



CE F

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Merry Christmas

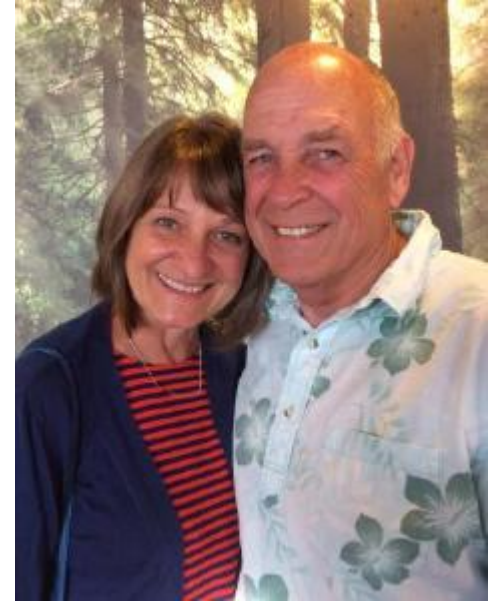
December 20, 2017

Christmas is all about the greatest gift ever given ... A Savior for sinners. God gave His Son to take our punishment for sin so those who believe can be forgiven ... and enjoy new life with God forever!

What a God! What a Gift!

Merry Christmas, Friends and Prayer Partners,

from Brian and Linda Davelaar



What was Jesus Thinking?

Every day we are bombarded with stories of sin and its results. If you let them influence you too much, it becomes a heavy burden. That's why Jesus came to earth. Hard to imagine what He must have been thinking while still in Heaven, knowing what He was coming to do.

It all seems so holy when you hear the Bible account of Jesus' birth and the angels and Mary and Joseph. But it took a holy God to come up with the plan to rescue believers from the darkness of sin.

Jesus took that burden of sin on himself on the cross so those who believe in Him can be freed from sin. The book of Romans in the Bible says we have died to sin and are alive to Christ! What a great gift from God – to be dead to sin – and to get the Holy Spirit of God to lead us in living for Him! Thanks to God and Jesus and God’s Spirit!

Is Your Life a Mess or a Masterpiece?

As I looked back on my 2017 calendar, I thought, “What a mess!” There is writing all over it, barely legible, indicating what was done or was supposed to be done. It’s overwhelming. That is how life can seem if you look at too big of a portion of time. God can see all of eternity and handle it. But we are not God. He only lets us see a little at a time. That’s all we can handle! I don’t know about you, but I am trying to learn to depend on God to help me day by day and hour by hour. So when I look back on my year and life, I will see God’s “handwriting” all over it, not as a mess, but as a masterpiece of His will and work in me and through me. Isn’t it amazing that God can use you and me?!

Is Your Focus on God in Busy Times?

Last week some women in a Bible study offered ways to keep focused on God in the busy Christmas season. Here are some of their insights: Start your day with God and His Word, Memorize a key verse over the holidays (put it up on your bathroom mirror), Spend time in *quiet* thinking on God, Be thankful, Listen to worshipful songs to lift your thoughts to God and away from your own moods, Pray for those unsaved people in your life that disappoint or irritate you that they will become saved and also have the Holy Spirit.

What is the Greatest Gift You can Give?

The greatest gift you can give to another is the gospel message of Jesus Christ. Christmas is a perfect time to tell others what Jesus means to you and can mean to them!

Praises:

Jesus came to earth to save us from sin!

Good year for me as Staff Coach and Teacher Trainer in *Child Evangelism Fellowship (CEF)* of Washington state with many opportunities to serve, some easy, some difficult, but God is with me! Amen! The great part of my ministry is that I get to minister all over!

I had the best time playing a Christmas game and sharing the Gospel and story of Jesus' birth with **many adults** at the Victorian Country Christmas event in Puyallup in the *Child Evangelism Fellowship* booth while others taught the children. What an amazing thing to be able to openly share my faith in a public place, explain the gospel and tell people of their need to believe and receive Jesus as Savior!

For a *Good News Club* in a school, that even among the "chaos," children are coming to the Savior!

For the privilege to be used to speak into others' lives for the Lord in *CEF* and other ministries and to pray for them.

Decisions made as to ministries and God's faithfulness and help to sustain. Also decision made for Christian health share for 2018 instead of medical insurance as those costs have skyrocketed.

As we have been involved with "homeless" people this last year; this has stirred my appreciation for a home with heat and water and electricity, a washer and dryer and stove and fridge, and clothing and a car, our little dog, good health, our family and food and all of our needs have been met! What a great Father we have!

Please Pray For:

God to give me and others in *CEF* leadership great wisdom and good skills to deal with people problems and ministry planning to accomplish God's purposes.

More staff in *CEF* as some areas do not have anyone to coordinate the ministry and some do not have enough people (most areas) or finances. (E.g. I am presently about 50% funded for my half-time position.)

CEF of Namibia (where Brian and I worked in *CEF* for years) has faced many challenges this year. Please pray for God to encourage and lead and people to follow!

Guidance and people for upcoming Summer ministries being planned now, including some mission trips in state and in Kenya, and our teen and adult training camp in June (*Christian Youth in Action* or *CYIA*).

Teams of teachers to catch the vision and to teach at weekly Good News Clubs in 2018 (many in public schools) and many children to attend, be saved and disciplined.

We as Christians to help those struggling with life issues; to know who, how and when.

CEF missionaries in Washington state to have their own needs met, for peace, for zeal and help in their ministries. Please pray specifically for our family members, that all would believe in Jesus as Savior

and let Him be Lord of their lives.

Praise be to God for His wonderful gifts of Jesus and the Holy Spirit for all who believe!

In God's Service,

Linda Davelaar

Staff Coach and Teacher Trainer

CEF of Washington State

Taking the Gospel to Kids and Training Adults to do the Same

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Donation Information: Please write donation checks to *CEF of Washington*, with "*Linda Davelaar*" on a separate piece of paper in the envelope (not on the check's memo line).

Mail checks to: CEF of Washington, PO Box 561, Yakima WA 98907

Or: Set up "Bill Pay" with your bank to send a monthly check for you, following the same instructions and address as above.

Or: Donate online through cefofwa.com, following "Donate" tab and instructions and indicate it is for support of Linda Davelaar.

If you have not done so and would like to make a commitment, get updates, pray, or give financially, you can print the attached form and mail it to the Yakima address **or** you can do it online by filling out the form at www.davelaars.com

All donations to the ministry of Child Evangelism Fellowship of Washington, Inc., EIN 91-0749866, are governed by the board for the purpose of sharing Jesus Christ with boys and girls. CEF is a Non-Profit religious organization operating under U.S. Internal Revenue Code 501 (c)(3) through the Child Evangelism Fellowship Inc. IRS group ruling #2029.