



3rd Q 2021

Dear Friends and Co-laborers,

“Rejoice in the Lord always and again I say rejoice.” —words, a command really, penned by Paul under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, that can be easily obeyed through good times and be more difficult to obey through the harder times. Missionaries are no different than the average person, in that they go through good times and bad times. The difference is that they may feel more alone in going through the tough times, as they are not in their home country and may be away from family and close friends. We have been experiencing these highs and lows over the past quarter.

We have been rejoicing that Sherrie has finished her chemo and all of her follow up tests and appointments have finished. The doctors said that, although she will always have it in her body, and it is a waiting game for when it takes over again; tests revealed that it is so small now that it is not visible. She has maintenance treatment for two years in an effort to prolong the time before it returns. We have been truly joyful in these results!

The things that have been harder to be joyful in surround the ministry. After the last quarter of lockdowns, hospitalizations, and sicknesses, this quarter has had its own challenges. Some challenges are the same, with lockdowns and sicknesses, while others are causing problems with meetings like the building being closed for maintenance or arriving on Sunday mornings to a building with no electricity—so no ability to meet inside, and because of bad weather, no ability to meet outside. We also have had people who told us they are leaving and others' attendance that is almost non-existent right now which is a huge disappointment that many pastors can understand. However, we look to be joyful in everything as our hope is in Christ, and that it is in Him where we find our joy. We can be joyful in the fact that we are remaining faithful as he has called us to do.

Please be in prayer for the church during this time, and thank you for all your prayers and support!

To the Praise of His Glory,

Gary Lester

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