



3rd Quarter 2020

Dear Co-laborers and Friends,

As the year 2020 presses on, there is no shortage of unplanned things happening. Whether in the US or in Australia, between COVID-19 and the natural disasters that are happening around us, what we know for sure about 2020 is that, although we may be surprised by whatever each new day holds, God is never surprised.

Recently, we have been surprised by some medical news related to Sherrie. On September 11, Sherrie was diagnosed with Stage III Follicular non-Hodgkin Lymphoma. It is a low-grade (slow growing) cancer. This particular type and stage of cancer, though not curable, can be reasonably treated. However, over years of study, researchers have found that treating this type and stage of the disease can cause it to transform into being aggressive; and the cancer can become resistant to the treatment, which means that no treatment will be available when it becomes aggressive. So although it has spread to several spots through her abdomen, they do not treat it at this point. They watch it and treat it when or if it becomes aggressive or grows to a point that affects normal function in the body. This news was certainly not expected by us but was news that did not take God by surprise. We are thankful to the Lord, that as cancers go, it could be a lot worse; and Sherrie is thankful that she does not have to have chemotherapy at this point.

After getting that news on Friday, we were extremely excited to see our highest attendance, for a regular service, in over two years on Sunday the 13th. We have seen God bring new people in and have had our first deaf/hard-of-hearing person attend a service. What a blessing and encouragement that was to our family!

Please pray for the following requests:

- 1) That Sherrie can stay well and be able to finish her interpreting classes as this is her last semester
- 2) That we will see a great turnout for our Thanksgiving dinner this year (November 15) and that we will see some deaf visitors that day
- 3) That God will use what is going on in the life of our family to reach others
- 4) For Liarra in her studying as she studies to become an Australian sign language interpreter
- 5) For me as I have an opportunity to further my ministry in becoming a chaplain

Thank you for all your prayers and support!

To the praise of His glory,

Gary Lester
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Glorifying God Above, in the Land Down Under