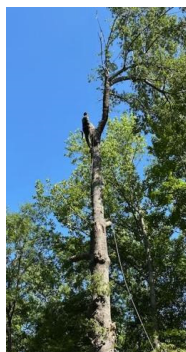
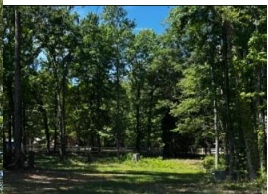


**Dear Pastors, Friends, and Partners of Selah International,**



Work on the Selah playground has begun and should be completed over the next couple of months. It has been a group effort clearing trees, grading, and finding the product that would be durable enough, the best fit for the property, and durable to last for many years. It should be ready for the families coming to the property this summer for intensives and debriefings.



God is continuing to use the wonderful property that He has blessed us with to strengthen and aid in the healing process for God's servants. Over the last couple of months Dawn and I have been honored to provide five weeks of in-person care that included



personal counseling intensives and missionary debriefings. **For those of you who have recently begun receiving our updates and would like to know details about the difference between in-person counseling intensives and debriefings, you can read those descriptions in our [August 2025 Ministry Update](#).**

In addition, it was a joy to be able to present the ministry of Selah for financial and prayer support in churches in Tennessee and West Virginia. The most interesting ministry opportunity over the last couple of months was an unusual request for an in-person counseling situation with a Hispanic pastor and wife in Spain. Due to visa restrictions, they could not leave the country and come to South Carolina. Because of the seriousness of the situation, we made the decision to travel to Spain and conduct a week-long intensive with them. The emotional distress from past trauma and abuse was debilitating, but the Lord began to work before we even arrived. The Lord answered so many prayers for this dear couple that week and has even provided ongoing, in person support for them. By God's grace, this dear couple will be able to influence many on a deeper level than they ever thought possible. We witnessed Paul's powerful promise in action during that week...

*"And he said unto me, **My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness.** Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: **for when I am weak, then am I strong.**" (2 Corinthians 12:9-10)*

For most of us, weakness often feels like failure. Paul reminds us in this passage that Christ's power rests most powerfully on those who know they are inadequate. These past few weeks have driven home to us that God does not build His kingdom through self-sufficiency but through dependent servants who cling to His grace. David Powlison, while suffering with terminal cancer, emphasized this. He wrote:

**"Our weaknesses become places of profound ministry because they expose our need for Christ and teach us to offer others not polished answers but living hope in Him."**

The Lord can use fragile people, perplexing circumstances, and even trauma to display that the surpassing power belongs to Him alone. Therefore, we don't lose heart in seasons of fatigue, imperfection, or deep suffering, for when we are weak, then we are strong, because Christ Himself is our strength.

Only by his Grace,

Chris Phillips