

BOLD Entrance

Hebrews 4:16 – *let us approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and grace to help us at the proper time.*



How would you describe your prayers? Are they powerful? Effective? Sporadic? Long? Short? Bottom-line? Bold? Conversational? Repetitive? Do you find yourself praying out of obedience, but not sure if your prayers make much of a difference? Prayer is a mystical practice and as such, it takes some cultivating. My encouragement to you is to take some time to talk to God about your prayer life, and then prepare to take it to the next level.

The PURPOSE of prayer is relational at its core.

God's desire is for us to align ourselves with God's heart, mind and will. With His heart – how He feels about things, what He loves and hates; With His mind – how He thinks about things, how He plans, how He accomplishes His heart; With His will – what He is planning, along with all the details. In Matthew 6:7-13, Jesus tells us prayer involves worshiping God for Who He is, asking God to redeem all things that are not as they were designed to be (be specific), asking for God's provision, for God's forgiveness (which involves our forgiveness of others), and for God's protection as we seek to follow Him.

The PROCESS of prayer is extremely important to receiving answers to prayer.

- 1.** Ask – James 4:2 says *you do not have, because you do not ask*. If you want specific answers, ask for specific things. Perhaps you have not received, simply because you have not asked.
- 2.** Ask with correct motives – James 4:3 says *you ask and don't receive because you ask with wrong motives*. Remember, the purpose of prayer is to align yourself with God's heart, mind and will – not to get what you want.
- 3.** Ask according to God's will – 1 John 5:14 says *if we ask anything according to His will, he hears us*. If our hearts are aligned with His heart and our minds are aligned with His mind, our desires and prayers will align with His will – and He will answer our prayers according to what we ask.
- 4.** Ask persistently – Jesus tells us in Luke 18 to be like the persistent widow who was petitioning an unjust judge to rule in her favor. She was so persistent in her requests, that the unjust judge ruled

in her favor, not because he was just, but because she wore him down with her asking. How much more likely are you to get what you are asking for from the holy and just God who loves you, when you persistently ask Him according to His will?

What about FASTING and prayer? Is fasting necessary? Helpful? Key?

Scripture says a lot about fasting and gives many examples of how fasting and prayer work hand in hand. Fasting is often accompanied by mourning and crying due to being in want (Matthew 9:14,15). Fasting involves humility, viewing ourselves properly in relationship to God (Psalm 35:13). Fasting is to be between you and God, not for show (Matthew 6:16-18). Fasting is part of preparing yourself for what God has next (Matthew 4:1-2). Fasting often accompanies repentance (Joel 2:12), or when making important decisions (Acts 14:23), or when making requests of God (Ezra 8:21-23). Typically we think of fasting as refraining from eating food – but it is possible to take a fast from anything – from TV, radio, Facebook, Twitter, shopping, ice cream, sports, or any other attachment or craving that can distract you from your relationship with God. The idea is that when you are fasting, you choose to fill that craving with Jesus by spending the time with Him and asking Him to fill the void. If fasting is new to you, consider researching the topic and then adding it into your prayer life.

Our INVITATION for you to pray (and fast) for TEAMS for Medical Missions.

Romans 15:30 – *Now (we) appeal to you, brothers, through our Lord Jesus Christ and through the love of the Spirit, to join with (us) in fervent prayers to God on (our) behalf.* Here at T4MM we have some acute needs and are asking you to join us in praying and even fasting to petition God on our behalf. Over the past year, the needs and ministry opportunities have increased in Jamaica while at the same time our funding has decreased. We continued to operate in faith, doing what we believed God was asking us to do, and we now find ourselves at the point of needing to make ministry decisions based on financial realities. God has supplied in the past in amazing

ways, and we are expecting Him to do so again. We are inviting you to join us with prayer and fasting to entreat the Lord for His supply. We are praying for \$50,000 to get us back to where we were a year ago, and then for an additional \$4,000 per month going forward. 2Corinthians 1:10b-12 — *We have put our hope in Him that He will deliver us again¹¹ while you join in helping us by your prayers. Then many will give thanks on our behalf for the gift that came to us through the prayers of many.*

We are also asking you to join us in prayer and fasting for additional full-time personnel in Jamaica. We are looking for an individual or couple who would be able to function as our Field Director in Jamaica. This person or couple will need to be able to work well with our present missionaries and Jamaican ministry team members and partners. In Matthew 9:36-38,

Kauffman Korner

Greetings! Welcome to Kauffman Korner. Moving forward, our family will have our own spot in Vital Signs to share ministry and family updates, as well as an occasional spiritual thought. It will be a great opportunity to keep you in the loop with what's going on in our life.

