



To Every Tribe

Jesus is worth it

Dear Brethren, Family, and Friends,

August 28, 2009

Thank you so much for supporting us throughout our training for pioneer foreign missions! On August 20th we **graduated** from the *Center for Pioneer Church Planting (CPCP.)* We are so pleased that God led us to *To Every Tribe* and for the training we have received in the classroom and on the field. I thought we were ready to move right into a tribal group a year ago, but now I realize we had so much to learn. The teaching we received concerning ministering cross-culturally, sharing the gospel through Chronological Bible Storying and other methods, team work and team building, and theology and God's Word have been quite enlightening and helpful. Living in a close knit community here and working in teams on short-term trips has helped us to appreciate the different gifts of others and to have more grace with our brethren. The five trips to Mexico and one longer trip to Papua New Guinea were my favorite part of the training. I'm certain we have a lot more to learn, but I believe we are better equipped for church planting ministry in unreached places in Papua New Guinea as a result of this training.

Last week we had an **encouraging time of sharing** what we gained this year with our classmates and a time of prayer for each student. The graduation messages we heard were powerful. One was on Paul (and us) being poured out as a drink offering (Phil. 2:17; 2 Tim. 4:6) and the other was from 2 Corinthians chapter 5 about Christians being given the ministry of reconciliation as His ambassadors.



Now that the intense class schedule is finished, we can enjoy **more family time and more ministry time**. My mother came down from Massachusetts this past week for the graduation. We had a wonderful visit with her. It seems that doors are opening in our neighborhood as we have been praying about. It looks like two men from the neighborhood are considering coming to a regular Bible study with me. I hope to do an overview of the whole Old Testament and then show how it all points to Christ. I continue to walk around our neighborhood to talk to those that happen to be there about salvation through Jesus Christ (Acts 17:17).

We're praying about our **long-term plans**. As you know, we're waiting for the Lord to provide a team for us to go to an unreached tribe in the East Sepik province of Papua New Guinea. It seems our hearts have been in PNG for a few years, but it will all come about in God's perfect timing. Until then we wish to do missions work here in Los Fresnos, Texas, and also in Mexico. We're praying about living in Mexico for a while; a possibility that we're all excited about, but there are no plans to move yet. This winter we'll be visiting New England for the holidays, so if we move into Mexico it would be after that visit. The village we've been visiting has only a few believers who need discipling and there's much evangelism to do. We plan to be sharing our ministry with churches in Texas from now until our child's birth in about two more months. Leanne is feeling tired these days, but is doing well and is excited about having another baby.

Please pray for our work here, direction for us, and provision to go to the nations. If you haven't seen our new mission agency website check it out at www.toeverytribe.com, and you will find there our picture and our profile under "missionaries." We hope to hear from you all soon and look forward to seeing many of you over the holidays. Until then, take care and Lord bless you!

Love in Christ,
Matt and the family

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