

Dear Friends,

In the past few weeks the book of Job has become more precious to us. Job, a man of great faith, experienced catastrophic loss—his children, his livestock, his servants, even his own health. Yet, through God's grace, Job had complete confidence in his Creator and great praise for God's infinite mercies.

On October 11 our 14 year old grandson lost his battle with cancer and went to be with his Lord. Tyler had many struggles and much pain; but he didn't complain. In fact, his last week on earth, he was concerned about his school work and how to catch up on what he had missed during the days he was so sick. He was a young man of faith and of kind words for others—God's beautiful work of art among us. Now he is completely free of cancer and of the cares of this world. We rejoice that he is in heaven experiencing God's presence in a new and ever growing way.

However, the hearts of our family members grieve deeply. One asked, "Will it ever stop hurting?" By God's grace we are finding the God of all comfort faithful in soothing our wounded hearts and bearing us up on eagles' wings. Thank you all for your prayers, cards, gifts, and emails during this time. God answered our prayers for Tyler, though not in the way we had hoped. God's ways are not our ways, nor His thoughts ours. So we rest in our Father's arms even as Tyler can now do in person. Please do continue to pray for each of our family members as we adjust to this emptiness in our family circle.

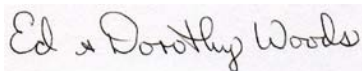
We'd also ask you to pray diligently for our son David, who left recently for deployment in Iraq. Whether or not things appear better in that country, it is still a war zone. Thus he and the men in his unit need your prayers and God's working in their lives. Pray, too, for his wife Laura, who is left alone in snowy Colorado Springs for the next 5-6 months.

Since our return to Minneapolis after the funeral, we've been grateful for the growth of our ESL classes at the University of MN. Recently a young Egyptian man came for the first time, joining the Chinese and Korean students who have been enthusiastic about the class. Our Hmong students seem to be better understanding God's Word since viewing "God's Story" in their heart language. Pray for open hearts and minds.

Lord willing, our home will be filled with international students on Thanksgiving Day. It is a joy to share this holiday with them and to reflect on God's goodness. Pray with us for fruit that will remain.

You are a precious part of our lives, and we thank God for YOU and for your kindness and concern for us. May you have hearts full of thanksgiving as you say with us and with Job, "I know that my Redeemer liveth..." and, "because He lives, we too shall live."

In His hands,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ed & Dorothy Woods". The signature is written in black ink on a light-colored background.

Ed and Dorothy Woods
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