

Dear partners and friends,

Phillip Brooks was a nineteenth-century Episcopal bishop and author. He wrote the lyrics to "O Little Town of Bethlehem". Regarding the above verse, he wrote, "Oh, do not pray for easy lives! Pray to be stronger men! Do not pray for tasks equal to your powers; pray for powers equal to your tasks! Then the doing of your work shall be no miracle, but you shall be a miracle." As we have gotten older and with Jack's heart condition, we realize more and more that we do not have the strength to continue what we are doing, but guess Who does! "My flesh and my heart may fail; But God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever." (Psalm 73:26). Whatever your situation, find a promise in the Bible and hold on to it.

We pray your new year has started joyfully with Jesus at the helm. Ours was not so joyful as Ann's Mom passed away on January 8. She was taken to the hospital and died before we could have gotten there. It has been very difficult for Ann not to be with her family at this time. We had already planned to be in Tampa from February 1 to the 26th so we are staying with that plan as we have a place to stay and a car to drive for those dates. The family will have a memorial service for Mom on February 20. A small group from our local church here came one evening to have a little memorial service for Ann's Mom even though they did not know her. It was a comfort to us.

Many thanks to you who gave extra end of the year gifts for our support and ministry. We have about one-half of the funds needed to have the five volumes of the School of Christianity translated into Spanish. The first volume has already been received from the translator and is being reviewed by several Spanish speakers here and in the U.S.

Please pray for Chiang, a Chinese restaurant owner we have been witnessing to. He is a non-practicing Buddhist, and is beginning to ask more questions about Christianity. Christmas was a good time to tell him about why Spain celebrates the birth of Jesus. Also, keep praying for Pedro, another café owner that we have befriended and talked to about eternity. As God opens the doors, we continue to witness of His love and salvation to people here that shun religion of any kind.

We thank the Lord for all of you that pray for us and support us. Your continuing encouragement works in us like the strength of God written about above. God bless you all.

Love in Christ,

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