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Growing in grace 2gether

I always find it difficult to try to accurately sum up a year of life for 9 different people in a few sentences at the end of the year. 2020 somehow seems more difficult than ever to catch with words. I tried to write a letter to send together with our family photo and the updated address of November, but simply did not meet for me. I thought maybe adding some photos can help the letter come to life. So here he is, improved impeccably. Dearest, This is not at all a complete vision of the year, but only some remarkable events from our lives as we did in 2020. We started the school year with 5 children enrolled in the FBGS. Due to the COVID-19 regulations, the last 8 weeks of school found us learning the ropes of the home school. Thanks to the excellent coaching of our FBGS teachers and the grace of Jesus, each of our 5 scholars advanced to the next level. Our weeks of stay at home in spring were certainly a set of happiness and stress. We were each on our learning curve that led us to grow. Driving a church during a pandemic has proven to be a continuous stress for Amos. Homeschooling 5 children and helping teens to process their loneliness and delusions of 2020, as well as staying at the top of the daily physical needs of our family continues to push me into an uncovered territory. Our children have been incredibly resilient and creative and mostly cooperative as we have sailed the challenges and joys of 2020. At the beginning of March, during the local real estate navigation, I found a property that almost made me stop my heart because it satisfied so many of the criteria we had previously set when discussing the possibility of a day to get away from our home town. The next day Amos and I took appointment to see the house and two days later we took the whole family for a tour of the property. After a few days of agonizing prayer, advice, pushing the pencil, dreaming and negotiating we found ourselves documents to become the owners of a property of 15 acres and an old century house. We also married a workload that day. There was nothing of this process, since we signed our contract only days before our country closed all non-essential business for a few weeks. our lawyer did everything possible to keep the process moving long and we ended up signing the final documents in the parking lot near our house. the following weeks were full of remodeling parts our new home, passing through all our accumulations from 17 years of marriage and 7 children, getting our city house ready to put on the market, carrying loads and loads of stuff throughout the city, digging a large garden and only all kinds of general transition from urban to country. selling our house on pine street is finished to be a whole trip of its own, but one that ended magnificently. After our original buyers moved away, we were able to offer our house to family friends who moved from pittsburg to meadville. timing worked perfectly for them and we were so happy to pass our house (which we loved very dear) to people we know. August breakfast we enjoyed a 3-day trip in michigan, along with the extended family of amos, to surprise her sister linda for her 50th birthday party. Travelling on a charter bus was a first experience for our children. the pleasure has been doubled sharing the ride with a group of cousins. There was a lot of fun, food, games, laughter, good conversation and memories to last a long time in those 3 days spent together. Our children were happy to return to school the end of August after what seemed a long break from the class. while there is still uncertainty about the future, we are for every day they can have the school in person. Angelina turned 16 this fall. Amos lost a couple more hair and I gained some new grays. Actually, we like to have an extra driver at home and anticipate the day he can drive independently. You are was excited to join the youth group this fall. It's our lavender, barber, pianist and cove. nicholas is 14 years old and has quickly surpassed me in stature this past year. He's our senior hunter, the garden manager and the mechanic. in his spare time, he loves to work scroll saw projects, tear engines and read. you are enjoying a robotics lesson at school this fall, this winter intends to renovate its bedroom attic. joshua joined adolescents in our home only yesterday. He was thrilled to finally be old enough to go hunting with the older boys this year. joshua is our quiet but reliable and diligent working horse. won the favor of isaia devoting him a lot of time and energy. christopher is our party animal. is happier surrounded by people and a tornado of books, craft supplies, games, good food and conversation. He loves practically any sport and works hard to compete with his older brothers. enjoys disc golf and has a nice arm for a 10-year-old. cassie is 7 years old and enjoys second grade. Actually, she loves school so much that she often plays at school with ellian in the evening. cassie is full of energy and spirit. She likes to spend time in the woods near our little frog pond. fishing in our pond here on the new property was a pleasure for her. I think it would fall in the category of a "son of heaven". Ellian, on the other hand, is our girl. loves to play with her doll children and calico tweezers and write letters to her friends. spends a lot of time playing with isaia and tells of all its demolition projects. is a great responsibility for a 5-year-old sister to stay on him. It's hard to believe our baby is 2 years old. the greatest successes of isaia this year were getting potty trained learn to speak. He currently loves to talk about the hunting results of his family. It has an exciting life being the youngest of 7. He prospers on attention to attention His family. Of course, we all think it is the most charming, smart and loving 2-year-old in the universe. This autumn Amos joined the Servant Institute, a 2-year training program that FBEP offers for leaders. There are some opportunities for me to join him at certain times in this training and development. While this does not feel like a great time to be adding more to our dish, we are excited about the opportunity to grow as individuals and leaders. Our hope is to become better equipped to serve our church and our community. Of course, much more could you say about the experiences of 2020. We are grateful for the faithfulness of Jesus. We are grateful for the ways that Jesus speaks to us through the faith, love and the works of His children! Immanuel. The following is suitable for the "Growing in the Grace of God" course, a free theology course taught by Pastor Bob Hoekstra available at the Institute of Blue Letters Bible. I was crucified with Christ; I am no longer alive, but Christ lives in me; and the life that I now live in the flesh alive by faith in the Son of God, who has loved me and given himself to me. (Gal 2:20 NKJV) You and I, who know Jesus Christ, have been crucified with Him. That person we were, that man of nothing, but sin and guilt, nothing but alienation and separation, died on the cross with Jesus Christ when we were granted faith to believe by the grace of God our Father. Here is the simple truth of the life of the believer: "I am no longer alive." It's not just me in this life anymore. The life I