

Frontline News

Landrie & Marvin Heath



Wrecked Plans, Perfect Storms, Partings, Prayers and Purpose

Some prayer letters are difficult to write. This is one of those. As you read on, you will understand. But first, **THANK YOU** a thousand times for praying for us. You will never know how much your prayers have meant to us over the years. You were probably unaware of our life situations since October 2022. But while you prayed for us, our Father in Heaven was definitely aware. Never surprised, He listened to your prayers. We were never out of His sight, presence or care!

COVID, an unwanted gift for us arrived on Christmas Eve. It wrecked our holiday, right down to a special Christmas breakfast Landrie had planned. Though not as hard as some have known, we got hit pretty hard with various COVID expressions. We were down for the count for the two weeks that were scheduled to be a vacation, a well deserved **VACATION**. Landrie recovered quicker than me. While enduring some lingering after-effects, she limped back into work the third week. I had worked ahead on the TWR programs in preparation for our vacation. That was a good thing because strength wise, COVID took it all. I slept 14-16 hours a day. After six weeks I started working full days and attending church. However, COVID left me with a brain fog, with which I am typing this letter. Yes, it will need to be proofread.

PERFECT STORM - Why 'a well deserved **VACATION**', you may wonder? Landrie really is not much for taking vacations, but she began demanding one by mid-December. In fact, I had never seen her in such great need for one. To explain, Landrie serves our Lord at TWR in the Ministry Services department. It has a small staff that monthly handles thousands of pieces of publications that are printed, processed, folded, inserted, sorted and mailed. All through October to the end of December, Ministry Services was slammed by a '**perfect storm**'. Trips that couldn't be cancelled, illnesses like COVID, a sudden loss of a valuable staff member, unforeseen special mailings, unpreventable events and other calamities crippled the department. Ministry Services was down to less than half strength. Landrie was responsible for all printing and mailings. She received some outside help, but there were so many tasks that only she could accomplish. She is a hard working, loyal and committed servant of the Lord in life. Over the years I have only observed her being way overwhelmed, desperate and tremendously exhausted a time or two. It was very hard for me to watch. One day I walked into her cluttered and chaotic area. I felt her despair. Every job had her name on it and more jobs seemed to come every day. One day our son Marc came from Wilmington to help. I joined for a couple days and we knocked out about four days of tasks for Landrie. Marc was really impressed with what his Mom knew how to do. So was I. Each night Landrie had to remind herself to take one day at a time and just breathe. It was so exhausting for us both, but mostly for her. By mid-December, we were so spent physically, mentally, and emotionally that we had to make some tough decisions to cut back on Christmas. No family was planning to come. Few Christmas decorations were put up. Shopping was simple. No sending out Christmas cards. We were looking forward to that well deserved **VACATION!** Well, you know what showed up then.

PARTINGS - We don't care much for getting older because we have to say goodbye more often. During September to January eight dear loved ones have gone home to heaven. Some were relatives, some heroes that helped us in our walk, and some were dear friends. We attended five funerals (some online). It is hard to grieve when there are so many so close together. This is not a unique experience. Many know what this is like. May God give us all grace as we lean hard into Him!

PRAYERS - You see how important your prayers were to us these past six months and still are. Thank you! While you pray for us, our Father in Heaven is definitely aware. Never surprised, He listens to your prayers for us, our prayers for you and all our prayers for listeners to TWR! We are never out of His sight or care!

PURPOSE - To let the whole world know that **"God so loved the world"** John 3:16

Listener Responses to Thru The Bible (TTB)

Response from a 30 year-old man in Istanbul who listened to TTB on Radio Light's FM.

"One day I took a taxi. I noticed that the taxi's radio was turned on. I was surprised because the taxi driver was listening to a frequency that preached about Christianity. What was told in the program touched my heart. The speaker explained the wrongs of trusting man and said that we should trust in God. That he who trusts in God will never be shamed. He explained that we are not alone, and that God is on our side for good in every situation. He was telling me everything my heart needed. When I came to the place where I was dropped, a voice in me said: give God a chance. After that, I listened to your program for months. Jesus Christ changed all my thinking. He changed my heart and life. I was forgiven and saved. I am now a believer in Jesus Christ."

Wow! It is nice to know that a taxi driver in Istanbul is listening to TTB, and that it had such a great impact on one of his passengers.

The Latin American Spanish Thru The Bible (TTB) program, called A Traves de la Biblia or ATB, is aired by TWR internationally on 600 outlets; most of these are FM stations. 153 of those are right here in the United States and our very own U.S. Spanish Ministry Department at TWR is involved in managing that part of the ministry. Many are tuning in to TWR-managed programs on these Hispanic stations.

Response (Alejandro's story - God at work at the car wash.) -

*Alejandro is a Mexican engineer who emigrated from his country when he learned that his daughter was born with a severe degree of autism. In search of better conditions to take care of the child, they went to the US. In the U.S. illegally, Alejandro got a job at a car wash. It was a habit among car washers, that when they would get inside a the car to clean it, they would automatically turn on the radio and as they cleaned, listen to whichever station was on at the time. One afternoon, as he got into the car to clean the inside, Alejandro turned on the radio as usual. What he heard was a strange Bible study program. (It was **A Traves de la Biblia** or **ATB**.) In his haste to get to the next car, he regretted not being able to finish listening to the program that had stirred him inside. As he got inside the second car to clean it, he turned on the radio. He was surprised that the same program was being broadcast, on the same station as he had heard in the previous car, and he continued listening, this time even more attentively. When he had to go to a third car, to his surprise, when he turned on the radio, for the third time, the same program was on that car radio. Alejandro considered this a miracle from heaven, his defenses fell away and right there he surrendered to Jesus. The engineer then told his wife, but she said she was not interested in such things. However, about six months later she came to surrender to Jesus, listening to the same program. Alejandro started to attend a church in the San Diego area. He also started to study theology And he has already planted three churches among Hispanics in the area, even though he has not been ordained to any ministry. Today he broadcasts his own radio programs since he bought a transmitter and from his home reaches others for Jesus. Alejandro said that one of the greatest joys of his life were, first, that TWR brought him the Word that saved and transformed him, and second, that someone from this radio station prayed with him.*

Thank you for your faithful prayers for us and for all who listen to TWR!

Contact Information: Marvin and Landrie Heath

Phone: Home — (919) 567-3017 Work — (919) 460-3724 Email: mjlgeath73@hotmail.com or mheath@twr.org

Mailing Address (Home): 2309 Brasswynd Ct, Fuquay Varina, NC, 27526

Mailing Address (TWR): P.O. Box 8700, Cary, NC 27512

TWR Website: www.twr.org

TWR Phone: (919)460-3700

SENDING CHURCH:

Timberlake Baptist Church, 21395 Timberlake Road, Lynchburg, VA 24502

Phone: (434) 237-6464