



Cole and Sarah McCauley, missionaries in Guatemala

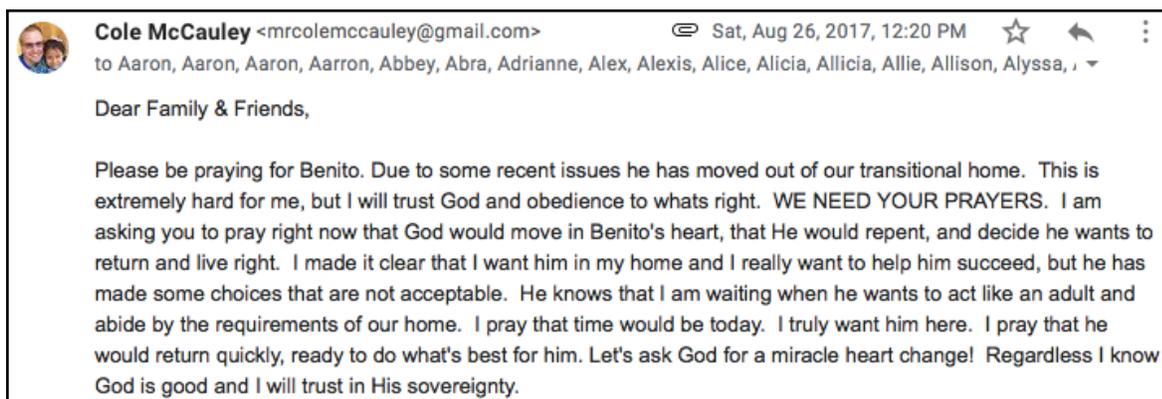
Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need.

“I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants.’”

And he said to him, “Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.”

- Luke 15:13-14, 18-19, & 31-32

This was an e-mail that I sent out on Aug 26, 2017...



I remember telling him that the choices he had been making were not good. That if he would continue in this direction, it was going to have painful effects. I remember telling him that making

decisions like he had been recently, there is no way that he would be able to live in my home or use the resources that are provided by people who love God and give so that he may be provided for and taken care of. I told him, “These brothers and sisters in Christ give so that you may have a bright future and that you would know that God loves you and desires good for you, not to sell the things that have been provided for you, not so that you can drop out of the school we are paying for, and not so that you can quit your job and hang out with your friends. This must stop; it is not beneficial to your life. I want you in my home, and I want to see you succeed. Benito, if you want to repent and change your ways, then let’s put this behind us and move forward. If not, then I cannot permit this in my home. What do you say...” I remember him sitting there. After a minute, I see one tear run down his cheek, and he says, “Ok,” heads up the stairs, and starts packing his bags. I look at our translator, and we start to pray for him.

I remember driving him to the bus terminal, making sure to take the long way, and hoping that he would sincerely repent and desire to continue, but that did not happen. I’ll never forget the spiritual battle leading up to that day and the days after, crying out to God, begging Him to confirm that this was what needed to happen. I remember the accusations of Satan, telling me that I am not graceful, that God had forgiven me of way more and way worse. “It’s too harsh, he’ll never make it. You are the one with the problem, not him.” I remember praying against these things, pleading with God to show me if they were true. If that was my heart, let me know so I can make things right. I remember crying out for God to miraculously change Benito’s heart and give him the desire to change his ways and to desire to do what’s right.

After much pleading and petitioning God, after much Godly counsel from brothers and sisters in Christ, after much seeking the will of God for this situation, it was clear what had to be done. It was not easy, but there was a peace about it. I knew that God was in control and that the very moment that Benito would turn his eyes to our sovereign and faithful Father, He would forgive him, provide for him, and guide him. I also knew that through my hard conversations, God gave me the grace to show compassion in the middle of it, even as I had to kick him out. I knew Benito truly knew and I frequently would repeat to Benito that I do want him with me and at any time he was welcome to return as long as he was ready to do what was right. I thought that Benito would return, I truly wanted him to, the only question was when...

Four hundred ninety-one days later, Benito called me and we talked a bit as usual, but this time he said he wanted to talk about something serious. I told him to go for it. He said he wanted to talk in person. I invited him to come and celebrate the New Year with us, and he



Together again!

