



RIPE *for Harvest*

WORLD OUTREACH

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NOVEMBER 2020 MINISTRY UPDATE

Hello Friends and Family,

Well, **Covid-19 arrived at the Travis home this month.** It began with me. I am not entirely sure where and how I contracted the virus. We thought we were adequately implementing the current health and safety practices of frequent hand washing, wearing a mask when around others, and maintaining physical distancing, but obviously not well enough.



My symptoms began with a sore throat and fatigue and then rapidly progressed to include severe headaches, loss of taste and smell, body aches, fever, diarrhea, cough, and even a rash. Tannia's symptoms followed a few days behind mine, and she struggled more with her breathing. We were able to manage the illness at home and did not require hospitalization. Although there were a few times, we considered going to the Emergency Room, but our temperatures never exceeded 101. Praise God!

We are both now mostly recovered, although a lingering cough and fatigue are still with us. I've returned to work—but taking the days and activities slowly. **Thank God with us for being Covid-19 survivors!** We are aware of quite a few who are not.

Tannia's mom, Sara, is staying with us until mid-December, and until just a few days ago, she was able to avoid the virus. But now, she, too, is dealing with headaches, fatigue, and loss of taste and smell. Please keep her in your prayers. Praying that her symptoms remain mild and without fever. Thank you. Emma only experienced symptoms for a day or two and is doing just fine. In fact, as I write this update, we are **celebrating her 9th birthday today!** Wow, how quickly the years pass! And what a blessing she is. We are so thankful to God for Emma and so appreciative to the many of you who walked through the adoption process with us. Emma is an intelligent, active, and caring girl who loves learning and being a good friend to others. We are very proud of her.



Meeet the newest member of the Travis family, Buttercup (pictured left with Emma). She is a labradoodle, and her story is a blessing, as she was given to us by a local breeder. Thus, we are literally "custodians" of Buttercup, while the breeder maintains breeding rights for a time. Once Buttercup delivers a couple of litters, then she will be fully ours. Emma has been asking for a dog for several years now, and she is so happy! **We are thanking God for His provision even in the little things of life, like providing a puppy for our birthday girl!**

Finally, your continued prayers and support are so appreciated as our ministry continues to support school leaders virtually through **web conferences this month in Ohio, Vietnam, and Brazil.** My skill set as an online presenter/facilitator is increasing, but I am certainly going through a learning curve—and thankful that the

work can continue through this amazing technology.

Praying that you and yours stay safe and well and **enjoy a blessed Thanksgiving!** We are so very thankful for you!



Yours for Christ,
- Toby (for Tannia and Emma too!)