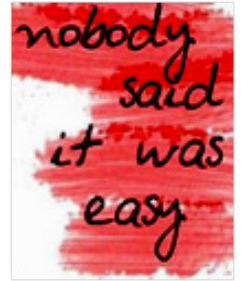


The Befus Report

Dear Faithful Partners in Christ,

As all of you know, living for Christ and knowing with precision His will is not easy. A quick reading of just a few verses will tell us of this reality if one is uncertain.

And he said to all, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me" (Luke 9:23). "In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world" (Jn. 16:33). "To strengthen and encourage you in your faith, so that no one would be unsettled by these trials. For you know quite well that we are destined for them" (1 Thes. 3:2-3). And then Paul gives us an example of himself in 2 Cor. 7:5, "For even when we came into Macedonia, our bodies had no rest, but we were afflicted at every turn—fighting without and fear within."



This is how it often feels in Costa Rica, in our ministry, and just recently in our family. You probably do not remember (I wouldn't if I were you) that in our last letter to you we wrote about waiting patiently for weddings, new grandchildren, land for our church (IBG), and possible ministries in Talamanca and Panama. Well, with many of these events, we seem to have come upon rather large challenges and obstacles—all a part of our Christian life, right?

So what do we need to do as we patiently wait and continue to wait?

Just Pray



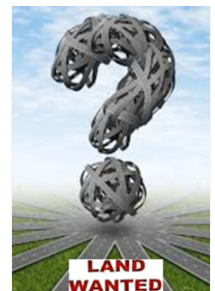
Pray!

"Oh God, Help us to Remember,"

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God (Philippians 4:6).

"God, we have been looking for land for more than three years for our church and we have come close, but nothing is within reach nor on the horizon. So,

God, what we are doing is renovating our present rental building. This was not our original plan but this seems to be what we should do right now. Guide us God. We wish to use your money wisely. So if this is not wise, show us the land or place to fortify this ministry."



Oh God, help us to remember what you said to Joshua and is your promise to each of us who has Your Spirit indwelling us."

I will be with you; I will never leave you nor forsake you (Joshua 1:5).

"God, Terrah and Oscar, our daughter and son-in-law, had their baby seven weeks early because Terrah had very high blood pressure that was putting her and Gabriel, our grandson, at risk. Neither we nor they know why, but we sure are



glad you blessed them early with a healthy small baby boy. Thank you, God, for being ever present and protecting them! Gabriel is grandchild #2 born in 2017. Cassie was first, now Gabriel, and #3 is coming in June. God, you are so good to us!

“Oh God, help us to remember you are sovereign, you are ‘the boss.’ You call the shots and have the authority. You are ‘King.’ You are in control.”



He existed before anything else and He holds all creation together (Colossians 1:17).



“God, you know that we have gone to Talamanca for six years and in the last two trips to the BriBri people this year we have searched for land to use and build upon to develop a ministry center where we can share your work and glory and bring help to these special people. But God, each piece of land we have checked out has fallen through. Oh, God, it has been so discouraging. How will we find this center? Is it what you desire? You are sovereign, in control, and know all things so we will go back and continue the search. Guide us! We desire to be used by you.”

Will you continue to pray with us and for us? We thank you for your prayers! We need them for we know that, “All things come to us not by chance but from his fatherly hand.” As written in the Heidelberg Catechism:

Providence is the almighty and ever present power of God by which he upholds, as with his hand, heaven and earth and all creatures, and so rules them that leaf and blade, rain and drought, fruitful and lean years, food and drink, health and sickness, prosperity and poverty--all things, in fact, come to us not by chance but from his fatherly hand.

In His hands,

Charles and Joy Befus

P.S. Pray also for God’s guidance as we have taken two study trips to the City of David in Panama. We have a Costa Rican family who is desiring to be missionaries so pray that God opens the door and we take action to begin a ministry in Panama.

