

# MISSIONS TO KIRIBATI



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Greetings to all,

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As we enter this new decade, we are reminded how quickly time passes. It has been a decade since our family first left for the mission field. **We are thankful for the Lord's faithfulness in these past 10 years.** Living on an island that is only 12 square miles can cause feelings of isolation. However, God daily reminded us that we are not alone and has faithfully provided, protected, and worked in the hearts of so many in this remote place. Thank you for faithfully partnering together with us the past ten years. We are grateful for your faithfulness and desire to reach the islands with the Gospel.

The Bible states in Ephesians 5:16-18, **"Redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is."** It is our family's desire to redeem the time and understand the Lord's will for our lives. There is much work to be done in the Pacific Islands and millions to be reached. Years ago, God called our family to be a part of this work. While circumstances require a logistical adjustment, the Lord has made it abundantly clear He wants us to minister in the Pacific Islands, but He has directed our family into a new phase of ministry as we enter this new decade.

Tarawa Baptist Church is growing and thriving under local leadership. Though we are beyond blessed at what the Lord has done, we know that more training and support is needed for this young ministry. Tarawa Baptist Church still does not have a permanent church home. They will need assistance as they navigate through their upcoming building project. Faith Bible Institute was established and is thriving having averaged 18 students each semester. The first class will graduate this year. It is our desire to take on the role of training, mentoring, and assisting these nationals to serve in Tarawa and to plant churches in other islands. The Kiribati Bible project is completed and Bearing Precious Seed will begin printing Bibles this year. It is our desire to assist the nationals as they take those Bibles and evangelize the most remote islands of Kiribati. Pray the Lord gives us wisdom and provides for all the logistics and financial needs to ship the Bibles to Kiribati.

Due to the health and needs of our daughter, we will not be able to live in Kiribati full time. However, we believe God has directed our family to return to the Pacific region where we can minister more effectively. The Fiji Islands are the hub for the South Pacific. To fly to other regions of Kiribati, one must travel through Fiji as this is the only route of transportation. Although the medical support that our daughter requires is not available in Fiji, we have easier access to the rest of the world from there. Our location is changing, but God's direction for our family is not. **The unreached Pacific is still our burden.** Continuing to train nationals, strengthen existing works, and plant churches in remote locations is what God has called our family to do. We are excited about continuing to reach this region of the world with the Gospel of Christ! We are claiming Romans 15:21, **"But as it is written, To whom he was not spoken of, they shall see: and they that have not heard shall understand."**

We plan to return to the field this summer. The next few months will be spent finalizing the Kiribati Bible Project for shipping, assisting the ministry in Kiribati through weekly correspondence and financial support, and raising additional support for our ministry. After ten years on the mission field, additional support is needed. Pray with us that God will supply this need quickly. If you know of any churches that would like to partner together with us, please recommend our ministry.

Thank you for continuing this journey with us through prayer and financial support as we labor to reach the Pacific Islands with the Gospel of Christ.

Pioneering the Pacific for His glory,

*Joel, Brooke, Daniel, Adelynn, and Bennett*



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