

# Steven & Debra ANNER HONDURAS

## Reaching the Generation to Come

“...unto this generation, and...every one that is to come.” Psalm 71:18



February 2020

*“And he was in the hinder part of the ship, asleep on a pillow: and they awake him, and say unto him, Master, carest thou not that we perish?” Mark 4:38*

We know the story very well. Jesus was asleep in the ship when the storm arose. I can imagine that the disciples wanted to let Jesus sleep, knowing that He had just finished a very busy day. But the storm was just about to overcome them. They needed His help.

Some commentators accuse the disciples of not believing that Jesus was able to help them, but listen to their question, “Master, carest thou not that we perish?” The question was not, “Can You help?” or “Can You do something?” The question was, “Do You care?”

Let’s not forget that the disciples had just witnessed a time of miracles. They knew that Jesus was able. They just were not convinced that He cared.

Isn’t it the same way with us today? We know that the Lord has the power to quickly overcome any difficulty that we might face. Because He often does not remove difficulties according to our timetable, we question, “Does He really care?” That is why His rebuke to the disciples is so relevant for us today.

Listen to His words of rebuke in verse 40, “Why are ye so fearful? how is it that ye have no faith?” Were they fearful because they did not believe that Jesus could help them? No, they came to Him for help. Did they have no faith because they doubted His power? No. They were fearful and lacking faith because they did not believe He really cared. He had not helped them according to their time schedule.

### “Our time schedule”

Although we mentioned months ago to Steven’s primary care physician that his endocrinologist in Honduras suspected some kind of problem with Steven’s nerves, the doctor was reluctant to react on that information. Instead, he ordered a number of tests and appointments with two other specialists. After those tests and appointments, he reached the conclusion that we must be looking at something neurological. Steven has an appointment with a neurologist the 17th of this month. We cannot help but wonder where we would be now if that appointment had occurred in September. Yet we realize that God’s timing is perfect, not our own time schedule.

### “Carest Thou not?”

As we think about this question, those of us who have known the Lord for a while remember the words of that hymn, “O yes, He cares, I know He cares.” I Peter 5:7 says, “Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.” There is no doubt that He cares. We might be tempted to ask then, “If He cares, why doesn’t He do something sooner?” Isaiah 30:18 answers that question very well. “And therefore will the LORD wait, that he may be gracious unto you, and therefore will he be exalted, that he may have mercy upon you: for the LORD is a God of judgment: blessed are all they that wait for him.” When God waits, it is not an indication that He does not care, but rather an indication that God is being merciful and gracious.

### Prayer Requests

- Please pray for Steven’s appointment with the neurologist on the 17th.
- Pray for God to use us when He gives us opportunities to witness to others.
- Pray for wisdom in preparing Bible institute lessons.
- Pray that we soon may be able to return to Honduras.
- Jonathan has a car and insurance. Please pray for a job.

We are so grateful for your prayers. Thank you very much! God is answering according to His time schedule, not ours. We praise the Lord that His way is perfect.

*Steven + Debra*

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