## Engage360 Episode 145 | Cross-Cultural Ministry and Reaching the Unreached; Luke Perkins

[00:00:16] **Eva Bleeker:** Hello, friends. It's my pleasure to welcome you to Engage 360 Today, Denver Seminary's podcast. I'm your host for this episode. I'm Dr. Eva Bleeker, and what a pleasure it is for me as I welcome you to also welcome an old friend of mine, Luke Perkins, for today's conversation. Luke is the current president of CrossWorld, and as our dialogue develops, we certainly will talk about the big picture of what CrossWorld is doing in the world today, but we're going to begin by focusing on the unique placement and experience that Luke has had as a pretty long term missionary in the country of Haiti. So that's where we'll be beginning. But before we do, I just want to thank you, Luke, for giving your time to Denver Seminary today.

[00:01:04] Luke Perkins: Bleeker. It's so fun to call you Dr. Bleeker because I knew you way back before you were.

[00:01:11] **Eva Bleeker:** You certainly did.

[00:01:12] Luke Perkins: It is so fun to be able to spend some time with you this morning and, and, you know, I love you and I love Josh and it's been great to have your influence in my life over the years. And so, what a joy to be here together this morning.

[00:01:24] **Eva Bleeker:** Thank you for saying so. We certainly feel the same about you and Becca. Let's get started in this way, Luke. I wonder if we could keep this in mind as we move forward. I think so many of us who spend the majority of our time in the United States, encounter Haiti in maybe in the news media, or maybe in an email from a missionary at times when things are particularly bad there and this narrative builds around Haiti for those of us whose experience may not be on the ground there that is particularly negative, we hear about lots of different kinds of crises, political, economic, spiritual, and otherwise. And so, I wonder if you could begin by just telling us the story of the country as you experience it as someone who has lived there for a significant amount of time.

[00:02:25] Luke Perkins: Yeah, yeah, that's great. It's a great way to frame it up. And I think it's even important to say that, that as I recount what I've seen and experienced in the story of Haiti. This is, this is my, this is my experience of it. and so, as, as much as I've been involved with Haiti over the past 24 years, I'll never be Haitian. although, Thankfully, a lot of Haiti has rubbed off on me over the years, and I'm super grateful for that. But Haiti is a beautiful place. Haiti is a beautiful country, just objectively is a, is a, is a country. Beautiful mountains, beautiful beaches, I think it's actually the prettier side of the island of Hispaniola. Some would maybe dispute that, but it's just a beautiful place with beautiful people and beautiful culture. and, and that culture is something that's been forged over, a difficult history and a history that is very rich as well. a lot of people don't realize Haiti is actually the first, independent black Republic. it is the first successful slave led revolution, is part of, of Haiti's story. There's a revolution that was sparked by slaves who had organized themselves in 1791 and kicked off this battle against the colonial powers at the time, the French in this particular case, and actually won their independence in 1804. They actually, this group of slaves, sent Napoleon packing. It was kind of this like; one journalist called it this David and Goliath kind of scenario. they, they sent him packing, they gained their independence and then they were worried that the French were going to come back and re enslave them.

And so built a series of forts to kind of fortify themselves and get ready in case that ever happened. And, and all these years later, they're still an independent nation. And, and when they. When they took those steps against slavery and against colonialism in that time, that sent shockwaves out throughout the Western Hemisphere. They were really the, the, the ones out front in, seeing the abolition of slavery, in the Western Hemisphere. And so, it's just a beautiful story. And. It's been so fun and enriching for me to be able to have kind of a shared experience with them over the past several years, to be able to see some of the places, man, like if you, if you go up to cap patient, and, and hop on one of the horses that you can rent there and ride up to the Citadel, this massive fortress that sits on top of this mountain just outside of Cap Haitien that was built by Haitians back shortly after the revolution And you think look at this structure like how do they I mean they carried all this stuff up on mules and stuff and it Was all built by hand Beautiful stuff. So, there's a lot of richness to Haiti and it really is unfair that the dominant narrative is a negative one. Haiti makes the usually when you see Haiti on the screen, you'll see like some version of fire, tires burning, or a house burning or something like that. Haiti is so much more than the fire that you see on the screen.

[00:05:50] **Eva Bleeker:** I'm so glad you're leaning us in that direction, and I want to go farther into what you're saying. So, for us the ministry that you your Haitian partners were doing when you lived in country.