Sarah and Patrick were reunited with Cole in Guatemala on Christmas Eve. **Thank you all who had been praying for the passport processing and safe travels.**

came. We had fun, and at the end of the evening we opened our home to him to stay the night. The next morning, Benito wanted to talk with me. If I'm being honest, when Benito said he wanted to talk I was thinking he was going to say, "I don't have anywhere to stay, any job, any food. Help me." With only this said, I wasn't sure what I would say to him, or what I would do. But that's not what he said! Benito told me that when he had moved to a town a couple of hours away, he struggled there. Finally he found a job, and worked for a gentleman he respected. After a few months, his boss died. It was unexpected, and it was hard for Benito. After the funeral, Benito said he was talking with a man who loved God, and that the gentleman started to talk about the heavy things that we carry, the mistakes and wrong choices that we carry. He talked about the importance of making things right and desiring to do better. Benito told me that this had gotten him thinking and that the first thing that crossed his mind was how he lived in my home. He started to go through the bad decisions he made. He named the multiple things he did while in my home and took three times throughout his confession to specifically ask for forgiveness for those things. I was in awe: I had faith and believed in God's goodness, but I wasn't sure this day was ever going to come! Benito mentioned that he wanted to go back to school and wanted to finish his education. He asked me if I still wanted him in my home and if I would be able to help him. I talked about a few things with him, and shared that all I ever really desired from him was a sincerely repentant heart and a desire to pursue what is good, right, and true. I told him that I forgive him and all those things were in the past. I shared that I don't currently have the support to take care of his education and costs to provide for him, but that Sarah and I would wear the costs until God provides, and that 100% we will help him. I then told him how things would be different though: this time there would be no hanging out in the streets, he would not have a key to the home, he would have to work every day, and I would have to personally



know his boss. "When you are not at work or school, you are at Casa de Mi Padre," I told him. "I know it's strict, but this way I know you will do well, and I know you will be making good decisions." He smiled and told me it'd be no problem.

So Benito has moved in. Benito and Gerson are both living with Sarah and me. Things have been going well, and they both have been helpful. We still need to find Guatemalan homes for these boys. ***Please be praying for God to give us wisdom and provide homes for them.*** Gerson has been with us for about 4 months now. It is hard to find families willing to take 19 year old young men. We will continue in faith and don't mind him living with us until God provides a home.

Last week, Gerson started school. He is studying with a focus in small electronics. He has been very excited about this, and it has seemed to put a perk in his step. We love him dearly, and he has been a help in our home. Just this morning as I walked down to the kitchen, I heard him praying, sharing how grateful he is with God and asking God to lead and guide him. He was passionately sharing with God how he would give Him his everything and was trusting in Him to guide him and provide that he may succeed. Of course when I rounded the corner the prayer died down, but it was a joy to hear his faithfulness and passion from the bit I caught.

Family and friends, this is not an easy work to do. We come into many trials weekly as we tirelessly seek to act out God's righteousness, love, and truth to all with whom we interact. But day after day, we see the richness of God's goodness and favor upon the work we are doing. ***Thank you to everyone who blesses us with your prayers and support. It is such a blessing to be here truly changing the lives of our children. Please continue to pray and consider supporting our ministry.***

Love ~ Cole, Sarah, and baby Patrick

OPPORTUNITIES TO GIVE

With the beginning of 2019, we look back gratefully at how we were blessed in 2018 to have been provided for each and every month. Although this is true, we still have monthly expenses that we need people who believe in this mission to step up and help with so our work can continue. We have two main needs right now. ***The provision for Gerson and Benito:*** Gerson's education is covered by an former Spanish teacher of mine, (I love the fact that my former Spanish teacher helps us! I was a wild child and probably rarely paid attention to Spanish then, but now speak it daily. I am so glad that she saw the miraculous change Christ has done in me.) Ok, so the education is covered, but we still have to provide for ***their daily needs:*** food and transportation for the boys. Also with having our first child, ***Sarah and my insurance*** went up. We are a part of a Christian medical bill-sharing program, and our insurance went up by about \$520 a month to the family rate instead of the couple rate. ***Those needs total about \$830 a month.*** \$310 of that is on top of the already un-met monthly support of 2018, but praise the Lord He is faithful to his word and every single month He provides!

To Support by Mail:

Checks to "Child Rescue"
Memo: Cole McCauley
Child Rescue
709 E. Hyde Park Ave.
Saint Joseph, MO 64504

To set up automatic

Monthly support: call Jan Henderson (816-238-4999) at Midland Ministries to set up monthly giving.



To Support Online:

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Scroll down to Cole McCauley