



Amidst all the hustle and bustle, this holiday season was a time spent remembering ebenezers, and not the scrooge kind. In the Bible, 'ebenezer' means 'stone of help', referring to the stone that Samuel set up to remember when God's aid helped the Israelites miraculously defeat their enemies. This year has been full of God's presence and help even when we felt stretched beyond what we could handle.



This past New Year's Eve, we celebrated our first anniversary of officially owning our first home. We are so thankful to God for helping us find this home that is so perfectly tailored to our family's needs. For us, a home isn't really a home without the abundance of family and friends to fill it, and we are so thankful that the Lord has filled our house with an abundance of warm memories with loved ones, and strangers, too. It is just the right size for our family to grow into, and we love that we can use the space to welcome family and friends, host a community group, and for Chloe to share her toys with other kiddoes. Along with the many joys of owning a home, we are learning much about the responsibility of taking care of it, as well as investing in it well.



One of our biggest life change came when God brought Chloe Susannah into our family. Even though Chloe has only been out of the womb for nine months, we still have a hard time remembering life without her. We can't help but delight in her and look for new ways to make her laugh. There isn't a day that passes that we don't marvel at how adorable she is and what a precious gift from God she is to us. Full of energy and curiosity, Chloe is constantly on the move and has started crawling, pulling herself up on almost anything, cruising along tables and couches, and babbling the last couple of months. As much fun as Chloe is, we're learning how much work it takes to care for her well, and God has been a consistent source of help when we weren't sure we were going to make it through the day...or night.



Toward the end of 2009, our church, Urban Grace started going through some transitions, including the decision to install Kevin as the senior pastor. While every change comes with its share of difficulty and anxiety, God has been our help to process through these transitions and to look forward to what He will do in the lives of His people. This past year, we have been going through material in our community groups that help us learn more about our sin and how the gospel helps us change to become more like Christ. We are so thankful that the Lord has helped UG grow as a people who love Him more and love others better, and we look forward to next year, when we can look back to see what God has done in 2010.



Raising Ebenezers,  
Kevin, Connie and Chloe Hsu

