

Church Planting in
MADAGASCAR



August 2021



Moriah Faith Jertberg

Dear Praying Friends,

Thank you to all who prayed for us and the birth of our new baby! We are excited to announce that Moriah Faith was born at 9:43am on July 28th. She was 8lbs 10oz and 21 ¼ inches long. The birth went very smoothly with no problems or complications. Moriah was born at home in the water with loved ones in attendance. We have been soaking up the new baby's sweetness and getting adjusted to life with a new little person in the family. We are now working on getting the birth certificate (which is proving to be a little bit of a long wait); then we will have to get a passport for Moriah.

Moriah is the name for the mountain on which God tested Abraham's faith. It is also believed to be the same location where Jerusalem is built. It means "God is my teacher." May our faith remain strong though we may go through trials. We are saved by faith and walk by faith. Without faith it is impossible to please God. We must live by faith each day! Our prayer is that this new little baby would grow up to know God and love Him and walk by faith and serve Him with her life.

Sometimes when I hold my precious baby or think about the other loved ones all around me, I think of the "what if's..." "What if something happened to my little newborn?" "What if someone got seriously sick?" "What if someone got in an accident?" "What if someone died?" I think of how much I love them and how sad I would be and how my life would be changed! But I am reminded that God is faithful, and He is in control. If something like that did happen, I could rest in peace that God had a purpose for it and that He would take care of me through it. I would not have to walk that road alone because God would be there with me. I do not need to fear what tomorrow might bring because God loves me and each one of my family. I need to get my eyes off my circumstances or what might happen; I need to focus my mind on my all-powerful, all-loving, all-knowing God who is in control!

Madagascar is still not open, but we are encouraged because several airlines are selling tickets (at least the airlines think that the country will be open soon.). Because the airlines are selling tickets, we are planning to Lord willing reschedule our tickets for sometime in October and pray that the country will be open and that we will be able to get over there. We also pray that this will be enough time to get the birth certificate and passport for the new baby and also enough time to get everything sorted and packed. It has been a LONG wait with a lot happening while we were here in the States! We pray that Madagascar would open and that God would allow us to get to there soon! Please pray with us for wisdom in getting there. It is difficult to live in a state of transition where you don't really want to unpack everything that you have already sorted; but at the same time, you have to unpack some things to live. It is hard to "set up house" when you don't know how long you will be there. Since last year when we were supposed to leave for Madagascar, we have moved four times all the while trying to do school with the kids and keep things sorted so that it would be semi-ready when the time came to leave. It will be so good to get to Madagascar and to know (Lord willing) that we will be there for a while!

In the Service of the King,

Richard and Ruth Jertberg,
Matthew, Sarah, Nate, Abby, Kezia, Hadassah, and Moriah