[00:06:02] Luke Perkins: Yeah, yeah, so I've been, I served in, in Haiti with CrossWorld for seven years, been, I've been tracking with Haiti for 24 years and did a number of things before I joined CrossWorld, but when I came out of seminary, we kind of, Becca and I sensed, hey, the Lord is leading us into making this our life. and so, we wanted to link up with more of a full-service missions agency that could help kind of coach us through this and help us do this in a healthy way. And so, we linked up with CrossWorld. but CrossWorld has been working in Haiti for a long time before we were there, you know, pushing 70, 80 years. and, and so when cross worlders at the time cross world was called UFM, when they came into the country, they, as some of, some of the older folks have told me, they came in with this DNA that, that we want local believers to be the ones who are eventually going to carry, this ministry. And so, where we sit today. Today in 2024, it is entirely a local led, ministry there. And so, I served, at step seminary, which stands for the evangelical theological seminary of Port au Prince step is a French acronym for that. and step has been around for 80 years. It was started actually by Cuban missionaries.

Who came over, and, where we're at in steps history. Now step is entirely led by Haitians. I reported to a Haitian president. My boss was my brother, Wawa, and I served as assistant to the president. So, coming alongside him and really helping him kind of put legs on his. Vision that the Lord had given him for that, that ministry. And then I get the privilege of teaching leadership there and still do that as an adjunct, even though I'm back in the States now. so was able to have that interaction with students. and then kind of, on the side, almost as a side gig, I was involved with, leadership of an international church there in Port au Prince called Kiskaya Chapel. and so, we were involved with that ministry for, for a number of years as well. So, so wearing a lot of hats. but the, the primary thinking was that, man, Haitians are beautiful people, really intelligent people and, and have a desire to see change come in this country. And so, man, if I could be a part of coming alongside with some good leadership training and some good theological education so that they can go and run. that was, that was kind of the vision, and it was super fun to be able to be a part of that on the ground there. the, the seminary had taken a shift in vision, a little bit over 10 years ago when my colleague Wawa became.

President and began to move the work of discipleship and disciple making into center focus, in terms of the kind of leaders that the seminary is trying to develop. And so, one of the things we'd say is that step we're trying to Cultivate leaders that have a heart of a servant and a passion for disciple making. And one of the reasons that's part of the vision now, is because the Haitian leaders got together and they said, hey, the gospel has been here for a long time, over 200 years at this point.

but we don't see the values of the kingdom down in the marketplace to the degree that we would think we would see. Having the gospel been here, on the ground here for so long. So, what do you, what do we think is going on with that? And, and so they determined, hey, there's just, there's been a lot of classical church planting. There's been a lot of, gathering together of groups and building structures and, and, and other institutions related to that.

but discipleship has not had the focus that probably it needed to. And, and so it was super fun to be able to come alongside them and help them. them with that vision that they came up with. so my, my colleague, Wawa, who I talk about a lot, he just a couple months ago graduated with his DMin from Gordon, and his whole dissertation topic was, was looking at the dynamics that prevent disciple making a disciple making culture from taking root in the Haitian church and fascinating stuff that, that he got into there. And so, we really believe that. If a disciple making movement or culture even would take root in the church, that might be the thing that would actually take Haiti in a different direction. And you've got some really gifted leaders who've got a vision for that on the ground there right now. And I'm excited to see what it's going to look like. We may not live to see the results of it, Wawa and I and others. but I think our hope is that if we can spark something now, a generation or two down the road, there might be a little bit of a different reality there.

[00:10:45] **Eva Bleeker:** I want to appreciate what you're saying, Luke, and wonder if you could take us a little bit deeper into some of the cultural challenges that Wawa and his colleagues are working to address through their discipleship efforts.

