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Grateful For Each of You!

It's been a really tough year for the Stephens family, as almost all seasons of pruning are. I (Leland) have been forced to sit and wait (something I'm clearly not great at), to reflect on our time in Vicenza and the work that was accomplished, in order to see the areas that were good fruit and the areas that needed to be built better moving forward, and to better understand my gifts and how they are best used for God's glory. This season has produced within me the fruit of patience (still need more of this), humility, and compassion...all of which needed growth.

AND TO EACH OF YOU, we want to say THANK YOU for your faithfulness to us during this season of waiting. We are grateful to be on this journey with you!!



Sensing A Turning of the Page...

With all of the above still very much our current reality, we as a family have begun to sense a turning of the page in our story. Since arriving here in San Antonio, we have not felt "released" to engage in any way but over the past couple of weeks we have had several potential opportunities laid before us that we have begun praying about and have felt led to investigate further. Our goal as a family at this point is to lean into the patient trust that God has so generously been teaching us about and not rush any decisions.

We would like to invite you into praying with us over the decisions ahead. We trust in God's guidance and provision and we are thankful for your prayers!



Family/Ministry Update

We've recently celebrated Kyleigh's 17th birthday, Ashleigh's 20th birthday, and Jen and I's 21st anniversary.

Within the next couple of weeks we'll be wrapping up our online discipleship groups. The groups have went very well (we even have had two different couples able to join together with their spouse that was deployed which was a

really special treat)! And we are still discerning whether we will continue them in the fall. To help discern, we will be soliciting feedback on whether this was good for a "needed season" or if this is something that is fruitful as a continuous ministry. We would treasure your prayers over this decision.

I (Leland) was invited to give a sermonette for the 'Good Friday' service on Randolph Air Force Base. I've really enjoyed getting to know the chaplains and being a small part of their ministry.

Jen and the girls have been heavily engaged with the Christian Youth Theater here...Kyleigh and Nataleigh finished Little Mermaid and are now preparing for the next show called Newsies this coming June and Jen has volunteered to be the lead costume design coordinator for the play!

Ashleigh will be home from college next week and we are looking forward to spending time with her this summer.



Summer Plans So far...

The family will be in Georgia to celebrate Leland's niece graduating from college, May 9-12

Leland will be in Portland, Oregon for his doctoral class, May 29-June 4

We'll be in touch again soon to give an update on our progress...thank you for financially supporting and praying for us! Blessings to you all in the name of our Lord Jesus!!



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