



Befus Report May 2023

In Luke 18:19, Jesus states, **"No one is good, except God alone."** In Psalms 34:8 it says, **"Taste and see that the Lord is good."** Again, in Psalms 100:5 we read, **"For the Lord is good and His love endures forever."** And then in times of pain, struggles, and hardship, Nahum reminds us **"The Lord is good, a refuge in times of trouble."** (1:7)

God is good because God Himself tells us He is good. The Bible doesn't just say that God does good things. It says that God IS good. It's not just what He does; it's who He is, GOOD! And He is good even in the difficult, ugly, and scary times and we have had some of those hard times in our lives recently, and God IS GOOD!

God is good
ALL THE TIME



The last time we wrote to you, we asked for your prayers for our daughter Terrah who had a brain tumor and needed surgery. And among other things, we asked for prayer for the selling of a portion of our church land to get some relief from high payments each month.



God is good! Not because He healed Terrah and sold the land for us. No, God did neither of those things. He is good because, in the center of insecurities, fear, and doubt, we can have peace that God is in control and working on the side of His righteous ones. **"The eyes of the LORD are toward the righteous"** (Psalms 34:15), and **"For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and his ears are open to their prayer"** (1 Peter 3:12).



Terrah did have brain surgery on March 9 after two postponements because of health issues. Is she one hundred percent as strong and astute as she was two years ago? No, not yet, but the operation was a success and she is slowly gaining new strength. She is taking life one day at a time and through the prayers of God's people we hope to see her get back to normal. As her parents, we are thankful that we could be with Terrah and Oscar and our three grandchildren during the first six weeks of her recovery. God is good all the time!



God is good even though we have not yet sold part of our church's land. But we now have a short list of companies that are interested and exploring the possibilities as they negotiate with us for about 10,000 square meters of property. He is in control and His Word tells us, *"And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work."* (2Cor. 9:8)

So, God is good all the time and this brings us to an uncomfortable issue to bring up as missionaries. With costs rising everywhere, including Costa Rica, the funds we are taking in through your faithful gifts each month (the input) have not kept up with our expenses (the output). This has led to a \$300 per month shortfall in income versus expenses. We are trusting God and are confident that we will be OK because we know that God is good all the time. Please join us in seeking our good God and see if He may be leading you to partner with us by helping to provide for our financial needs.



Because God is good, we do have a strong and healthy ministry going on here in Costa Rica. While we were in the States with Terrah, four men stepped in to preach God's Word each Sunday at Iglesia Biblica de la Gracia (Grace Bible Church or IBG). Now that I am back in Costa Rica, two of them will continue to take on more and more of the role of serving as the pastors of IBG and I will be moving towards a third church plant out in the area of Tacarres towards Grecia. Once we sell the land and have the pastors in place it will be time to move outward and towards more growth. Because God is Good!

We thank our good God for all of you and your prayers and support towards the ministry here in Costa Rica! Please keep praying for Terrah; for the selling of the land; for the growth of the men who are being trained. And for our financial need at this time. God is GOOD!

Chuck and Joy Befus

