



“But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad as sheep having no shepherd” – Matt. 9:36

## HEART TO HEART

Dear Praying Friends:

Generally Jonathan is the one writing you with various prayer updates on our travels, our family and our ministry. However, I asked if I could write this month and share with you what I personally have been learning during this deputation process.

God has been teaching me a lot about waiting on the Him. My go-getter personality often clashes with the patience needed during deputation. I was finding myself fighting discouragement and went to several seasoned missionary friends for advice. They would all lovingly remind me to rely on God, not my own strength. I prayed last month for God to show me how -- how to truly rely on Him. Be careful what you pray for! And be assured He will answer! The month of March has been nothing less than 31 days of teachable moments!

On the first Sunday in March, my pastor preached a sermon on dead end streets. It hit me like a load of bricks. I was looking at my circumstances and not at the God who created them! I went to the altar and gave it all to God. My doubt, my worry and my fear, and my control panel. God decided to make sure I meant it.

During most of March we had several unavoidable circumstances come our way. I found myself worrying. We could not find the time needed for phone calls and contacts with pastors. (To give you a perspective - On average, Jonathan will call approximately 100-130 churches a week. However, he barely had time to make that many total calls for the entire month of March.) Over and over again I would be tempted to fret and complain. God would quietly remind me that our deputation schedule was in His hands



*Thank you so very much for your continued prayer support. You play such a vital role in our ministry! For more information on the need in Wales, and how God is preparing us for this ministry - please feel free to visit our website at: [www.whywales.org](http://www.whywales.org)*

*Casting all your care upon Him; for He careth for you. ~ I Pet. 5:7*

now, not mine (though sometimes I found myself trying to take it back!). I have learned that saying “We are trusting God to get us to Wales,” and truly meaning it, are two different things!

In scrambling our schedule and taking away our precious blocks of deputation time, He was answering my prayer, and teaching me what He could do *without my help*. Let me give you just a brief glimpse of His work in our lives this month:

- **Missions Conference:** This month we had the joy of participating in the Beth Haven Baptist Church Missions Conference. What a blessing! Great preaching, and great opportunity to build true friendships with the pastor, the couple that hosted us, and the folks in the church. We came away truly blessed, and with several new prayer partners and Facebook friends!
- **Need Met:** Have you ever had God meet a need before you realized you needed it? Earlier last month we received a gas card from an anonymous church friend. We were shocked and grateful. Little did we know that less than 4 hours after receiving this gift we would be making an unexpected trip to PA. We both thanked God over and over again for that gas card. A need was met and *just in time!*
- **Prayer Support:** God has grown our daily prayer support from 24 members to 33 in just one month! In addition to this added blessing, I cannot count the number of times folks this month have walked up to us with a hug or handshake and said “Had you on my heart this week; I prayed for you.” What a HUGE encouragement!
- **Financial Support:** We had two individual families and a church take us on for financial support! All three were unexpected and greatly appreciated. What a blessing to watch God grow our support in ways that we never would have imagined.

Once I started counting my blessing this month, I finally got the picture. God is calling us to Wales. He knew before we were created what His plan for our lives would be. What makes me think He alone can't get us there? Waiting on the Lord can sometimes be hard for this missionary, but I'm learning one day at a time! We serve a great God! ~ Michelle