[00:11:02] Luke Perkins: You know, there's, there's, there's a lot of fear that exists in the culture and some of that stems from voodoo. Some of that stems from the colonial dynamic and reality that existed there for so long. And, and as you would know better than me, even, some of these generational stories that are passed on over time. They shape us and they shape the way we think. And so, you take that dynamic and combine it with the economic challenges that you have there and the kind of the survivalist mindset that is there. a lot of times people, people are not really thinking as much about my goals for five years down the road. What do I want to want to be doing with myself or even next year at this time? What do I want to be doing? Really, it's, it's a. day to day existence. How do I, how do I get through today? How do I pay my rent that feels insurmountable? How do I make sure I get food on the table for my kids? And so, for many Haitians, that is, that is the thinking that dominates their reality.

and not, not, in all cases, there, there are many people now who, who have, developed the ability to be able to kind of bust out of that mentality and think ahead. but that, that shapes a lot of, a lot of dynamics that go on. And so, when you, when you take the fear piece into that, There's, there's this reality of trying to manage what might happen to me and insulate myself from, from whatever that might be. And some of that is going to be spiritual, some of that is going to be physical, some of that's going to be political even. And, and that, that narrative is not just a narrative that extends deep into the, the early days of Haiti's history, but it's something that's been reinforced over time, in, in recent history, you know, there were, there were a few decades there where Haiti was governed by a brutal dictatorship, the, the Duvalier family, Papa Doc and, and baby doc, and that, that dictatorship came to an end in 1986, but for many people, Those years are still a part of their lived memory, you know, even when I sit down and talk with Wawa and, and look at, part of the story that ultimately led to his conversion to Christ out of voodoo in that system, entrenched in that story is, is the night that he saw his Brother executed by the army that had come into town in the middle of the night, trying to prevent an election from taking place so that democracy could take root. and so, there's so much pain even in the recent history of people. And so, all of those things

become a limiting factor, that, that make, that make flourishing a difficult reality to see if that makes sense.

[00:13:58] **Eva Bleeker:** It certainly does. and when I hear you describing this, I feel a desire to help address what you're describing and while our audience is quite diverse, I think there's a small number of people who would know how to move toward that need. I respect so much the way that you are describing the empowerment and centralization of Haitian leaders through CrossWorld. But what might you say to those of us on, this side that maybe, an American Christian who feels provoked, feels compelled by what you're saying, I, guess part of what I'm asking, is, out of the assumption that a lot of what we have done has not been very effective or respectful of the context. so, so speak to our listeners who, feel, lid up a little bit by what you're saying, but might not know how to take a meaningful step toward it.

[00:15:06] Luke Perkins: Yeah, I would say, as I look back, I'm not sure I can think of a time in Haiti's history when, from a big picture perspective, Haitians have really been given the freedom and permitted to sit in the driving seat. And, and control their destiny and their reality, even right now in, in the, the current situation that is, that is being navigated in Haiti, the, the solution that is on the table right now is for this presidential council that is in leadership for a period of time until elections take place. They've chosen a prime minister. seeing a lot of hopeful things with the new prime minister who's, who's in place right now. but ultimately that solution was a solution that came from the outside. and that's, that's typically what's been done. And, and so, you know, Haitians, a lot of times have felt like passengers, I think, in, in, in this ship that is leading to their destiny, I guess.

and so, so I don't know. I, you know, they're, they're, There are a lot of different dynamics at play in terms of why, why has that reality existed? why, for example, when, when the earthquake hit in 2010, and some of some of the bigger name leaders from our country who were stepping into, into the leadership there to help navigate that crisis, there was a, there was, story living in my brain right now, where, an American leader came in and said, we need to set up tent cities to help, house the people whose homes have been destroyed because that's what we did in the tsunami here recently. And it worked over there. And so that's what we're going to do here. And the president at the time, Renee Praval said, no, we can't do that because if we do that in this culture, we'll never be able to get those tent cities eradicated when we get to a more stable place. And that's not going to be a good thing. Well, at the end of the day, tent cities were created and tent cities existed there for 6 years, 7 years before they were finally wrapped up long after they were actually needed. And so, it's just an example of, of. Outside solutions being imported into Haiti that, that just don't really fit with the culture and the way, the way Haitians think, the, the leaders that I interact with, the leaders at the seminary, the leaders in UEBH, which is a church association that, That the seminary, sits under in Haiti, wonderful, talented leaders, men and women of integrity and vision.

