



Koher Connection



February 2020

One year ago we began our journey with MAF and in just a few short days we'll be on our way to language school in Portugal! Our visas are processed, our tickets are booked for February 6th, we signed a lease on an apartment (ground floor! Woohoo!) and language classes start on the 21st. As we transition out of full-time ministry partnership, I (Annabel) wanted to share with you a reflection I wrote as we started this journey. Our time of ministry partnership was marked by much prayer and dependence on God's plan which is similar to how it all started.....

The Storm of Ministry Partnership

Driving through a snowstorm in the mountains of Oregon, Ryan and I exchanged smiles as we watched the snow fall and drift toward the side of the roads. The snow made beautiful swirls on the road ahead as the cold road and wind brushed it to the grass and hills leaving the road clear of snow and safe for driving. This was not what we were expecting just mere hours before as we embarked on our journey.

That morning was our end of Ministry Partnership training breakfast. We initially had planned to make the trek to Port Angeles, WA to kick off our Ministry Partnership season through a full day drive the following day, but, as we watched the weather predict more and more snowstorms throughout Oregon and Washington, we decided it was best to leave after breakfast. The plan was to drive through Oregon and possibly stop for the night at my aunt's house in the Vancouver, WA area. As we were looking into the weather after breakfast, a MAF wife informed us that her son, who lives in Vancouver also, let her know that they were expecting up to 14" of snow! Ryan and I weren't sure what to do. We looked at the weather, and we could get back home to California without any major snow issues, but if we went to Port Angeles we would likely experience snow the whole way. We already had 6 individual appointments and a church presentation scheduled for our time in Port Angeles so to go home would be disappointing. Ryan took my hand and said that we should pray. He prayed over the situation and for guidance on which route we should go. When we talked about it again, we discussed taking it as slow as we had to and stopping whenever it got bad, even if it was before Vancouver. I'm normally the more nervous one when it comes to driving in snowy conditions, but I had this peace about just going for it. We prayed again before driving off and requested prayers from friends.

A few hours later, we made it to the mountains between La Grande and Pendleton, Oregon which appeared just a bit ago to be the worst part of our drive that day. We were pleasantly surprised, as we drove through the snow, that the roads remained clear. It was almost as if a path was being made for us. The road was too cold for the snow to stick so it floated on the road until the wind would blow it to the sides. I was amazed by this and was so glad that we decided to take the journey knowing that God would guide us. We did endure some snowy roads towards the end of our drive, but we made it a couple hours past where we expected to stop for the night!

I found it amusing that this was how we started out this season in our life, as I made the connection between this snowstorm and the journey of Ministry Partnership. The road of Ministry Partnership might look daunting at times, and we might wonder if it's worth the trek or if we should just turn around and go back to what is comfortable, but when we see the end goal, we know that it will be worth it. So we give this time to God, knowing that He will guide our path if we follow His will. It may not be a smooth drive the whole way, just like we endured some snowy roads at the end of the drive, but we will have a peace by putting this journey in God's hands. What looks to be a difficult road is made easier as we get going and trust in God.

Ryan and Annabel

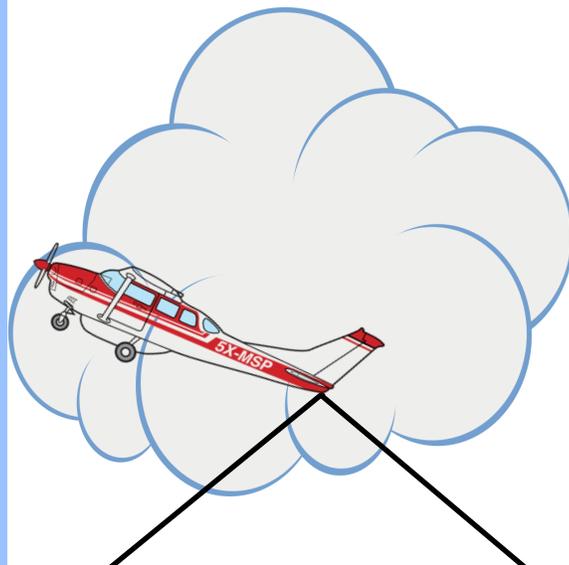
KID'S KORNER



Hi Friends,

These past couple months I got to spend a lot of time with my grandparents and aunts and uncles. Mama says I won't see them for awhile so I have loved getting my cuddles and giggles in with them. I've been showing off my new skills by pulling myself up on all of the totes mama & dada pack. When we go to Portugal, I don't think it'll be long before I decide to walk so I can explore everything! This will be a big adventure in my little life, and I can't wait to ride all of the trains in Europe!

- Elias Koher (8 months old)



Pray

- For safe travels
- For us to find a daycare for Elias
- For an easy transition into the Portuguese culture

Praise

- We have an apartment!
- Our visas have been processed
- Full funding!

&

Give



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Thank You



We are FULLY FUNDED!!! Thank you to everyone who has helped us reach our goal before we depart for language school! Due to an increase in expenses (particularly health insurance), our support need will be increasing by \$600/month in July. We are looking to get a head start on this, so if you have been wanting to join our financial support team, it's not too late!



Vehicle fund = 57.1%
\$19,976 needed

