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Happy New Year, January, 2021

I trust that you and your family survived 2020 with all of the challenges that so many experienced. It is a time to better understand living by faith. John Calvin wrote in The Institutes – “the knowledge of faith consists in assurance rather than in comprehension”. We can be assured by the object of our faith which is Christ Jesus and His redemption – His Plan – His Gospel. Eph 3:1-13 explains this mystery – “that we might know the wisdom of God through the eternal purpose in Christ Jesus as our Lord in whom we have boldness and access with confidence **by faith**”.

I pray that 2021 is more normal but it appears that we are not through the dark tunnel yet. By God’s Grace, Penny and I were fortunate to keep working this past year. We have greatly enjoyed getting our whole TN Lively family together several times for birthdays and holidays. All 16 of us (10 adults and 6 children) have grown to look forward to and value the benefits of family time and the various ways we support each other in daily living. With 6 grandkids – all in the immediate area – there are several opportunities to spend time with them and help in various ways. This is a tremendous privilege that Penny and I willing choose and enjoy. We love being Grammy and Pop Pop.

We are grieving the deaths of two family members. Jeannie, my brother’s wife of nearly 50 years lost her long battle with cancer in mid-October. Pray for Steve who lives near my Mom in WV as he is adjusting to a big change at 70. Our sister, Cheryl who just turned 65, who struggled living with the wicked disease of MS the last 10 years, died on December 4th. Pray for our Mom in her two losses. She still prefers to live alone at the age of 91. Pray also for Cheryl’s family and especially for her partner, Pete, as he too now learns to live alone again. Life is full of challenges and changes which mean we are given an opportunity to express and live by our faith in hope promised by the Father – the Promise Keeper. Christ’s followers (disciples) draw on faith in Him and His Plan as well as in the prayers and support of others. The Church (people) has learned new ways to worship and serve others. Feeding ourselves spiritually is so important.

The ministry that God is blessing is what I am calling **Biblical Mentoring – “Knowing Christ and His Word of Truth and to make them Known”**. I have peace in this being my main focus. I have recruited 9 individuals to encourage and train in a 30 minute call each week. We review two of the 60 verses in the Topical Memory System of the Navs followed by a study of the chapter for that week’s verse. We save time for personal sharing and prayer. It works! The goal is to alternate leadership so that training is achieved and evaluated. I am enclosing a summary of goals, convictions and instructions in hopes that others will seek this training. If interested, you will need to participate with me or someone who has been trained and you may start mentoring another person after you finish about 20 verses together.

Penny and I have lived in our home in Thompsons Station south of Franklin for 22 years. This is our “retirement home” since we love the area and being near our family. We don’t want to pack it all up and move again! Please pray I can refinance our loan soon. I am hopeful I can raise more ministry support as God leads to support my mentoring work.


We are so proud of all of our four kids and their families. In age order, JJ & **Leeann** are living on a fun working farm in Woodbury, TN which is about an hour due East past Murfreesboro. Their one child is John Holden who is 4 going on 10! Chickens, canning, creatures, creating and so much more fill their days. I am honestly envious of their country living which is how I grew up in WV. Next is **Josh** & girlfriend, Rebecca. Josh still lives in Huntsville, AL having returned from an assignment in Germany where he spent most of this past year. Rebecca lives in Fayetteville, NC. Patrick and **Laura** with their one daughter, Penelope Joy who is also 4 years old, still live in Franklin. We get to see Penelope the most which is a joy for us. She now comes to our house to POP-set me two days each week so Laura can work more. **Andrew** & Justine with Hayden, twins Sawyer & Marlana, and Ruthie (ages 12, 4, 4 and 2) live in Columbia, TN which is 30 minutes south of us. Add an active dog or two – need I say more?!! Busy and active – hard workers – and all healthy!

Use this as you annual receipt:

2020 Total Donations	\$
2020 Gifts in Kind:	\$

I am praying we all continue to Know Christ and Make Him Known more and more in 2021.

In Christ, *Ron*



Healthy Initiative Ministries

“Encouraging and Equipping God’s People for Works of Service” - Eph. 4:11-13

☐ Yes, I want to help support Ron and his Biblical Mentoring (discipleship training) mentoring ministry.

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Enclosed is a ☐ one-time gift or ☐ regular gift which I plan to give ☐ monthly ☐ quarterly or ☐ annually.

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