What they lack is funding and resources. And a lot of times when, when we come in from the outside and we want to bring resources. We also want to have control over how those resources are spent, and sometimes there's a dynamic, even that we want credit for the result of what those resources produce. And, you know, I think if we, if we can get to a place where we can set that aside and say, you know what, I'm going to entrust. These resources to what would appear to be trustworthy people. and, and I'm not going to go and try to chase down the credits for my, for my email campaign or my marketing campaign or my fundraising move. I think some good things could happen. But it's hard, and this is not just a dynamic that's unique to Haiti. Any time we're involved with the developing world, those elements of control and credit really cloud things and make things complicated. And, you know, in God's economy, He ought to be the one getting the credit. I don't need credit. He can get the credit. [00:18:57] Eva Bleeker: Yes.

[00:18:58] Luke Perkins: but that's easier said than done when it gets to, when you're the one writing the check and seeing the dollars go out of your bank account. So,

[00:19:07] Eva Bleeker: is there anything else you want to say about Haiti?

[00:19:12] Luke Perkins: this recent situation this past week, Mark, three years, since the assassination of the president, Jovenel Moise, the last president that that Haiti has had, Haiti's been in a transition period ever since then, and the season of unrest that Haiti is in really started before that really started in, in late 2017, by my account, some would say 2018, is pretty, Been probably the darkest season, certainly in Haiti's recent history. outside of the period of slavery, the period of slavery was especially dark, brutal, but, but this period has been really, really challenging for people who, you know, when I, when I. When I look at the news and I see the fire and I see the tires burning, you know, I see that, but then I see my friends that I know are living around the corner and like, they're just, their goal is to raise their kids, to be decent citizens and to be able to be productive in the economy and to be able to make something of themselves. And those are the people who are cowering in a corner while the thugs are out in the street. And a lot of times, whenever. I've said this before, almost any time you see a protest on, on the news or whatever, you can just know that that's probably been funded by somebody, and it's probably being driven by some kind of self-interest.

That doesn't mean that there aren't grassroots protests that happen in Haiti. They, they certainly do. but but there are some bigger power players behind the scenes, both on this side of the ocean. And down there on the island, that are really driving some of this, there are folks who are sending funds to the gangs that, that took over our seminary several years ago, and who are really holding the whole country hostage right now. There are people who are paying for that. And, and so, so it's a really challenging situation right now. There've been some troops on the ground for a couple of weeks, some troops from Kenya. There's supposed to be some more coming and, and, we're hopeful that that will do something, but, but I'm also concerned if we just do that and don't also do something to stop the flow of, of funds and arms and whatever that are propping these gangs up, you know, we might be able to quiet it down for a couple of years, but then Haiti's just going to be back where it was before. And in all of this, you know, it's, it's the average Joes that are getting caught in the mix, who are powerless against these powers that are bigger than them. And that's, that's what my heart really goes out to. And I think those are the people the Lord sees in this. And so as I pray and I pray for the Lord to strengthen them and give them what they need to be able to endure this. And, and I think. Maybe one of the most impactful pieces of this whole thing has been for me over the past couple of years, the enduring faith of our brothers and sisters in Christ down there who are holding on in the midst of this, what feels like an endless situation with no hope on the horizon, but their faith is strong. I'm feeling the choke come in my throat right now. it's, it's unwavering and it's beautiful to see.

[00:22:33] **Eva Bleeker:** I think that's what we need to see through you to Luke. So thank you for speaking candidly and with heart and we can. hold hope and solidarity with our brothers and sisters because you illuminate the narrative for us. I want to zoom out a little bit and celebrate your presidency of cross world and give you the opportunity to tell our listeners. What is cross world about? And what are you, what are you excited about? what are some of the challenges that cross world is facing?

[00:23:09] Luke Perkins: So for many years, crossroads been around for over 90 years. And, and so for most of its history, was a classical miss missions agency, got it start in, in Congo and in Brazil. And in the early days, Haiti as well, and also Papua New Guinea. but, 12 years ago, cross world made a Pivot and, and did some reshaping of its vision and mission to bring disciple making into center focus in terms of our strategy. And then, as a result of that brought us into a place where we can begin to leverage. People from all professions to carry the good news of the gospel to the least reach to follow Jesus to the least reached. And, and so one of the ways we articulate what we do is we say that we help people leverage their profession and their passions. To help make disciples among the least reached. And when we look out across the world, man, right now, you're talking 3. 4 billion people live in what we would call unreached people groups. these are people groups with less than 2%, of folks who would call themselves, devoted followers of Jesus, 3. 4 billion. It's almost like a number that's too big to even get our head around. and, and that number is growing. just. Just a year or two ago, that number was set at 3. 2 billion, and so now it's up to 3. 4. Out of those 3. 4 billion, you've got over 2 billion people who are living in what we call frontier people groups.

