

Believe and Blessings

As Christmas approaches, I have been thinking about some of my favorite Christmas movies and how many of the movie themes are reflected in the work of Hearts and Hands for Jesus. Many of the story lines are similar to stories in the Bible and the life of Christ.

The movie “Elf” reminds us to be our genuine self and be kind to others. We may lose sight of what is truly important but we can find our way back and it’s never too late to change, the Prodigal son. These are messages we share with our community, especially those who have lost their way. God is always waiting with open arms of love.

“White Christmas” is a big favorite for my family. Did you know Crosby was named after Bing Crosby? Everyone faces hard times and difficulty throughout life. For the months we were without reliable transportation it was VERY difficult to help or support others. My joy comes from loving and serving my neighbors, friends and community. Arranging rides to and from church activities was a challenge; but as the song says, when we “Count our Blessings” we became aware of how God answered our prayer through the support and kindness of others. God is so faithful in meeting our needs even when we grumble. Just remember the Israelites and Moses when they were hungry and questioning where God was in their time of need; and then, there was manna and quail.

As adults we often become cynical and forget the power of choosing to believe. As the child in “Polar Express” shows us, it is all about believing. Proverbs 3:5-6 reminds us to not depend on our own understanding or power, but to trust the Lord with all our heart. Jesus also reminded us when he said, “...With man this is impossible, but not with God; all things are possible with God.” Mark 10:27.

As we move toward the celebration of Christ's birth and the coming New Year, I count you and the support of this mission as a **BLESSING** and choose to **BELIEVE** that God will continue to provide for his people. May the Joy of Christ's birth be yours this holiday season.



(Made by local Costa Rican artist)

Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year!

The Johnsons