worker is worth his keep. Whatever town or village you enter, search there for some worthy person and stay at their house until you leave. As you enter the home, give it your greeting. If the home is deserving, let your peace rest on it; if it is not, let your peace return to you. If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, leave that home or town and shake the dust off your feet.'*** Matthew 10:7-14

Somebody recently asked me, 'At what point do we in the church shake the dust off our feet?' I realised that we have been working with some people now for well over a year and seen very little change.

'Hmmm, that doesn't sound right actually, let me look at the context.' I replied. I saw that we 'shake the dust off our feet' when we are not made welcome, nor are listened to. Otherwise the command to proclaim the gospel and heal the sick remains... And so in the face of very little change, Yolanda and I continue to 'stir up the dust' as we

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attempt to come alongside people entrenched in very difficult situations and so bring soul healing.



Jax, Yolanda and Alex

It has been a very mixed week. T2 begged me to phone the Ark drug rehab centre and she went in last Wednesday, but then just five days later (after she had successfully undergone her detox) her Mom died. Nobody in the family had contacted her so Yolanda and I journeyed there to tell her in person. We reminded T2 that she was there because she knew this would happen (her Mom had stage-four cancer) and that she

needed to stay now, so she could recover and look after her family properly... and see through what she had started.

But I guess it was inevitable that it would become too much for her and she has checked herself out. The funeral was last weekend, please pray that she would be comforted, and that she wouldn't lose hope because of this one setback, which is completely understandable.

Our Life on Life Discipleship group continues to be an enigma to me. The material that we work through each week is not that amazing and yet most of the group is growing in their Christian maturity. We had an awesome meeting last week as one of the volunteers (a non-believer from Germany) wanted to join us for the study. We threw out our regular material and instead studied John 20 (the resurrection). Please pray that a seed would have been planted and that the Lord will grow it. She has had a number of conversations with various members of staff and is very open to listen to Christian things.

Finally, I have decided that it would be a good idea to extend my contract by six months – we hope to have a Crosslinks short-term volunteer coming out early next year and although I feel that Yolanda is equipped and capable she would benefit from an additional six-months' mentoring. This means that I will need to raise an additional six-months' support and so that will be my focus over the next couple of months.

### Prayer points:

- **Please pray for myself and Yolanda as we attempt to wind down for the December break – that we could enjoy the break without worry and to return in January re-energised.**
- **Please pray for my plans to extend my contract to the end of the school year (an additional six months). Pray for finances and for my family's understanding.**
- **Please pray for a safe trip for my parents who will be visiting over the Christmas period**
- **Please give thanks for the CCEF Marriage Counselling Course which was very insightful. Next semester I will take a break and use the time to meet with supporters.**
- **Please give thanks for so many opportunities for both myself and Yolanda to share the gospel of hope.**



*The Lions Head Crew*



*TCC Shoebox - Jax*