

Dear

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. It's hard to believe that 2020 is quickly approaching and I know that many of us are stepping into the holidays from all different places! For some of us, wrapping up 2019 is a season of joy, and for others of us a season of loss. For some it's a season of giving and for others a season for receiving. No matter where we are, I am reminded that there is much to be thankful for and I hope my November edition gave you just a snapshot into my thankful list from this last year.

As I think back, one of the things that has most struck me is the realities of the world in which we live. Often times, it grieves me, hurts me, angers me, confuses me, and sometimes in all of that, I feel hopeless and at a loss for what to do. I don't want to sit in it but it's necessary to wrestle and lament. And as I do that, I'm then reminded of the 'BUT GOD'. But God is faithful. But God is in control. But God knows and care more than I do. But God is bigger. But God is enough. But God... you fill in the blank. My prayer is that however you are entering into this season, we would lament together and remember the 'But God.' I am lamenting and remembering with you as we celebrate the birth of Jesus.

Dignity is a word that I've been sitting in lately. **Dignity is the state or quality of being worthy of honor and respect.** I'm so thankful for time with one of my sisters and her family over this last Thanksgiving break and the ways that she has continued to remind me of the dignity of each and every human being. We have all been created in the image of God. We are his imago dei. My prayer and challenge for me, for us, as we enter into 2020 is that in every interaction, with every person we meet, we would show dignity and every person would feel worthy of honor and respect just because of who they are and that would be good news. Jesus says they are worth it and His Gospel is enough to meet them where they are and we get to be part of spreading that especially this season.

I am so thankful for your continued faithful generosity. **Looking up**, I'm reminded of what I have been called to and the privilege it is to be a part of this good news of Jesus not just for us but for all his people. **Looking back** on the partnerships and friendships I have had, I am so thankful. I could not do it without you. Your belief in me, your encouragement, prayers, and financial support. And **looking ahead**, would you consider joining me through financial partnership. Attached is a form on how you can partner with me in this next season to continue in being salt and light for His Kingdom. Again, I am so thankful for you and to get to share with you!!