

November 2017

The Befus Family in Costa Rica

Dear Faithful Fellow-Workers in Christ,

We are a people who want what we want and would prefer it right now. Well, maybe I shouldn't include all of you and just say that I oftentimes don't understand God's timing. We know that He is an all-knowing God and therefore His timing is best, but in our flesh we just lean into what we want now thinking we know better than He does. (There I go again including you with me—sorry!)

FAITH
IN GOD
INCLUDES
FAITH
IN HIS
TIMING.



But Lamentations 3:25-26 says, ***"The Lord is good to those whose hope is in Him, to the one who seeks Him; it is good to wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord."***

Can you believe that statement, ***"it is good to wait quietly"***? Yes, it is good, but not easy...and then we can add Isaiah 40:31 which says, ***"But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint."***

Guess what? This is what we have been learning in Costa Rica recently. When we last wrote you, we were questioning the timing of God's leading and we wrote that while we waited we would pray—"real faith" right? But in all honesty, we were doubting and had just a wee bit of skepticism about God's timing. We wrote, ***"So what do we need to do as we patiently wait and continue to wait? Pray!"*** Wow! What maturity on our part! Right?

We can now tell you what we have learned in the last few months. Will you allow me, Chuck, to tell you a story?

Just Pray



I recently went to Talamanca to visit the indigenous BriBri people in Costa Rica with whom, for the last six years, we have begun a work. I went with two men from our church for the third time specifically to look for a land to develop a Center of Culture and Evangelism for the BriBri people. For over a year we had looked, checked out land, and called on land with no land in sight. As we drove the six hours to Talamanca, I spoke with my two friends about how we would go from home to home and person to person telling them of our desire to develop a land for a Talamancan family to have a center for helping their own people. I had faith *but little faith* as I stated that if we found no land we would most likely drop Talamanca from our ministry vision and move on.

Now this is where the story gets interesting. We got to the river where we cross over to the BriBri people and a man was there waiting with us to cross in the Panga (a large dugout canoe). For the next half hour this man went where we went and

ended up at the same destination as our company. I joked with him that he was stalking us, but he said that he lived at this very place. His name was Arcelio and since he was the first person present to tell of our desire to develop a land for the BriBri people, I decided to let him have our presentation of a land we were looking for and all the benefits of this land for their culture and with the addition of teaching the Bible and presenting the truth about Jesus Christ.

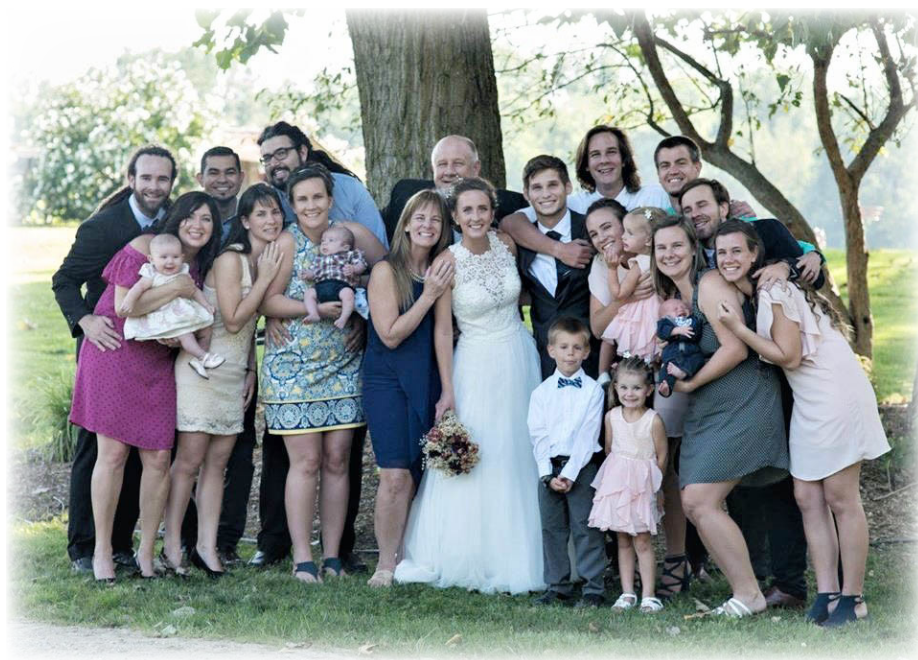
You guessed it! Arcelio said, "I have just the land that you want! Let me show it to you!" I was floored! My friends asked, "What just happened?" God's timing had happened! God answered our prayers! We were walking where God wanted us to walk!

Can I teach you how to say "goosebumps" in Spanish, because that is what we had all over? We had "escalofríos" or "piel de gallina." We went to see the Arcelio's land and it is perfect! **"It is good to wait quietly!"** And now is the time to work the plan, all in God's timing, in Talamanca! Thank you, God!



Keep praying for the land we need as a church in or around Alajuela. We came close to buying another land about three miles to the north of Alajuela, but in God's timing and closing of opportunities, we found that the land was measured and mapped wrong and it would take a year or more to correct the problem. Once again, God knows best!

On the homefront, we are overwhelmed by God's grace toward us. Just look at this picture taken July 28 at Austin and Autumn's wedding! God, you are so good! Five married to five wonderful spouses, four singles, and six super gorgeous grandchildren. Twenty-two and counting!



Thank you for praying for us and for your continued support towards us as we do ministry together with you.

In His hands!

Charles and Joy Befus