had, died on the cross. The life I live now is no longer me that I live, the better is Christ who lives in me. This is a mystery; this is a great truth finally revealed by the words of the Apostle. "Christ lives in me." I like to meditate on this. Be more encouraged and come to greater wisdom and greater learning the scope of Christ's influence on the believer. The Creator of the universe, theof the souls of men, lives in me! "And the life that I now live in the flesh, I live by faith in the son of God." We rise every morning with confidence in him. we face the things that confront us, trusting in him. we cross the obvious and the perplexed and the unexpected, the routine and the impossible, all the time, trusting in him. God's son, who loved us and gave himself for our lives grows and develops us so that we trust him daily and work justice with our knowledge of him. the intimacy of these truths is shocking, the mental renewal and the construction of faith. Christ lives inside and through us. What richness of grace that is! challenge the imagination that God would come to live in and through a person like any of the children of Adam! words to describe our joy for our position in Christ slip and slip from our grip. There is nothing like a relationship with Christ saved for the goddess herself: Father, son and holy spirit. as the title of this blog indicates prayer is like glue for the commitment of a couple for marriage and love for each other. is not a guarantee of a lasting marriage because and how you pray it matters. prayer can be round and low, but intimate, desperate, heart filled prayers quite very concrete a long bond of life that is not easily broken. me and tanny had ecclesiastes 4:12 engraved on our wedding album, thinking we knew what the implicit verse. "And if a man could prevail against one who is alone, two will resist to him-a triple cable is not quickly broken." It was not difficult to leave our parent because we were older, it was more difficult to deceive because we were quite set up in our ways, but to weaving in one was impossible without adding prayer together in our disciplines pace. while I take the liberty of interpreting this verse inas husband and wife praying together is consistent with the general inference of the text. Think of prayer as speaking with God. ♪ How it grows ♪ becomes like a dialogue. Pray and then listen. God brings Scripture to mind, comforts you, condemns you, and confirms Her love for you. Then think about prayer together with your spouse. It is now a triologue (such as weaving a trifold cable). You get to ease falling on your spouse by taking with the Creator of the universe, the most intimate communication known to man. You also come to accept in the Spirit and share in it. Whether it is your marriage, children, work, life or your walk with God is precious and holy. While you both go to the throne of grace, and because of the blood shed on your behalf you can ascend to God vertically with your prayer and supplication. Think about it as a triangle whose apex is the Lord. Grow closer to Christ while you go to Him for all things and in turn approach each other. Conjugal intimacy increases as you approach God, listen to God and agree together as one in God. So, if it's true why we're all praying together? I have the privilege of being a biblical counselor. So I can ask couples how many times they pray together all the time. What do you think? Well, if you're like most couples, just pray when something worries you. The average couple could pray in church, or at a meal, but rarely pray intimately and in the same space. I think there are some reasons for this. Before explaining how to start this amazing habit let you look at some obstacles that will have to be overcome. Municipality Ostacoli: No true life of prayer alone A lack of honest and open communication with your spouse Fear your prayers will be judged or inadequate There is no margin in your life, so, at the time you might be too tired No role model so you won't even be sure what it looks like Your flesh, Satan and distractions world No wonder most couples don't pray together. But God wants us to become one in marriage, He calls us in communion with Him as we do Christ and the church (Eph 5:22-33). He will help us overcome all these obstacles, if you ask Him. I learned a little bit ago that some things are worth hurting at first. I shared in previous blogs the embarrassing stories of trying to do family devotions or having sex talking to our children. The first attempts were so bad... But I knew it was right to try to keep trying until they were effective. You have to start somewhere. I would like to share some tips that could help you how to start. Men ask your wife to forgive you if you have neglected the regular rhythm of asking her how she is doing and praying for her. Women ask you husband to forgive yourself if he proves you are examining his spiritual maturity or showing frustration for a perceived lack of attention. Give the other grace so that this new habit can be planted on more fertile soil. Here are some other tips: Start praying alone every day for 5 minutes (use ACTS as a model: Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving and Supplication... So ask for adoration Him, admit your sins to Him and ask for forgiveness, thank Him for everything that is and is doing, and ask Him for what you need) Tell your spouse that you want to pray with them, but you are nervous could be embarrassing Prayer high voice in a private place Start small (a few minutes before you go to work or after children are in bed) In time you can venture into prayer for more sensitive things or go for times of timelonger. We like to go to prayer walks that last 20 minutes 3 times a week. We pray with our children all together before the hour of the youngest bed. It took years to make this a habit. I wish I had been intentional before. You may also decide to pray with other family friends or couples, but nothing is as intimate as praying with your spouse. In fact, it prepares you for an even deeper emotional and physical intimacy as a church, there are divisions between you, and to some extent I believe. (1 Corinthians 11:18) Finally, brothers and sisters, rejoice! Be strong for full restoration, encourage each other, be of a mind, live in peace. And the God of love and peace will be with you. (2 Corinthians 13:11) Whatever happens, lead yourselves worthy of the gospel of Christ. "separatista" fundamentalism? Throughout history, there have been many different groups of Christians, from different origins, working in different environments, and struggling with different problems... From this struggle, groups began preparing to "make the real battle for the foundations of faith". Around 1920, these began to be described as "founders". This term began as a depreciation label by strangers and was adopted as a badge of honor by the workers. Turning the other cheek vs. belt on the sword Jesus Christ gave 2 different teachings to 2 different groups of people in 2 different circumstances. How can we know what to do? When should we "go back the other cheek?" When should we "enge on the sword?" If you are struggling with this concept, or you know someone who is, please share this, write to us, or join the conversation below. below.

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