Family...

Our biggest news is that our family expanded to 4 as we welcomed Paige Michaela on March 24th. While we're a bit sleep deprived, Paige has been a huge blessing and joy. Jase is excited to be big brother even though there are times when he misses being an only child. Otherwise, he keeps busy with church programs, homeschool phys ed class, and t-ball. Overall, we enjoy being a family of 4. Please pray for us as we continue to adjust.

Ministry...

Teams Faith Academy (TFA) has been running consistently since October. Nick and Kezia continue to run the program even when we are not on the island. The program has approximately 50 students who attend each week. It's been received well by the community, and we're excited about the growth we've seen in the students. It's helped strengthen current

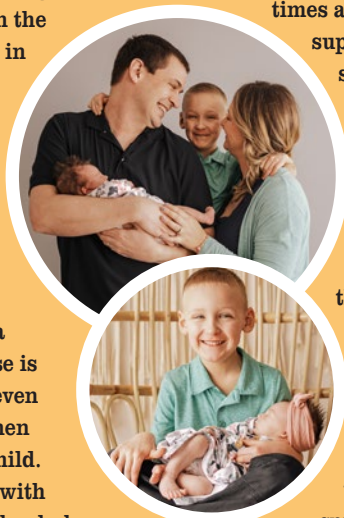
relationships and build new ones. Pray for wisdom for us, Nick, and Kezia as we seek to grow the program and reach the community.

Basketball ministry is going well too. Since Mike returned from Jamaica in February, Nick has been opening the court 2-3 times a week. Nick provides general supervision and handles the spiritual component, while two Jamaican young men, Devonte and Roshane, lead the basketball side of things. They have a consistent turnout of 10 - 15 teens and young men. We've enjoyed the relationships that have been built and we're excited for the consistency with the program running while we're not on the island. Pray for wisdom as we seek the best way to connect with them on a spiritual level.

Our next trip to Jamaica is planned for mid-June through mid-August. During our time there, we'll be involved in hosting 2 youth teams, as well as the August J-Team. We will also be a part of the basketball ministry and TFA while we're there. Please pray for us as this will be our first trip as a family of four.

Thank you for following along and praying for us!

Blessings in Christ,
Mike, Jayne, Jase & Paige

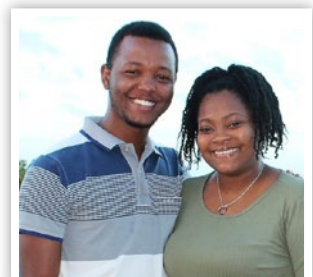


Jesus tells His disciples *the harvest is abundant, but the workers are few. Therefore, pray to the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest.*

And thirdly, we are asking you to join us in prayer and fasting for the expansion of ministry that God has begun in Jamaica:

1. God has been directing us toward developing an apprenticeship program to train young men and women in the fields of welding, carpentry, masonry, and perhaps other skills. Our plan was to begin this program sometime in 2024 or beyond, but God chose to supply the funds immediately and quite unexpectedly. While we were sharing our vision for this program we received an offer to jumpstart the program with \$20,000. This is allowing us to speed up our timetable – so we ask you to pray with us for wisdom and the necessary personnel to get this program ready for launch. Ephesians 3:20 says, *Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us,²¹ to Him be the glory.*

2. We have brought on Nickalous Walsh and Kezia Jones to lead our TEAMS Faith Academy (children's ministry) at \$630/month plus travel expenses to/from Kingston at \$100/month; additionally we have added to Nickalous' job description the Director of the Bible Training Center of Jamaica at \$500/month. We are looking for individuals and churches to contribute toward this monthly support of \$1,230 for them.



Nick and Kezi

God tells us to enter boldly into the throne of grace so we may receive mercy and grace to help us at the proper time. Thank you for entering boldly with us and may you be forever changed as a result.



