October, 2021

A CALL TO BE FAITHFUL

October — The month of falling leaves, crisp air and a hint of winter just around the corner. We love the colors and the change of climate, but would just as soon not think about the long winter ahead.

Not only are the leaves falling, but there is a lot falling around us. We see nations falling, value systems falling and our secure little world falling. We are unsure of the winter ahead and how it will affect us personally.

Recently we heard a message by Dr. Donald Hubbard on Joseph’s life. Everything around Joseph had fallen apart. It didn’t look like there was a future for him. His family had forsaken him and sold him into slavery. He had been falsely accused in his employment and ended up in jail. A fellow prisoner he served had forgotten him. Joseph had no hope of freedom. Dr. Hubbard went on to show how God had been working behind the scenes and Joseph ended up going from slave to service with the king. He then showed how through each phase of Joseph’s servitude he had been faithful to his God. Does He ask anything less from us? In the midst of all that is “falling” around us, He asks for our faithfulness and promises that some day we will reign with Him.

At ETS we were stuck with too much stuff! International shipping was (and still is) a mess. We had no room to receive or process anything. What are we supposed to do? We had prayed for weeks for God’s leading. Then came the call to help Afghan refugees arriving in Virginia.

A few phone calls brought together a small but enthusiastic group of volunteers. In less than a day a 53 ft. trailer was loaded with clothing, shoes, linens and medical supplies. With great joy we thanked God for the privilege to show His love to the arriving Afghans.

Then the container sat! The US government had changed the “rules” again! Now we had a loaded trailer with no place to go.

Keith called Youth with a Mission in Richmond, VA. They were excited about receiving the trailer! They had been praying about how to better reach their area. Many of the staff and volunteers are from other countries including Afghanistan. They understood the value of the things.

Like Joseph, we seldom understand exactly how God will use us. That’s not our job. Our job is to be faithful. Our joy is to look back and see how God works all thing together for our good and His glory.
We were pleased with the volunteers who came to help sort, pack and make the work lighter from our end. Even the shipping company waived payment to haul the supplies. We had many blessings along the way.

Thank you, dear friends. We trust your world is not “falling” apart — that you are being faithful to the calling God has for you.

ETS Staff

We also thank God for the many friends who have prayed for Jan’s bout with COVID and Keith’s ongoing cancer treatments. So far, things are going well.