



Maybe...

1 Samuel 14:6 - *Jonathan said to the young man who carried his armor, "Come, let us go over to the garrison of these uncircumcised. It may be that the LORD will work for us, for nothing can hinder the LORD from saving by many or by few."*

It MAY BE that the LORD will work for us – *maybe?* The Israelites were down to 600 men facing a Philistine army too numerous to count – ultimate defeat was only a matter of time. The plan Jonathan is proposing to his armor bearer is a suicide mission which would require God's intervention for it to succeed – but Jonathan isn't guaranteed God is going to intervene. So why make a move?

1. Jonathan had faith in God – he knew God had worked in the past, he knew God called him to lead, and he was equipped for the task at hand.
2. Jonathan was willing to fail – he had vision, but no guarantees – he understood the big picture of what God was trying to accomplish, he diagnosed the problem, determined a solution, and focused on God's glory not his own.
3. Jonathan had courage – his plan was much bigger than he could handle and required him to be "all in" – he acted without guarantees, he understood failure was a real option, but he believed he was doing what he was supposed to do.

Read the rest of the story and you will see that God showed up big time! The result was a huge victory for Israel and God received the glory.

We feel a lot like Jonathan here in the home office. God has provided us with vision, but not the human and financial resources to carry it out yet. Since He has made it clear that the vision is from Him – we choose to move forward in faith and anticipation that along the way He will provide all that is needed to accomplish His vision for T4MM in Jamaica. We have begun to see enough glimpses of His specific provision that we are full of anticipation for what lies ahead! God is at work – and He is getting ready to do something big!

1 YEAR LATER

It is hard to believe that the end of this month marks one year since Harold and Randy were taken home. It has been a tough year. God has proven Himself faithful and the great Comforter, and He has been preparing us for future ministry, weaving all of these experiences together and working through them for the

ultimate good of ourselves and others. We have learned much over this past year, and have grown closer as a ministry family. Moving forward there will be many changes – ministry will never be the same – and God has some amazing plans for each of our team members.

TERI'S PLANS



Teri has served with T4MM going on 13 years. She has been seeking confirmation from God as to what her next step should be – and God has clearly spoken. Teri will be transitioning from T4MM to Faith Global Ministries based in Indiana over the next couple of months. Her ministry focus will be on international students attending Purdue University where she will be working with a team leading Bible studies,

Please pray for Teri:

1. Financial cost of moving to Indiana.
2. Leaving one Mission family and joining another.
3. Adjustment, flexibility, comfort, excitement moving forward.

mentoring, and discipling these students. We will deeply miss her, but we are excited for her future as God is clearly involved in this process. Her last official day with us will be May 31. The cost of moving from Jamaica to Indiana, furnishing a home, purchasing a vehicle, etc. will cost about \$20,000, so we have set up a **TRANSITION FUND** to help alleviate this expense. Please consider donating to this fund as a big THANK YOU for her years of service in Jamaica.

Teri's Transition Fund

SARA'S PLANS



Sara and her children are still residing in Iowa. She is still called to ministry and would like to continue working with the Bible Training Center of Jamaica if possible. We are in discussions with her as to how to make that a reality. Please be in prayer for her as she determines the

Lord's leading as to what extent she is to stay involved with T4MM.

Once that decision has been made, we will communicate to you her new role, job description, and level of support needed going forward.

Please pray for Sara:

1. Regarding to what extent to remain involved with T4MM.
2. Pray for her children as they continue to adjust to the new normal.

T4MM'S PLANS

We were able to fill all of our 2016 J-Teams this past year! Thank you! Because of you we were able to not miss a beat in caring for our Jamaican patients. We were also able to communicate to them that we are still committed to them and to ministering in Jamaica as a Mission. Our Bible Training Center of Jamaica is not only surviving but it is thriving! As such, our J-Teams and our BTCJ will continue to function, moving

forward, as they always have. Our Bible Club, Construction ministry, Pastoral ministry, and much of our Neighborhood ministry has been put on hold for now. As we put a new team of missionaries in place, the ministry on the ground will take shape according to the giftedness of the team. Perhaps it will look similar, perhaps very different. We are looking for the missionaries God has called to be part of our team.

Please pray specifically:

- We are in conversation with three different couples now who have expressed an interest in ministering in Jamaica.
1. Pray for clarity – is this God's provision?
 2. Pray for wisdom – forming a new team where each piece is vital and complementary.
 3. Pray for ministry partners – all three couples would need ministry partners.

Please pray specifically:

1. We are short a few positions for May; pray for strength for an understaffed team.
2. For additional medicine funds on a monthly basis.
3. For our August and November J-Teams – we still have many openings.

