Barretts Missionaries to England

Dear I raying I nerius,

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We hope that you have had a wonderful holiday season, the time between Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year has always been one of our favorites. God was so good to us and we were able to book meetings around each side of the family for Thanksgiving and Christmas. The time with grandparents, siblings, cousins and our home church blessed our hearts!

Since our last update we have had 2 new partnering churches, Praise the Lord! Another deputation milestone was hit in December as we presented in our 100th church. With now over 20 meetings lost, missed, or rescheduled due to Covid-craziness we're so grateful to have remained active. During this recent stretch of meetings, I also had to privilege to preach through an interpreter for the first time, it made me appreciative of missionaries who are going to foreign fields where English is not the primary language.

Our schedule for 2021 is filling in and it looks as if we will be doing more traveling than ever before. We already are set to be in the Southwest, Northwest, Northeast, Southeast, and Midwest. By the time 2021 closes there is a good chance we will have driven through all 48 contiguous states. We have a good idea what part of the country we will be in and when, but still have a lot of openings to fill. We are praying towards having another 100 meetings by the

a blessing wherever God opens doors.

An incredible long-term prayer request that God has been steadily answering is our transition to England fund. Because of the generosity of God's people and local churches, what seemed a herculean sum is now nearly halfway saved. We know that God's goodness and blessing isn't primarily shown through monetary increments, but we would be remiss to not give Him glory for how He is using the generosity of His people.

At the end of this letter, I am including a recent story involving our little Wemberly Gale. It's a little longer and more detailed than typical prayer letter fare, but if you take a moment to read it, I believe it just might encourage you. In closing, we want to wish you a blessed New Year, while we don't know what 2021 holds, we do know He who holds it and what He has called us to do. Whether at home, on the road, or abroad, He has called us to labor in His harvest field and pray for more laborers. God bless you all!

The Barretts to England
Riley, Whitney, Wemberly, Arden

Wemberly Story:

At one of our meetings in November, a Pastor gave

Wemberly and Arden \$5 each and encouraged them to look for a way to use it for the Lord. Wemberly decided she wanted to buy someone a Bible. I didn't think much more about it until a few weeks later when we had the time to go out and buy one together. I asked if she knew who she wanted to give it to and she confidently said, "Yes."

(Backstory Here: I am will be purposefully vague about the people involved. Some of our family recently adopted two teenagers whose mother took her life. Their Dad was not able to care for them and so they moved in with this family a few months ago. They were all present as we spent Thanksgiving with extended family. There were a lot of people in a little house, but it had a small mud room off the back porch where 2 puppies and some of the grandkids would squeeze in and play. At some point in the evening Wemberly had gone back to play with the puppies. She ended up spending time talking with one of the two teenagers.)

them?"

Wemberly then began to tell me about her conversation in the puppy room. She had asked the teen if they went to church anywhere, they said that they used to, but not since their mom had died. Wemberly asked if they believed in God, and again they replied that they used to before their mom died. Wemberly asked if their mom had believed in Jesus. They said yes, and Wemberly told them that if she had believed in Jesus than she was in heaven.

I don't know too much else about the conversation, Wemberly gave it to me in pieces as we drove. We don't know too much about either teens or their previous family situation. I would venture to say that Wemberly got the one to open up more than any of us could. Wemberly was very concerned about them and their belief in Jesus and wanted to spend her money to buy a Bible and mail it. We did so and sent it off the next day. Since getting saved after her 5th birthday, Wemberly

frequently wants to take tracts from the churches we visit to hand out as we spend time in that particular town. She consistently asks us if it is time for Arden (3) to get saved and will sometimes try and share the gospel with her while they lay in bed. This story blessed my heart and convicted me. If Wemberly, despite all the hecticness and uncertainty of living and homeschooling on the road, can look for and find opportunities to share the gospel, what's my excuse? What is your excuse? Maybe we've all become a little too distracted by all the craziness of 2020 and need a reminder from a little girl like Wemberly. I know I do.



Missionary

Cell Phone: (262)308-2167

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