



PRAYER AND PRAISE  
the CUSTERS' LA(te)ST STAND  
AUGUST 2016

WORLDVENTURE – GLOBAL CATALYST FOR GOSPEL MOVEMENTS

**WORLDVENTURE APPOINTEE CELEBRATION in HEAVEN**

“With great sorrow we share that WorldVenture appointees, Jamison & Kathyne Pals, along with their three children, Ezra (3 yrs.), Violet (23 mos.), and Calvin (2 ½ mos.), were killed in a multi-vehicle crash on Sunday, July 31. The Pals were traveling in their van from Minnesota to Colorado to participate in their final training before deploying to serve as missionaries in Japan, when their van was struck by a semitrailer truck in western Nebraska.

Their WorldVenture supervisor notes, ‘Jamison & Kathyne were all about the people of Japan being reached for Jesus that they might know the joy of salvation.’ In speaking with WorldVenture President Jeff Denlinger, Jamison and Kathyne’s fathers each echoed this sentiment: ‘Though we are devastated, we are praying that God would bring many to Christ through their testimonies and this tragedy.’

In a newsletter sent out to their family and friends following some physical challenges that Kathyne experienced, Jamison shared a quote from John Piper:

*Life is not a straight line leading from one blessing to the next and then finally to heaven. Life is a winding and troubled road. Switchback after switchback. And the point of biblical stories like Joseph and Job and Esther and Ruth is to help us feel in our bones (not just know in our heads) that God is for us in all these strange turns. God is not just showing up after the trouble and cleaning it up. He is plotting the course and managing the troubles with far-reaching purposes for our good and for the glory of Jesus Christ.*

- John Piper, in *A Sweet and Bitter Providence*

While we sorrow in Jamison, Kathyne, Ezra, Violet, and Calvin’s deaths, we also look to the promise of the One, Jesus Christ, who rose from the dead, for He has prepared for them a place in heaven for their good and for the glory of Jesus Christ.” Worldventure Communique

The memorial service, which we had the privilege of attending, was a testimony to the grace of God in the lives of families who are hurting, yet not as those without hope.



**PLEASE PRAY:**

- **For the truck driver to accept the forgiveness offered him by the families and Jesus**
- **For God’s comfort and grace for Jamison’s and Kathryn’s parents and their extended family and friends**
- **That many people (around the world and especially in Japan) will be drawn to Jesus as Savior in the midst of this tragedy**
- **That God will call many to rise up and take Jamison and Kathyne’s place in missions**
- **That hearts will be touched as they read about the Pals lives and passions on their blog: <https://iovofiapan.org>**

## WORLDVENTURE APPOINTEE CELEBRATION in LITTLETON



With great joy we share that fourteen individuals were appointed to overseas ministry in Africa, Asia, South America, and Europe. As they shared their ministry visions from church planting to children's ministry to creative arts to youth to theological education to a ministry among a totally unreached nation, we found ourselves wishing we had another life to serve internationally! **How thankful we are for these young families who are God's answer to yours and our request for more harvest workers.** At the same time, we recognize that their ministry future lies in God's hands – just as with the Pals. **Please pray for these new appointees as the hard work of finding financial and prayer partners begins.**

Doug Hazen, WorldVenture's Director of Prayer Mobilization, sends out a **Weekly Prayer Brief** with updated requests. If you would like to receive it via email and participate with us in praying for these needs, please contact Doug: [d.hazen@worldventure.com](mailto:d.hazen@worldventure.com).

*Our hearts are not troubled, because our Father has a house with room for us. Jesus Christ is there now, preparing a place. He is coming again. When he does, he will take us with him, to be with him forever. Then, we will put our roots down deeply and not take them up again. This is a home we can start sinking our roots into now—we have a home that comes with us wherever we go, and we never have to leave. His name is Jesus Christ. (Excerpt from [joyofjapan.org](http://joyofjapan.org), May 6, 2016 as Jamison reflects on the transition of leaving their home for Japan)*

Gratefully rejoicing with the Pals in their new heavenly home,

*Dougg and LeAnn*

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