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McMemo

Athens, Greece



Happy Thanksgiving!

Among the many blessings of God in our life, our friends and family who faithfully pray for, and/or financially support us, are up at the top of the list! We thank God and we thank you for being such an important part of this journey to disciple the nations through Athens. We hope you all have a wonderful Thanksgiving Day celebration, focusing on gratitude for ALL God has lovingly permitted or directed into your life this year.

The Incubator...

incubator: *an apparatus for maintaining optimal conditions for growth and development in the early care of...infants...*

As you know, the Lord made the opportunity for us to make our basement into an independent living area for some of

our refugee brothers. So far, so good. The only problem has been working out a schedule for group Bible study because

The Incubator (cont'd)...

the translator is so busy already with different ministries where he serves as cook, children's worker, and translator. He is also involved in a Persian church and has been working a temporary job for an NGO teaching kids how to play soccer. That job ends this month and we plan to start having Bible studies together during those time slots.

After the first two weeks of living together, I asked them how it was going. They said, "Fine. No problem. Well, the truth is that we had a big argument a couple nights ago but then we stopped and prayed. The presence of Jesus was so strong in the room we made peace with each other and had no more problem."

Of course more problems are sure to come BUT WHAT AN EXAMPLE THEY ARE TO MANY OF US (especially me) of what to do when we have problems!



Leadership Seminar

Led by Hank and Cathy Pott from principles in the life of David

Our Teachers...

We were privileged to have Hank and Cathy Pott lead an 8-evening Leadership Seminar based on the life of David. Hank and Cathy Pott are seasoned missionaries and pastors.

Cathy originally from California and Hank originally from Holland, they left the U.S. as a young married couple in 1974 to spend the next ten years as missionaries in Zambia and Zimbabwe (then called Rhodesia).

They have ministered extensively among university students all over Africa, and lived for 16 years in Montreal, Canada where they served on the pastoral staff of Snowdon Baptist Church. Hank and Cathy now work with One Challenge International and live in Colorado Springs, Colorado.



Our Students...

Several students attended the seminar with lots of positive feedback about its helpfulness and the plan to share what they learned with others. Comments included:

“This will change the way we teach in our church!”

“I wrote everything down and went home and studied it all again until very early in the morning.”

“I am translating this to teach others in my church.”

“I never heard teaching like this on leadership. We need this in our church.”

Countries represented at the seminar included:

Indonesia, The Philippines
Pakistan, Iran, Afghanistan
Sierra Leone, Nigeria, Eritrea



America
Burma
Armenia
South Africa
Bulgaria
Germany, Greece



Update On Dr. Joseph

Our dear brother continues to become aware of possibilities that may help him reunite with his family, only to have them disappear and crush his hopes. January will make FOUR YEARS that he has been INVOLUNTARILY separated from his wife and two small children. If anyone has any friends in government that would be willing to help get Dr. Joseph and his family to their country under the UNHCR's resettlement program

(http://www.unrefugees.org/site/c.lfIQKSOWFqG/b.4803729/k.AA3F/Resettlement_Unit.htm) please prayerfully contact them and let them know of this dilemma. He would apply

for resettlement for the following reasons:

1. The refusal of the Greek government to grant family reunification to his wife and two small children
2. The well-known economic situation in Greece which makes it even MORE difficult for foreigners
3. The well-known GROWING racist violence against foreigners that makes even simple ventures to the market an exercise in (well-founded) fear and risk of health and/or life (some of the foreigners who have been killed this year in such attacks have been Pakistanis)



Corporate Warfare?

Some brothers and sisters have suggested a corporate time of prayer/ fasting/ spiritual warfare for Dr. Joseph. Stay tuned for an update.

Marriage Retreat

Discipling the nations...

After the Leadership Seminar, Hank and Cathy led a marriage retreat for couples from Eritrea, Ethiopia, Iran, Afghanistan, Canada, and the U.S.



We had a lot of fun, had good relationship-building time and encouraged (mostly Muslim-background) believers in building Christ-honoring marriages.

One couple said it was so helpful in giving them hope that they can live this kind of life as a Christian couple. Another couple said it was the BEST weekend of their married life!



In the new year I plan to start a weekly class for married and unmarried refugees on Christian Marriage and Parenting. People coming from Islamic cultures know nothing about Gospel-oriented family relationships. When they are equipped with Grace-based understanding and tools, generations can be impacted!

Personal Updates

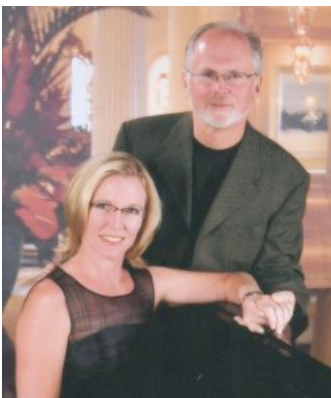
* Cody and Kyle are doing well in their studies and working many hours at a local movie theater there in Oregon City, Oregon.

* Kendra & Steve are doing well in Scotland. At this moment Vicki (and Steve's mom Donna) are there to attend the ceremony of Kendra's graduation from nursing school. Steve is still working faithfully as a good provider. Kendra just started her first job as an operating room nurse.

* Will is turning into an amazing guitar player and teaching himself the keyboard. He will start filling a rotation on the worship team at church starting next Sunday.

* Ellie is still mostly full of laughs and smiles (right this very moment she is cracking up at something on the video she is watching!)

We are still planning to return to the States "permanently" in the summer of 2013, but are not yet able to say with certainty where and what. Thanks for your continued prayers about this.



Mike and Elisabeth Mahan are here for 3 months to help us with discipling refugees. Mike was my campus pastor when I was in college 28 years ago, so it is a double blessing to have them here. Our refugee friends love them and they are a great channel of God's love to our siblings from the nations.

For tax-deductible investments, make out checks to International Teams and designate "for the ministry of Scott & Vicki McCracken". Send to: International Teams 411 W. River Rd. Elgin, IL 60123, USA For online giving, visit: <https://www.iteams.org/us/give/>