



August 2013

Dear Pastors, Partners, & Praying Friends,

“[Is there] no balm in Gilead; [is there] no physician there? Why then is not the health of the daughter of my people recovered?” Often I think about this question asked in Jeremiah 8:22. As a God-called missionary to Japan I see the possibilities and the open door that God is allowing my wife, children, and me to be able to walk through. Thankfully we recognize that there is a balm in Gilead. There is the great physician in Jesus Christ that the 127 million precious souls of Japan need.

Throughout the month of July we have stayed at home while Amy recuperates and one-month-old baby Joel continues to grow and get stronger. During this month we have been challenged and encouraged by many missionary families who have come through our home church. We were so humbled and honored to listen to Bro. David Gibbs III speak at our church on July 21. To be a lawyer in addition to knowing his Bible seemed quite intimidating at first. Yet how the Lord used him to challenge our hearts, update us in terms of legal matters, and to preach the Word of God to us was a true blessing. The McElreath and Ribeiro families were also a true blessing in seeing what the Lord is continuing to do in Ethiopia and in Brazil. It has been a well-rested month and an encouraging time being amongst our church family and immediate family as well. We do look forward now to getting back in our van beginning on August 2 as we will travel to Eastwood Baptist Church in Marietta, Georgia to be with Pastor Mike Hatton and their missions conference which will be Friday through Sunday. From there we will travel to Chattanooga, Tennessee for a week in developing our DVD presentation to show while on deputation. Afterwards, we will have meetings in North Carolina, Georgia, and South Carolina. The month of August is booked for us each Sunday and Wednesday. Please do pray for traveling mercies and that the Lord will supply for our needs as we begin to pick up in our traveling. We are excited as a family in getting to spend time on the road. Most of all we are looking forward to seeing new churches, meeting the pastors, and establishing new friendships. Pray also that we will see people saved, called into the ministry, and just answering the call of God on their lives in whatever He would have them to do.

Pray as the Lord allows us to raise our support in being able to return to Japan. That time it won't be for a survey trip but to serve Him where He has called us to go. Continue to pray for Amy as she is progressing in her schooling. She passed her first test and now will have two more to take before this month is up. Abigail and Joel are doing well. Abigail is helpful as an open door that Paul mentioned. She is not shy one bit and this gives us a tremendous opportunity in outreach. We love each and every one of you all and pray for you often. Until His return, we continue to pray for the blessings upon the many pastors, partners, and praying friends that we have through Christ Jesus.

Serving Together With Servants Hearts

*Josh, Amy, Abigail & Joel Durden*

BIMI Missionaries to Japan

Luke 4:18-19

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