

HUYSEERS

Forming Students
in the
Gospel of Grace



This year I (Joel) will celebrate my seventy-second Christmas, Lord willing.

Jeannie and I are looking forward to spending our Christmas vacation at our home in Texas.

We are anxious to see our Texas children and grandchildren again. But my broken foot means we probably cannot travel beyond Texas!

Every year I appreciate something fresh about the Christmas story. This year I am hearing the Christmas story as an invitation to imagine, dream, and serve.

In many ways this might not seem like a time to imagine and dream – much less to commit oneself to serving God's audacious purpose to redeem and restore what sin has damaged.

I do not need to tell you that our world is in turmoil. I write this only days after the South Korean president declared martial law in the middle of the night and then just as abruptly withdrew his order. (South Korea made world headlines!)

And certainly, both Jeannie and I are aware that we will have increasing limitations as we grow older. The cast on my foot doesn't let me forget that! You could cite examples in your own life! One could argue that this is not a time to dream, imagine, much less serve what at times might seem to be God's impossible dream.

But yet

There is something I noted this year. The passages we read in the Christmas season seem to place side by side God's faithfulness to his past covenant promises and his often surprising, unexpected ways of fulfilling those same promises. You might even conclude that God specializes in fulfilling promises when the future appears to be the darkest. And not only that. God seems to use the most unlikely people to fulfill his promises.



Some of our first and second graders presenting the Christmas story for chapel

Take the prophesy in Micah 5: 2-5a. Micah prophesied during a time in which Israel and Judah were being threatened by the powerful armies of Assyria. One would not naturally think of this as a time to dream and imagine. Yet in Micah's God-breathed imagination he sees a Savior. But this Savior will not come from Jerusalem. He will not come from the expected places. Like David he will come from the out of the way town of Bethlehem. Like David he will be a shepherd who truly cares and provides for his flock.

I am learning again that nothing in Jeannie and my ministry is about us. Nor is it about the skill of our staff and teachers at Grace and Little Lambs. It is not even about the dedication of our parents.

It is about God. It is about God's faithfulness and grace. It is about the surprising ways God acts. It is about the unexpected people God uses to bring his Kingdom into our world of turmoil and confusion.

But here is the paradox of the Christmas story. The fact that it is all about God does not make us passive. Rather it is just the opposite. God's grace frees us to imagine and dream. God's grace liberates us to participate in God's purposes in our neighborhoods and around the world.

We wish all of you a joyful Christmas as you dream, Imagine and serve in the astounding freedom of God's grace and faithfulness. Merry Christmas!

Praise and Prayer

Praise:

- For the progress in the healing of Joel's broken foot. He has been cleared to fly to the U.S. and should be able to advance to partial weight-bearing before Christmas.
- For the stories we are hearing from parents who have applied to enroll their children in Grace in 2025.

Prayer

- Continue to pray that we would meet our goal of 9 new students in our Grace elementary school and 6 more students in our Little Lambs kinder for 2025.
- Our experience has been that about 1/3 of our annual giving comes at the end of the year. This year we ask that in particular you remember our special project to raise funds for a school van. Our goal is \$14,400. Remember that if you wish to designate your gift for the van you should use a different fund code than the one you use for our general support. The fund code for the van is 806373. The fund code for our regular missionary support is:804233. There are more specific instructions as to ways you can give below.

How can you help?

Most importantly, you can support us in prayer. This is a major move for us into a culture that is quite different from that of Nicaragua. Pray that we would be gracious learners of culture and language. Pray for our own discipleship as we learn from Korean Christians. Pray for the community of teachers, students, and parents of Grace International School as they live out a gospel of grace in a culture of achievement and performance.

You can stay informed. We will be sending out regular prayer letters to keep you informed and to invite your partnership in prayer. (You are on our prayer letter list from our previous time working on the field. If you no longer wish to receive these emails, you can unsubscribe below.)

You can support us financially. This work is not possible without a mission-minded community. If you wish to partner with us in ministry, you can send your donation to Resonate Global Mission one of two ways:

1. You give towards our regular missionary support by sending your gift by mail to either of the addresses below. Clearly designate your gift for our Resonate fund code: 804233

If you are giving to the special project to raise funds for the school van, please use this fund code instead: 806373

United States

1700 28th Street SE
Grand Rapids, MI
49508-1407

Canada

3475 Mainway
PO Box 5070, STN LCD 1
Burlington, ON L7R3Y8

2. Or you can give online to our **missionary support** at <https://www.resonateglobalmission.org/give-us>. Choose "Missionaries-Asia" and then "Huyser, Joel and Jeannie."

You can also give online to the special project to raise funds for the school van at <https://www.resonateglobalmission.org/give-us>. Choose "Project Asia" and then "Grace Global Christian School."