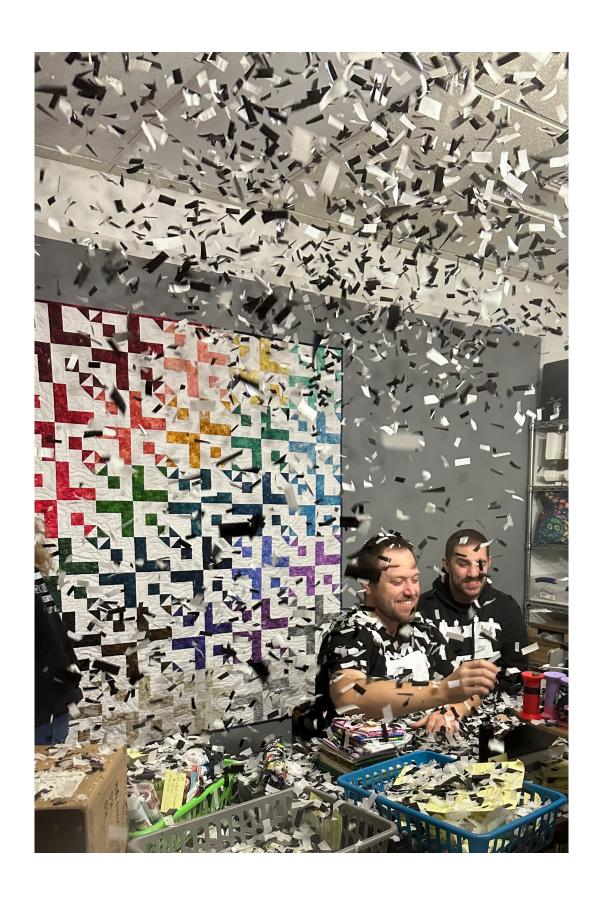
It's been a good week. I have worked hard to complete many things that I have needed to finish up. The kids have had meetings to discuss the upcoming year and goals needed to progress. They have asked their dad for a lot of financial advice and spent the week working on the things he has told them to implement, as well as find the areas in their business that he suggests need attention.

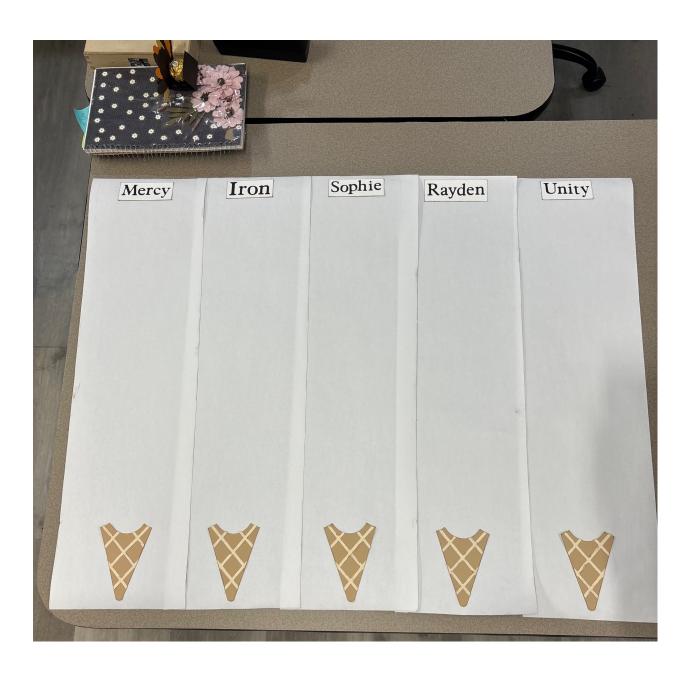
I completed and turned in a quilt that I have been working on for Teancum. It took longer than it should, but I learned a very valuable lesson.

We had the 12-hour live stream! That is always a fun day. I feel that it brightens the day for people who are alone throughout the holiday season.



Later in the week, I cleaned the house, set up a new wrapping area for Christmas next year and purchased a couple of things that I know I want to get for all my girls. I may have struggled throughout the holiday season but I am going to make up for it ALL year...lol.

I put together and implemented a new school rewards program for my grandkids. They are struggling in school to stay seated and raise their hands etc. I have found that children do best with rewards instead of consequences. I talked to their parents and they were happy for help. It's the ice cream scoop system. I made a chart for each of them that has 12 scoops of ice cream on it. When they stay seated in class and obey quickly, they earn a scoop of ice cream for the day. At the end of the week, each parent can reward their children however they feel works best for their families.





The teachers said it has been amazing! They all had a great week. It makes me happy. They are happy and feel good about themselves instead of feeling that they haven't done well. I wish all children were taught with rewards instead of a "warning or notice" of behavior that needs improvement. Children actually WANT to do well.

Sophie wanted a family bowling reward. Rayden and Mercy wanted a giant coloring book. Parents are thrilled. Children are happy. Neither are discouraged, it's just as it should be.



Ray and I flew to Florida on Saturday. I watched the destash on the plane...



Brody and Teancum make me smile although, If I didn't know them, I would be concerned about them...lol

I have been thinking about the quilt I made for Teancum. It is a "charm" quilt with half square triangles. I was anxious to get it started and cut down my background fabric before realizing that I needed to sew the charms to it BEFORE cutting them into triangles. However, because I had cut the background fabric, I continued. I then cut the charm packs to fit the mistake that I had made with the background fabric. Of course, this made sewing the half square triangles difficult to get even. The quilt was challenging at this point and it should not have been.

I keep thinking about it. Why did I keep cutting after I had made the first mistake? Why didn't I stop and go get another piece of fabric? There were many reasons that I have thought about. I wanted to start sewing, it was at night and I would have to wait until the next day to get more fabric. I didn't want to waste the pieces I had cut. I didn't think it would be as hard to work with as you are taught it would be. The combination of everything just kept me going until I had a project on my hands that was hard to fix.

I should have stopped at my first mistake. I should have fixed it then. I have been thinking about this the past couple of weeks. I think about sin and how much easier it would be if we just stopped at the first mistake and fixed it, instead of continuing down a path.

I have been thinking about the kids and their reward system. I have been thinking about how much nicer it is to receive a reward instead of a punishment. I keep thinking that Heavenly Father has a reward system for us as well. He promises to give us all that He has if we will do what He has commanded. It's amazing actually. He promises to make us heirs to His kingdom.

## **New Testament**

Titus 3:7

7 That being justified by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

## **Book of Mormon**

Mosiah 15:11

11 Behold I say unto you, that whosoever has heard the words of the prophets, yea, all the holy prophets who have prophesied concerning the coming of the Lord- I say unto you, that all those who have hearkened unto their words, and believed that the Lord would redeem his people, and have looked forward to that day for a remission of their sins, I say unto you, that these are his seed, or they are the heirs of the kingdom of God.

I want to live life encouraged by the reward of doing whats right, as opposed to the punishment of not doing so. I want to stop quickly when I make a mistake and fix it. I am so grateful for our Savior. I am so grateful for His example of how to live and the happiness that comes with the rewards of doing what is right. I love Him.

With love, Leslie



A fun school project. Sophie and Mercy.