These are, these are places where, where people are living in places where they don't have anybody living near them who could tell them about Jesus if they wanted to know. People who don't know that there is a Jesus to believe in. You have right now, there are 37 people groups in the world today that each have a population of over 10 million that would be considered frontier people groups that don't have any movement that's even been started yet. And so these are places where, you know, you look at like the picture in Revelation 5 where God's glory is known in this beautiful way. These are places where that hasn't touched yet. and not only that, you've got other, you've got other places across the world where, where people need to be reached. You see Europe in, in, in a massive decline right now. some would say if current trends continue in, in Europe, 25 years from now, there'd be like 70 million less believers than there are right now. you've got the country of Italy, a country that has been untouched by the reformation. so there's just tons of need across the world, but here's the thing.

When we look at. What it's going to take to deploy believers out to these places. they're not the kind of places where a classic missionary visa is going to work anymore. Most of these places are closed. Most of these places, are under governments that would not be friendly to the message of the gospel. But many of them are open to having people come in with professional skills, to help contribute to the economy. And, and, and when you zoom out for us, you know, it's pretty clear. God, God shows us that that work is. Good that work is, is sacred. And, you know, it's us that have kind of built up this sacred secular divide over time, but really that's not something that should have existed to begin with. And so, so I say all that to say across world, we are deploying people from all professions. So, we just have some, someone recently who's. in their early twenties, just graduated from college, with a computer science degree. And they are working in the middle of an unreached place right now, working for a company as a computer coder. But they're a disciple maker, their, their, their coworkers are all non believers and, and they are immersed into that culture now and learning the language. And it's super fascinating to see. Coding, actually doing real work, contributing, but doing that for the sake of the gospel and bringing the fragrance of Christ into that place. And so we want to see people like that go all over the world to the places where the least reached are and in the unengaged are. And so that's what we're doing right now. we've got, right about 260, workers across the world right now, 90 something years of history. Working, I think right now in about 40 countries, 39 countries, something like that. I need to go do the tally again. but yeah, a lot of exciting things happening right now.

[00:27:48] **Eva Bleeker:** It is exciting, and one of the things that makes me excited is, hearing sort of the disintegration of, who is a sender and who is a goer that, comes up in me when I think about

cross cultural ministry and, who goes and lives in a culture in which he or she did not grow up. And it sounds like CrossWorld has created a model where the going is open to everyone, and perhaps everyone needs to consider that as a potential pathway.

[00:28:21] Luke Perkins: Yeah, yeah, absolutely. Absolutely. I saw a stat the other day that said that there are, I think 57, 000 believers in the world today for every unreached people groups that exists. And so like within. Our space, we've got the resources and the people to reach the rest of the unreached. the question is, are we, are we willing to do it? And, and really it gets back to, two things I would say. One, you know, some would say, well, we've got needs here. And so, you know, shouldn't I stay here? And that may be a perfectly valid calling. And for many of us, it is. but when, for me, it really comes down to an issue of access. here we've got. Lots of access in North America, Canada, the West, we have lots of access. There are a lot of places across the world where there is no access. And, and so I take that reality and put it together with, with the idea that I really think the default for us as believers, is I think I heard David Platt say one time, the default should be for those with the gospel to be moving towards those without the gospel, whether that's in our neighborhood, whether that's in our city. Whether that's crossing a border into another culture and spending time to understand that language and that cultural system so that the love of Christ can, can come to life there. so, so yeah, I think, I think every single believer in Jesus Christ should ask themselves the question, should I go, many of us. Many of us are willing to engage that question, but oftentimes it's from the perspective of, I'm planning to stay, but I might be willing to go. I think many of us, I think it would be more helpful if we shifted to say, well, I'm going to plan to go, but I might be willing to stay. It's a totally different way to look at it.

[00:30:13] **Eva Bleeker:** As we're moving toward the end of our conversation, Luke, I wonder what's on your heart. what do you want to say to the people who get to listen to our conversation?

