



December 2018

PONDERING

*"But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart."
Luke 2:19 NIV*

This is one of my favorite verses from the Christmas story! It reminds us to be still and abide in the real reason of the season. But I also think it has something to teach about beginning the new year as well.

Ponder translated in Greek literally means "to put one thing with another in considering circumstances." Mary wasn't just thinking back on her day but on the Word and events of her life all fitting together.

So I am taking some time to do the same - to process and reflect on how God has worked in our lives and ministry this past year.

This year, Austin and I have...

adjusted to life in Tanzania as well as built relationships with our neighbors and community.

Looked into the eyes of little children with albinism and told them just how beautiful they are.

Attend graduation ceremonies and youth celebrations.

Taught Bible lessons to young adults with albinism.

Traveled to conferences, to evangelism mission trips, and to explore this beautiful country.



Experienced disappointments of being unable to work in the government center for children with albinism but was able to grow and continue to learn of God's provision.

Hosted many guests and visitors.

Walked alongside church workers to continue to grow God's kingdom.

Aided in opening a preschool, for young children of working mothers, and received so much joy simply teaching and interacting with the other teachers and children.

Spent the holidays with family in Tanzania!

In the end, after looking back at everything, we can see that everything is in God's hands and part of His plan. Every high and low is interwoven in His perfect purpose for our lives.



Prayer Requests

- Thanksgivings for a safe and fun holiday season with Amber's family and friends.
- For the new school year at the preschool - that many little children (and their families) would see and hear of the love of Jesus.
- For continued health and purpose in this new year.

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