House dedication



February 2023 J-Team Team

J-Team Openings:				
OPENINGS	AUG 5-13, 2023	NOV 4-12, 2023	FEB 3-11, 2024	MAY 4-12, 2024
3 Providers	✓✓✓	✓✓□	✓✓□	✓□□
2 Nurses	✓□	✓✓	✓✓	□□
3 Pharmacists	✓□□	✓□□	✓✓□	✓□□
1 Clinic Clerk	✓	□	□	□
3-5 Builders	✓✓✓✓✓	✓□□□□	✓□□□□	□□□□□
3 Kids/Sports Min.	✓✓✓✓✓ ✓✓✓✓✓	✓✓□	□□□	□□□
1-2 Encouragers	✓✓✓	□□	□□	□□

February 2023 J-Team Update

We had another fabulous team of people for our February J-Team! We were able to see 542 patients and hand out 1650 prescriptions. We had two encouragers who talked and prayed with



Pastor Colin Cowan

just about everyone at the clinics, and people's lives were blessed! We were especially excited to have Pastor Colin Cowan lead devotions at our Wednesday clinic which is held in his church. Partnering with local churches enables us to better reach our community for Christ. We were also excited to have Ipream and Pinky, who are part of our ministry, join us all week at the clinics, at the 10 schools we

visit and bring devotions, and at TFA (TEAMS Faith Academy). Our builders built a home for Doc and Sally and their disabled son as well as had time to put our new workshop area to good use building seating for our back veranda.



Ipream and Pinky

Thank you for your prayers for each team, for the process of getting the medications through customs, and for all the paperwork that needs to be processed for our medical personnel each trip.



New workshop area

Bible Training Center of Jamaica Update

We are happy to announce that BTCJ Class 8 graduated 6 students on March 30! We are excited for these men and women who have fought the good fight and finished the 3½ year course. Pray for them as they impact their churches and communities for Christ. We are also excited to welcome Nickalous Walsh as our new BTCJ Director! We want to thank Paul Hemmings for his service as Director for these past 6 years and wish him well in his new ministry position in Kingston. At present we have two classes in session with a third class to start within the next two months, and a fourth class soon after. Please be in prayer for Nickalous and the Executive Leadership team as they seek to recruit more instructors, substitute instructors, and leadership team members from our pool of BTCJ Alumni, and as they recruit students for the upcoming classes.

Other Giving Options

(talk with your financial advisor for more details)

- **Individual Retirement Account (IRA)** - you could name T4MM as a beneficiary of your account or you could request a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) directly from your IRA to T4MM
- **Donor Advised Fund** - an easy and flexible way to grow funds intended for charitable giving and the opportunity to select T4MM as a charity than can benefit from your giving
- **Charitable Gift Annuities** - you can realize a steady stream of payments and know that you'll be making a profound impact on T4MM
- **Charitable Trusts** - add flexibility and control over more extensive charitable contributions and divide how and when your assets are used between charitable and non-charitable beneficiaries
- **Planned Giving** - selecting and using a well-structured giving approach that offers tax efficiencies, can reward you as a donor, your heirs, other beneficiaries and charitable organizations that you choose
- **Wills and Legacy Planning** - give through your Will and estate plan and know how you will make a mark on this world for the future as you put your Christian beliefs and stewardship ideals to work today

THE QUARTERLY UPDATE FROM

TEAMS for MEDICAL MISSIONS

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Vital Signs

MAY 2023



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HEARTBEAT

by John Heater

2Thessalonians 1:11-12 - And in view of this, we always pray for you that our God will consider you worthy of His calling, and will, by His power, fulfill every desire for goodness and the work of faith, 12 so that the name of our Lord Jesus will be glorified by you, and you by Him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

We consider you ministry partners with us in this calling to serve Jamaica by being Jesus Christ's ambassadors to everyone we meet, bringing the gospel to bear on life's situations, putting a voice to God's call for repentance and discipleship, putting hands and feet to God's call to minister to the poor, and putting heart, mind, and soul into following all God calls us to do. Your prayers and personal involvement in the ministry enable us to keep on

keeping on and to keep lookin' up. Your financial involvement allows us to continue to expand ministry and impact individuals and communities for Christ. Your friendship enables us to enjoy life in a way that we just couldn't without you. So as you continue to pray for us, know we are also praying for you, and thanking God for you in our every mention of you to the Father. Keep lookin' up,



Upcoming Events

May 6-14

May J-Team

June 17-23

Salem Bible Youth Trip to Jamaica

July 3

Trial for André Thomas resumes in Jamaica

July 24-31

Bethel BFC Youth Trip to Jamaica

August 5-13

August J-Team