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## Loving and Losing

Anyone who has loved another person knows that there is no greater

experience than letting your heart go and giving it to a person worthy of that love. It is arguably the peak of human experience to love and be loved.

Likewise, it is the greatest pit of the human experience to lose the object of that love. I experienced that peak on November 22nd and that bottomless pit on November 23rd of 2023.

It has been one year since we lost our son Matías.

And we have not gotten over it. We will never get over it. Because we will never get over him. I think about him every day. I cry for him every week. My grief is my love for him. And that love has only grown since he died.

Cata and I continue to see grief therapists. It is strangely the highlight of our week for both of us. And I think I know why, at least for myself. It's because that is the time that I get to go express my love for my son without restraint, without managing my emotions, without hiding anything. It's also the time I get to express that deep pit of loss that is right there next to that love, that I need someone to know about, to witness, alongside my wife.

This has been the most difficult year of our lives. And I know for a fact that we would not be able to make it without our family, friends and longtime ministry partners who have prayed for us, cried with us, called us, sent us cards, flowers and texts, and continued to financially support us. Thank you for being a part of those many arms and hearts that have wrapped themselves around us, we continue to need your embrace.

With love and gratitude,

Chris and Cata

## As this year closes

Thankfully, as we come to the end of this year there is no emergency. This December is quiet and reflective as we continue to walk this road of grief with the Lord, our family and friends.

**As you may know, year-end giving is significant to our overall budget.**

We are trusting the Lord to provide an additional \$5000 to aid with continuing therapy appointments, recent medical bills, and a drop off in support over the course of this year.

**As you are thinking through your giving, would you prayerfully consider giving a year-end gift?**

If you are in a position to give, you can do so online by clicking on the button below. Thank you again for your many years of love and support.

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