

THE McKinney Family

Macedonia
WORLD BAPTIST
MISSIONS, Inc.



MISSIONARIES TO MONTANA Levi, Kenzie, Sis. Jennifer, Bro. John, Hannah, Lydia, and Haley

2024 — 4th Quarter Prayer Letter

Greetings in the name of our lovely Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ!

Let me just start by saying a heartfelt thank you to those that were so generous in the special Christmas gifts and those that gave toward medical expenses! Each year it never ceases to amaze us just how blessed we are to have such a kind and giving support base of faithful churches and individual saints of God! Your generosity always brings great encouragement to our family and we are eternally grateful!

I know that we, as well as many missionaries, often include a word of thanks for your prayers, but this is not just a phrase that we say for the sake of saying it. We really do need and appreciate your prayers, and if I could, I would like to share with you a list of “8 Ways of Praying for our Missionaries” by the late Dr. Stinnett Ballew (and if you knew Dr. Ballew you know his undying devotion to world wide missions):

- 1.) *We need to pray for them physically.* A sick missionary cannot do the job like a well missionary can. We need to pray that God would protect them from sickness, diseases, viruses, amoebas, etc.
- 2.) *We need to pray for them spiritually.* This would cover every aspect of the Missionary’s spiritual life: his personal devotions, his preaching, soulwinning, his church work, etc. Everything that the church does here in America, the missionary must do to carry on the work there on the mission field.
- 3.) *We need to pray for them mentally.* Can you imagine what it would be like to learn a new language, a new culture, new laws and regulations that govern your life? We need to pray that the missionary can learn all these new rules and regulations that he now lives under.
- 4.) *We need to pray for them emotionally.* Every missionary goes through what is known as culture shock. Often the wife and children of the missionary have a hard time adjusting to being away from home and to the new lifestyle that they experience on the field.
- 5.) *We need to pray for them morally.* Do not think that being in a different country, a different culture, and a different color of skin does away with the temptation to sin. Often sexual temptation is greater in those countries than they are in the United States. Many women in third world countries know that if they can conceive a child with an American father the child will have dual citizenship. This means they can bring the child to America, get on welfare, and stay here as the guardian of the child until the child is grown. Many missionaries are propositioned for this very reason.
- 6.) *We need to pray for them socially.* The missionary cannot live alone by himself. He must learn to get along with other missionaries, with those in authority, and those to whom they minister.
- 7.) *We need to pray for them domestically.* Pray for the Missionary’s family life. Pray for the husband/wife relationship. Pray for the parent/child relationship. The consequences are terrible when a pastor or any preacher falls here in the United States but if a missionary falls into sin it almost surely means the fall of the church and ministry he has started. In plain language, if a missionary loses his family, he loses his ministry.
- 8.) *We need to pray for them financially.* I did not leave this one until last because I do not believe it is important, but because of the importance of the other seven. If a person falls in any of the things mentioned above, it does not matter how much money he has. We need to pray continually for God to supply the financial need of the missionaries. I believe that if we pray, God can add to the support that the missionary receives. God can cause some churches to increase their support. God can remind some of the pastors and churches that he visited while on deputation of the missionary and lay it upon their heart to support them.

As you have read these areas of praying for missionaries, be aware that there are missionaries right now facing some or all these situations. We must learn to pray for these needs regularly.”

Let conclude by saying that you may never know all the details of what your praying for, just know that we truly do appreciate your prayers and covet them even more in 2025!

With the Love of Christ ~ Bro. John McKinney and Family

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