

¡Feliz Navidad!

Historically, we've been hit or miss with family devotions, but this December we have committed to doing an Advent devotion-al together (see "Carols" at www.YouVersion.com).

Recently we read Jesus' words to Martha in Luke 10: *"You are worried and upset about many things, but few things are needed--or indeed only one. Mary has chosen what is better..."*

Our prayer for you and for ourselves is that we will, like Mary, choose Jesus over busyness this season and that we will all *"Have (ourselves) a merry little Christmas. Let (our) heart(s) be light. From now on, our troubles will be out of sight..."*

Life Here Changes All of Us

Here are some refreshing thoughts from Katey, our 18 year old daughter. As a family we are thankful that God continues to work both in and through us.

Our weekly VBS in Santiago Zamora has been focusing on the Armor of God. As we finished the series we talked about salvation and how we need to ask God to give us His armor. We also handed out Bibles and told the kids where they can find the armor verses (Ephesians 6:10-18). It was cool because they all looked up the verses and folded the page so that they could remember it. One kid, however, said to me: "You said it was Ephesians, so why does the top of the page say Matthew?" I had to explain to him that there are different books of the Bible.

It has been awesome to teach the kids about the armor of God but it's even more awesome how God has taught me things about his armor and protection through my own devotions. I am currently reading the book *Battlefield of the Mind for Teens*. I started reading it the same day I had been preparing the teaching for the kids about how the devil attacks our minds and how with the help of God we can defeat the devil and overcome the evil thoughts he puts in our minds.

The book started talking about the same thing and then went into how we have to ask God to help us re-program our minds so that we can protect them from the thoughts that the devil wants to plant in them. I had heard that phrase ("re-program your mind") before, but it really clicked as I read it in this book.

**"For as he thinks within himself, so he is."
Proverbs 23:7**

I want to be a person who is Christ-like, But I need to think on the things of Christ all the time to do this. I also need to remove things from my mind that will not let me be the person I want to be.

I wrote Proverbs 23:7 on two index cards. I put one on my computer screen and one on my mirror. I did this so that every time I am on the computer or looking in the mirror I see this verse and am reminded to think of and fill my mind with things pleasing to God. It is a great reminder to reprogram and instead of thinking "I look ugly. Why did God make me look like this?" I think and believe "God made me perfect and in his image. He thinks I am absolutely stunning!"

www.missionerickson.com Introduces the Photo of the Week

Beginning September 30th, we have been reserving our Friday posts in www.missionerickson.com for our Photo of the Week. There's not much verbage because we believe in the old adage that "A picture is worth a thousand words." Our hope is that each weekly 1,000 "words" helps you to better connect with our ministry in Guatemala. Click over there this Friday and enjoy.



New S4H Website

Servants 4 Him has simplified their online presence. Yep, we're still on Facebook and we even Tweet sporadically, but where we really want to connect with you is through our new website: www.servants4him.org

We've worked hard to help you better understand S4H's vision, work and needs in our new Wordpress format and we think you'll like it.

You should expect to see regular blog entries from the Ruanos, Zellners, Aguilers, Kendalls and if you aren't already sick of hearing from us, the Ericksons as well.

Our aim is to keep you up to date on what's happening throughout the S4H ministry.

So, be sure to bookmark www.servants4him.org & www.missionerickson.com for all of your Guatemala updates.

What We've Been Praying For...

...that we and our friends who are struggling with simply putting food on the table will celebrate the birth of Jesus and not get caught up in all the superfluous stuff surrounding Christmas.

Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. Luke 2:10-11

...that God would continue to give us clear vision and direction as Servants 4 Him moves forward in our efforts to help church leaders learn to do inductive Bible study.

If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you. James 1:5

...that God would continue to provide the monies needed for our school scholarship programs. In order to cover all of the students qualified, we need an additional \$4300.

Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, Ephesians 3:20

...that God would be preparing the hearts of teams and visitors that will come to Guatemala to work alongside us in 2012.

And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!" Romans 10:15

...and that God would make clear where Katey should go to college next year. She has applied to both Wheaton and Messiah Colleges.

"I know the plans I have for you" declares the Lord. Jeremiah 29:11



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