

Dear praying friends,

Greetings in the precious name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. It is aways so easy to miss the real reason for the Christmas season. The beautiful lights, the additional expenses and the artificiality of the festive period can contribute to overshadowing the beauty, the worth and the reality of God manifested in the flesh. The verse reminds us that He came to save that which was lost. Man was lost. He is estranged to the life of God, the light of God and the likeness of God. We can only have a blessed Christmas if we have come to the blessing of God's salvation and receive from that the blessing of reflecting the life, light and likeness of God.

Health wise, we are feeling better. Open heart surgery is like you have been hit with a big Mack truck. It was in these words that an RN explained to me what I have been through. The recovery will be long. I appreciate all the prayers, notes of encouragement and the monetary gifts that we have received. We are due to fly back to Mauritius on the 29th of December and we will very much appreciate your prayers for this long 21 hours flight time without counting the lay overs.

Our going back is a bitter-sweet thing. We missed not having seen some of our supporting churches who have been so faithful to us over the years. But we rejoice to have had some blessed time of fellowship with some of you. Our extended time with Lionel and Grace and our newest granddaughter was a happy time. We rejoice that we have been of service to the saints here in the Knoxville area.

Please pray for one of our colleagues, Pastor Francois Serret. He has been diagnosed with cancer and is due to have surgery shortly in Australia, since there was an inadequacy for effective medical care in Mauritius. As I go back, I will be responsible to give pastoral care and attention to the church of Pastor Serret.

Remember to pray for the Victory Baptist Church in our building plan.

May the Lord continue to bless you. May you all be blessed with a joyful Christmas and a fruitful year 2018.

Your missionaries,

Guy and Marilyne Grenade December 2017