Medicine Fund



J-TEAM NEEDS

Filling four J-Teams a year is quite a task. Finding 15+ people to pay \$1,800 to spend a week ministering in Jamaica can be difficult at times. Doing so four times a year takes some outside help. Up to this point, God has abundantly supplied our need for personnel, and our expectation is that He will continue to do so. However, we have found He does so through ministry partners – and that is where you come in. We need to get the word out about J-Teams. Tell others in your church about this opportunity. Talk to your doctor and nurses at your medical visits. And pray about participating personally. Another need is Medicine. It costs between \$3,500 - \$4,000 per J-Team for the medicine we take with us. A while back we received a generous donation toward the Medicine Fund which has carried us for quite a while – but those funds have now been depleted. We also recently lost our largest monthly donor to the Medicine fund and we are in need of additional ongoing funds. One time gifts are helpful, and monthly gifts even more so. If you would like to help offset these costs, please designate your giving to **MEDICINE FUND**.

TEAMS HOUSE IN JAMAICA

With Teri transitioning from T4MM to FGM, our TEAMS HOUSE in Jamaica will be vacant. Until we are able to put more missionaries on the ground, we will have a caretaker to live in and take care of the house and property. This will incur additional costs. If you would like to help offset these costs, please designate your giving to **JAMAICA MINISTRIES FUND**.



Jamaica Ministries Fund

Please pray specifically:

1. For additional full-time missionaries to join our team on the ground in Jamaica.
2. For funds to cover the additional costs incurred while we rebuild our team.
3. For protection of TEAMS HOUSE until we get our own team in place.

REPORTS



February J-Team

In the same way the gifts Epaphroditus brought Paul, the members of this J-Team were a fragrant offering, a sacrifice acceptable and pleasing to God – and to us. This J-Team was hand-picked by God to meet the unique needs of this specific trip. This was the team that would hear officially from Teri that she would be making a transition from serving in Jamaica with T4MM to serving in the United States with FGM. On this team was a couple who had been on Teri's first mission trip to Haiti where she and Harold were called to full-time missions. They felt privileged to bookend Teri's ministry in Jamaica. We also had a J-Teamer who had a real heart for missions and was eager to learn all she could from our team. We also had four doctors, which is a real treat, allowing us to visit some of our elderly patients in their homes – what a blessing. On this team our entire registration and nursing teams were new, but you would never have known it as the team worked smoothly and efficiently. We were able to minister to over 700 patients and handed out over 2400 prescriptions. We had a wonderful, full week.

Philippians 4:18

I am well supplied, having received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent, a fragrant offering, a sacrifice acceptable and pleasing to God.



BTCJ Founders Day

The week following the J-Team was a special week. After sending the J-Team home, we welcomed Homer and Pat Heater, John's parents, to the Island for another week of ministry. Homer spoke and visited with the



leadership teams of Midland Bible College and Jamaica Theological Seminary. It was good to meet these folks and begin a relationship with their institutions. On Thursday of that week, Homer was the guest speaker at BTCJ's first annual Founders Day in remembrance of BTCJ's roots and founders. Sara, Anna, Amy and Tyler, and Cassie were in attendance, along with Teri, Anne, John and Linda, students from all classes past and present, and people from the community. It was an excellent time of remembering and honoring Randy as well as recommitting to keep the school operating according to the principles and values Randy and Sara established in the very beginning. Sara was presented with a beautiful picture montage of she and Randy and a folder of memories. A plaque was also presented and hung in the BTCJ office commemorating the day. It was an incredible evening of honoring and reinforcing the roots of our BTCJ program.

THE QUARTERLY UPDATE FROM

TEAMS for MEDICAL MISSIONS

PHONE: 610-398-0070 | EMAIL: TEAMS@T4mm.org | WEB: www.T4mm.org

Vital Signs

SPRING 2017



TEAMS for MEDICAL MISSIONS

P.O. BOX 215

MACUNGIE, PA 18062-0215

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Org.

U.S. Postage

PAID

Randolph NY

Permit No. 31

H E A R T B E A T

by
John Heater

This past year has tested us as a Mission family. We have lost spouses, friends, co-workers. We have seen ministry chapters closed, dreams of the future dashed, and feelings of uncertainty moving forward. We have also seen God's family pour out their love on us in so many ways. In 2 Corinthians 1:3-5 Paul makes it clear that suffering is a part of life – but he also makes it clear in Romans 8:28 that nothing goes to waste, that God is able to use it all for His glory and our good.

We are getting glimpses of the good God is working in our lives. Some are very personal and private, and some are Mission-wide. Through all of this, God continues to show Himself faithful

and loving. He is a gracious, nurturing Father whom we can trust. Thank you for your continued prayers and support of each and every one of us.

As we look forward, we see a bright future for T4MM as a Mission and for each of its individual parts. And soon we hope to share some exciting news that is in the developmental stages right now. Stay tuned!

John

