



FEBRUARY, 2021



Dear Praying Friends,

Hello from the rainy Emerald Isle! It is a gloomy and blustery day here but Spring is on the way and this gives us some hope of nicer days and a little bit of that yellow stranger in the sky. The winters here do seem to drag on but the days are finally getting longer. Praise God for a little bit of sun!

Family Bible Hour Update – We had our first Family Bible Hour this past Sunday night on Zoom and had many more in the meeting than I ever anticipated! Our church family is very hungry for these truths! This is a big answer to our prayers. Please pray for us as we dig into God's Word about how He wants us to order our homes.

Lock Down Update – Just this evening, the Irish government has extended this severe (3rd) lock down that began on December 26th and has been in place since then. We are still restricted in many ways and it appears quite evident that we will be so for all of Spring and most, if not all of Summer. One of the hardest parts of the lock down is that we are prohibited from legally holding any in person church meetings. All of our Bible studies and such are held via Zoom but we still open our doors on Sunday morning for our church family to come worship our Lord Jesus Christ together if they so wish. (We stream our Sunday morning service from there, regardless.) Many of our folks have been very faithful to come. We will know more about further lock down status after April 5th. Please ask God to blind the eyes of those who might wish to hinder God's people here from worshipping in person. We are definitely feeling the cabin fever and very much desire to have our freedom returned, but praise God for His provision and the faithfulness of His people.

Evangelism Update – Per the current lock down restrictions, it is still very much against the law to go door to door in order to pass out the Gospel. However, much like the mandate to refrain from gathering as a church to worship God on Sundays, “we ought to obey God rather than man.” We have been going out

each week and passing Gospel tracts through the doors of as many homes as possible in Drogheda. We have not yet been harassed in any way and we pray that God continues to give us favor as we seek to obey Him. Please pray that the hearts and minds of those who receive the Gospel tracts will be open and receptive to the hope and truth of God's Word and that many souls come to Him in salvation.

Housing – We have been made aware that the house we are renting is going to be placed on the market for sale in the very near future. The Tharps need to move again! This presents some serious challenges and big decisions in our immediate future. Would you please pray that God would make His will clear to us and give us the peace we need as we wait on Him to provide a house for us to use for His glory?

From the depth of our hearts, thank you so much for the blessing that you all are to us. We have received notes and birthday cards and faithful prayers and support. We thank God for you and count ourselves blessed to serve Him among the people of Ireland.

**Your Missionaries In Ireland,
The Philip Tharp Family**

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