



[Best to view this email in your browser](#)

A Season of Almost and Rough Graces

Ministry Update

Greetings from a stormy and beautiful town in Germany! We trust and hope that all of you are healthy and holding on to the promise that this season will pass and soon it seems. We keep getting glimpses of it, but we are not quite there yet.

- summer is almost here
- school is almost over
- soon its graduation time, what will the restrictions be
- it is almost time to say goodbye to those leaving soon
- the pandemic is almost over
- we are almost up for vaccinations

Isn't that so true of our journey as a believer? How long must we wait Lord? What are we to do in the meantime? What will the requirements be of us as we journey closer to our Lord? When will I graduate from this thing I try to master/break through? Why does your grace seem so rough at times? Wait, what? Grace can be rough or not nice?

It seems that the whole world has been re-examining how to steward themselves, their communities, resources and the losses. We all are affected in this pandemic in some way and have to steward our thoughts, words and decisions. Have you found scripture come to life in a new way in your heart in this season? Sometimes stirred to strong feelings of justice, anger and desolation? For some of us, it has. What if Grace is not always pleasant? What if having to wait and being confined to the house is a grace? What if wearing a mask is a grace? What if His grace

for me is a time of slow motion? No, it can't be. Grace is nice and strong andmakes me always feel good?

Isaiah 56:1

This is what the LORD says: "Maintain justice and do what is right, for My salvation is coming soon, and My righteousness will be revealed.

Psalms 27:14

Wait on the LORD: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the LORD.

We can read these verses with such great faith and anticipation of the Lord's coming and to encounter us in the moment.....which He does as He is faithful, until.....

- our patience runs out
- our circumstances become unpleasant
- restrictions to our freedom are imposed on us without our consent or agreement
- we start wondering if suffering was a part of the journey and how bad it may get?

And then we just want it to be over, done with. We reach for the hope of glory with Him while we can't fully understand how to be in this in-between, almost, not so nice season of grace. It is a very unique spot to be in and rushing around or complaining does nothing for us. Stillness and trust on the other hand brings a huge reward. Well we had our fill of all of that lately, didn't we? We believe this pandemic has given us this exact opportunity if we like it or not, it is a grace. How about you? What has this season taught you about yourself and God and His grace?

We have been having lots of these conversations on our patio when its sunny, living room, and on a walk in these beautiful woods and hills around us with missionaries and friends during these past months of another stricter lockdown. We are learning to enjoy this spot of in-between, even though we want it to over and anticipate a new normal.

We hosted a outdoor Easter brunch with a few people at a time and enjoyed our first trip to the Alps last weekend when we finally could. We took a carload of people with us of course and so enjoyed the freedom.

David and I got to go away on a short visioning retreat at a Hotel nearby recently and it felt so strange to move around more freely, yet we so enjoyed the time away. God's affirmation of our ministry and assignment is such a joy and making plans for this upcoming ministry year was life giving.

So what is up ahead? Another few weeks of debriefs and goodbyes for those leaving this field in June and July. Greeting and welcoming arriving missionaries in late July and early August and helping them transition to living here. We will continue to host gatherings here in our home and meet one on one with missionaries and ministry leaders to journey together in this season of waiting on the Lord and a new normal.



Family Update

Hannah was home until early March and is back in Rotterdam, NL getting ready to graduate with a BA in Design-Illustration mid July. We are driving there to see her graduate. She is almost there!

Megan is considering spending some time living in the US this coming year. She would like to work, get her license and then start some college courses. We are still working on the details on the timing of this and hope to know more soon.

Micah is almost as tall as David and growing in faith and maturity. He has been able to have school on site since February and has needed to do 2 COVID rapid tests at home per week to be able to go to school (Students and staff had to do 2 tests per week for the last 2 months, none of them came back positive). He will be finishing his sophomore year in 2 weeks and will be turning 17 this summer!



Praises

- No sickness, COVID or any other for us and those we get to minister with. No allergies even!
- Strength and perfect Grace (the good kind and the tough kind) as we weathered this spring with its ups and downs in restrictions, the weather and moody teenagers and adults.
- That we are in the middle of His focus as we journey along all our circumstances.

Prayer Requests

- Continued Grace for this season of Almost and waiting for Him. Even when it is tough grace.
- Comfort for goodbyes and wrapping up a ministry season here for Rachel, Emily, Lauren, Emmalee, Tessa, Bernice, Lisa and their families. Pray for their transition back to the US and Canada and beyond.
- The new normal that is coming, to be riddled with good fruit and wisdom from our previous seasons.

Thank you, for supporting our Ministry!

Donate



This email was sent to info@globalhz.org
[why did I get this?](#) [unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)
David & Anna Mansfield · Waldeckstrasse 73 · Kandern 79400 · Germany

