



I will go before you and level the mountains; I will break down gates of bronze and cut through bars of iron. I will give you hidden treasures, riches stored in secret places, so that you may know that I am the LORD, the God of Israel, who summons you by name.

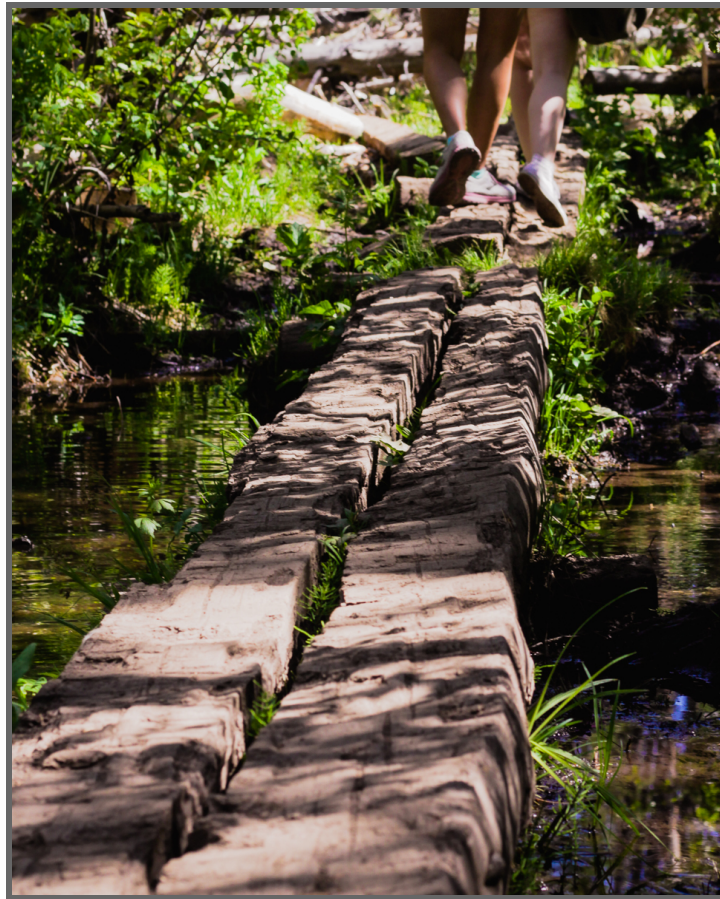
Isaiah 45:2-3

"You're almost to the finish line."

These are some of the words I felt God speak over me during a recent time of prayer and journaling. Really, Father? Can it be? This season has felt so long. Especially in the last few months, filled with restlessness and never-ending uncertainty. Could I really be close to the end?

So much in our world, today seems to speak against the promises God shares, the kind of life and freedom He says we can have today. Seriously? Today? In 2020? The idea often feels impossible. Yet, I believe that is exactly the point.

An update from Ryan Taylor, newest missionary supported by VJF



WHAT WE NEED

In support of raising, the goal is to gather a team of like-minded believers whose spiritual and financial strength come together to form a strong foundation for your ministry. To gather people you can lean on. People you can trust. I believe one of God's major purposes in this season for many of us is helping us grow in that very ability. To trust openly and strongly without doubt or fear intruding.

As I've worked to rebuild my outreach over the last several months, I've realized my whole job has been to trust God and lean on Him and others the entire time. That is the moments when I feel unable or not enough, I can trust that God is right beside me, ready and able to provide and that I can be free to lean on Him and the people He chooses to join in my journey. It's been this shift in me, above everything else, that has made the biggest difference.

WHAT COMES NEXT

So much has been happening over the last few months. I've been spending the time working to restart my outreach, trying to develop a healthy direction for the rest of the year. I'm happy to say I feel more confident and ready than ever before. It's been a season of difficulty but also a season of blessings.

Recently, it was my privilege and pleasure to join the staff of GEM's latest annual GEM-K Conference, a biannual retreat for the teens of GEM's missionaries. While it was entirely online this year, it was still an incredible time of fellowship and teaching, as we walked through the important lessons of grief from the book of Lamentations.

GemStone Media, the ministry I'll be joining in Germany, has been at work also, putting together videos to help people better connect with and understand their ministry. You can view one of those videos at this link: [GemStone Ministry Endorsement Promo](#).



Visits and great conversations from long time friends (I'm the guy on the right) have been one of the many blessings God has surprised me with this season.

Currently, I am fighting to gain momentum on my outreach. I have recently seen provision come in some miraculous ways and am now at almost 50% of my total monthly support goal!! But there is still a lot of mountains to climb if I am to get to Germany by February 1st. Please be praying for boldness and momentum for me, and that God would bring strong allies into view to partner with. I continue to believe in His promises for this season and look forward to seeing how He will bring them to fruition, and by the end of the year, we will see the final 50% of my monthly support raised.

To those of you I have not connected with yet, I hope to be in contact with you soon. To those of you who are already supporting me in any way, my sincerest thanks and all my love. Because of you, the more I walk into this, the more worthwhile it becomes. I pray that you would be well and taken care of in this unknown season.

Till next time...

Ryan Lee Taylor

Phone: (720) 383-1995

Email: movieman626@gmail.com

Address: 9677 Bellmore Pl, Highlands Ranch, CO 80126



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