

Reed Reflections

...from the desk of Judy Reed



Quality training for third world missionaries

September 2019

Chased!

רדף

In the Hebrew of Psalm 23, goodness and mercy do not “follow” us all the days of our lives. That translation is far too bloodless for the verb radaph. It means “chase after or pursue.” The goodness and mercy of God don’t follow us like a good little puppy dog. They gallop after us like a celestial stallion. They chase us down labyrinthine paths like the hound of heaven. They stay hot on our heels. The goodness and mercy of our Shepherd radaph us all the way to heaven’s gate and into the arms of our Father.

—Chad Bird

In May a large diabetic ulcer on Robert’s big toe got infected—a serious situation for a diabetic. This infection set off a whirlwind of doctor and ER visits and weekly trips to the wound care clinic that have characterized our summer. **We are so thankful that despite the wound care doctor’s fears, infection was not in the bone.** For two months Robert has made weekly visits to the wound care doctor for debridement of the wound, cutting away unhealthy tissue to allow healthy tissue to grow. A special orthopedic shoe (3) and bandages which I changed at home in between doctor visits (1) were traded eventually for a cast geared towards minimizing the pressure on his toe when he walks (2). This cast was replaced weekly at the wound care clinic to check on the wound and debride it. At the end of August, Robert graduated out of the cast and back into a bandage and his special orthopedic shoe.

Even though this summer has felt wearisome at times with these as well as issues with blood pressure, fatigue, and more, **God’s goodness and mercy have surely chased after us!** We have so much for which to be thankful, including great medical care, still having each other, the life we enjoy together, having a relationship with the Creator of the Universe, Mom living with us, a meaningful ministry, **you—our awesome team of ministry partners...**

I could go on and on. Thank God with us for His goodness and mercy. And **thank you** for being part of His goodness in our lives. How do you see God's goodness and mercy galloping after you?

God has given me the privilege of being involved in His mercy and goodness “radaph-ing” our Chinese “daughter” Rebecca, who is a fledgling Christian, by beginning a Bible study with her. I'm excited about this opportunity to help her grow in God. She is a sweet and eager student!



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