

† The Dietz Digest †

Vol. III January, 2009

Greetings to everyone in the glorious name of our Lord. As it has been quite a while since our last update, there is much to share, but before all that I must ask for your forgiveness.

My apology is to those who unexpectedly received our letter and never signed up for it. We took the liberty of mailing our newsletter to everyone we knew and never sought permission. It is my sincere hope that we haven't offended anyone in what we have done. If you would like to stop receiving our letters then please e-mail me so I can remove you from the list. We will not take offense and it will help us to reduce the cost of sending out our updates; especially if it is something you are not interested in receiving. That being said let us fill you in on the last year! We will start with the fun stuff.

Downtown Spokane



Praise Reports

Through God's amazing provision I was able to make it through the entire school year without taking out a student loan. It is my continued conviction from God (and encouraged by Moody Bible Institute) to not go into debt from school. Moody counselors have said that over 75% of the students that take out student loans never enter the ministry because they need a high paying job to pay back the loans (because we know how lavishly the ministry pays haha). Money has always been provided in unexpected ways. Sometimes an anonymous payment to my Moody account, a bonus at work, or a tax rebate. When

we look at our budget on paper there is not enough money for all the expenses; but God in His goodness and faithfulness, has amazed us and every bill has been paid.

I went through a trial this spring when Empire Bolt & Screw unexpectedly let me go without much of an explanation. It was a very trying time having to come home and tell Dawn that I had failed in my duty to provide for the family. However, the Lord sustained me through the difficulty and kept encouraging me to wait on Him instead of rushing out to get a job. It sounded crazy (to me and I'm sure others) but that is what I did and a month later He provided. My old boss at DHL called me out of the blue and said I had been on his mind. He had some work he had available and I was who he thought of. The work is very flexible and the wage is almost what I was making before. The best part is I get to work from home whenever I have the time.

Finally, the Lord has been helping me in the area of leading the High School and college age group at our church. When I took over about a year ago all but one student had left. It was a constant struggle for me because I had only one student. My pastor kept encouraging me to be faithful with whatever the Lord had entrusted to me. I knew that truth biblically, but practically I was not living it out. I hastily put together lessons at the last minute and spent little time in prayer for the group.

There were times when my heart was in it but it was a very up and down season. I was not consistent. Then the Lord really started to work on my heart. I am no longer doing the lessons in my flesh and struggling along. He has renewed a steadfast spirit in me and I have a desire to study the Bible faithfully to present them with God's truth. Isaiah 48:10-11 was an eye opening passage for me because I realized that we must suffer as Christians for His name's sake. If He does not purge us of our sin in the furnace of affliction to make us a better reflector of His glory, then the world looks at us and they slander God's name. The world cannot see God but they

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can see those who follow Him. He is either glorified by our actions (Matt. 5:16), or slandered because of them.

Sorry the teacher in me can't help but share what I have been learning. To sum up, since I have been faithful in my preparation the group has now grown to three young men and one girl. They have been coming consistently. The best part is we are doing nothing to "draw" students here by activities and events. I am doing nothing but teaching the Bible and they are still coming, praise God!

Family Updates

Alena is growing fast and is now 18 months old. She says "dada", "mama", and a handful of other words, plus she knows about 6 baby signs. We are also adding to the family. Dawn is due May 20 with our first-born son. We are debating on the names Azaryah (also know as Abednego, from the book of Daniel) or Justus (from the book of Acts). We are leaning more towards Azaryah.



Alena Rocking the Hawk

Miscellaneous Items

This portion of the letter is being written a few months after the earlier parts due to my procrastination. I am still eagerly searching the Scriptures to prove that procrastination is indeed a spiritual gift, to justify my slowness (my last bad joke I promise).

My employment will be coming to an end with DHL due to the company no longer doing deliveries in the United States. However, Having

been through this once before, we are strongly encouraged and sure that all things will continue according to God's plan. I am hoping and praying for a job in the ministry at this time if the Lord wills, because a deep desire has been growing in me to start preaching the Gospel. It seems as though the Lord will ask me soon, but am still seeking discernment.

I will be taking a missions trip to Ughanda, Africa in the Summer as part of the required curriculum at Moody. I will be traveling with my good friend Eric Hartmann. We will spend 8 weeks there assisting a ministry in church planting, orphanage work, evangelism, and may even be able to work with a leper colony! We will also be taking a team of 12-15 people who will go for 2 weeks. If anyone wants to be a part of this group please let me know by the second week of February.

Prayer Requests

Pray for favor with GI bill. Trying again.

Open doors to start preaching the Gospel. I am hoping to get into the high schools.

For direction in a job for Daniel.

Support for Ughanda trip, July 1st.

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Love in Christ,

Daniel, Dawn, Alena, and Azaryah? Dietz