[00:30:24] Luke Perkins: I was just thinking about this the other day, because I just, just crossed the one year mark since I've been serving as president here at CrossWorld, and it's just been so much to learn over this past year. but, but one of the things that really dominates my mind and is something that I think about every single day is, is the unreached. Looking at where we have, cross world missionaries fielded across the world. How can we make sure that we're effectively reaching those within our reach? And then how could we expand our reach? How could we, link up with non North Americans and help catalyze them to reach people in their region? so I think about this stuff all the time. We just had a scouting team that came back from, a region in central Asia. And they spent, I don't know, like a week on the ground there or something like that. And when they, when they circled up and tallied up the amount of workers they see trying to get a gospel movement going there, they're talking about maybe 20 people for that country of 40 million people and we've, we've got an open door. Like I could place people there right now. if we had people who were willing to go, the question is, are we willing? So I think about that all the time. I also, I've been transitioning back to life in the States, having stepped out for a number of years, this place has changed . It's, it feels in many ways like a different country than it was. And one of the things that's concerning me, and I'm not really sure How to think through this yet, but the church has changed. the church is, is a little bit more focused on herself than, than she used to be . we're not thinking in terms of reaching the world like we used to, at least here in North America and the, and, and the numbers bear that out most of our peer organizations are declining by between three and 5 percent right now, it doesn't mean that God isn't sending people, God is sending people from the global South. Brazil, South Korea, amazing things are happening there. and some would say, well, okay, does that, does that mean there's a place for us as North Americans to be directly involved? And, and I would say, maybe I'd like, I want to frame the question a different way. Do we want to participate with God and what he's doing right now? I don't want us to miss out. He's doing some pretty cool things right now. And,

and I'd love to see, you a new wave of cross cultural interest, in the North American church. So what's on my heart? I think it's that kind of a burden I feel for that. And as I pray, even this morning, I was asking the Lord to, to stir up more hearts to go out.

[00:33:01] **Eva Bleeker:** Well, I share that prayer and that hope with you. for a person who's listening and, would like to learn more, I wonder if you would recommend a way to contact CrossWorld, and maybe something to read

[00:33:18] Luke Perkins: Yeah.

[00:33:18] **Eva Bleeker:** Or something to listen to that might help a person pray and discern how to get involved cross culturally.

[00:33:26] Luke Perkins: Yeah. a couple things. well, first you can, you can connect with us by going to our website at crossworld.org, . and you can email us at info@crossworld.org and, and, we've got some folks who monitor that for us and can get, get you connected To a missions coach. If, if, if you're listening to this and you're somebody who's thinking, well, I wonder if I like computer programming and engineering, maybe I could teach English overseas, that's at all interest to you, send us an email and we can get you connected with a missions coach who could just help you think through what that might look like with no commitment necessary or anything like that. in terms of what to read, I would actually direct people right now to a website, go to joshuaproject.Net, and just. Just peruse around for 10 minutes and, and look at some of the graphs and, and click on some of the people groups there and read about some of the need it really is eye-opening. there are things that you can sign up for with them that can send you an unreached people group into your inbox every day, I think, and that kind of thing to help kind of keep this in front of our eyes. But, but I would go there and, And just peruse around and ask the spirit to, to show you what he wants you to see as, as you're there. There are a number of books you can read as well, but, but I might start there.

[00:34:49] **Eva Bleeker:** That sounds like a great starting point and accessible for anyone. Luke, I find myself both encouraged and challenged here at the end of our conversation, and I want to thank you again for being our guest today.

[00:35:03] Luke Perkins: Dr. Bleeker Eva, it's been so great to be to be with you. I'm kind of jealous, honestly. I mean, I really had a great seminary experience myself in part because I got to work with your husband, but, I'm kind of jealous of your students that get to have you as a prof. And so it's been fun to spend time with you this morning. Thanks a lot.

[00:35:19] **Eva Bleeker:** Well, you are so welcome and I feel the same and friends who are listening, we are grateful that you've chosen to spend your time with us this morning. And if you get the chance, I hope you will look at the resources that Luke named and also leave us a rating or a review wherever you listen to podcasts and please send any questions or comments you have for us to podcast@denverseminary.edu. In addition, you can visit our main website, which is denverseminary.edu for more information, for resources about our school, events, degree programs, and of course, other episodes of our podcast, Engage360. You can get full transcripts there as well. We are grateful for your interest, for your support, and for your prayers, not only for us, but for all of the things that Luke named for us today. Until next time, we pray for the Lord's blessing in your life.