

February 2011

These few years of walking with my Jesus has taught me a few things about being dependent upon God. There is no formula of "doing" that causes the soul to desire and need God...It seems that the more Scripture I read, memorize, learn or teach, I am *tempted* to believe that these "acts" in and of themselves will produce a need for God, but generally that isn't the case. I believe learning to set our gaze clearly on God Himself, *looking for Him* in all that I do, thinking upon His worth, wisdom, and the marvel of God, the deeper my dependency becomes. The measurement of us truly knowing God in an experiential way is evident in our humble acknowledgement of our "need" for God. Our ability to see Him as He is (as He has revealed about Himself in Scripture) is what deepens our need for Him. At the same time, it is equally true that the lack of Biblical knowledge and belief in God's self-revelation produces a "lack of dependency" upon Him and that is evident enough in our own glory-robbing, loveless lives as well as sad examples throughout history. *Papa, help us fix our gaze on You, let us see You as You are, for Your name sake...*

Our Family:

Each of our boys, after 4 years or so of savings (with the help of their grandparents) were able to finally buy their own bicycles. It was a joy to see our boys have a sense of pride and ownership as they are learning the concept of value, work, and sacrifice.



After completing his study in Jonah with the neighborhood kids, Clay has begun to teach 1 Samuel. The number of kids who come fluctuate, but we have been so proud to witness Clay's personal commitment displayed in his faithfulness to teach God's Word even when there

was just dad and his younger brothers a couple times. **Please continue to pray for our 8 year old who is taking steps of faith to honor God with his little life on Saturday late afternoons, and please pray for the salvation of the neighborhood kids who come for the Bible study.*

A few weeks ago Joram our 5 year old came into my room with a huge smile and a proud look in his eyes. Joram took his time to tell me the process of grading a mid-term paper and then preceded to show me that he had received an "A" on his Greek midterm. After our celebration dance, the gratitude of my wife overwhelmed me; thank you Jesus for my Nasiema and her commitment to our boys.

Our Ministry:

Scholastica is another women's church leader that has been diagnosed with cancer. She is not only a church member but also a friend of our family. Our church body here has come together to fast and pray for a healing. Within the past 2 years, we have already lost 2 women's ministry leaders and several other church members through critical illness. **Please pray with us for a miraculous healing, for mercy, and/or appropriate treatment as well as for her children to be strong as she goes through this trail.*

The Extreme Mission Training Program time in Kenya has been divinely interrupted, and they are now in Southern Sudan for a total of 8 weeks. They are serving in various ways, but mainly focusing on the women and children's ministries. *Although they are scheduled to return to Kenya on the 25th of March, we asking for prayer for their spiritual growth and dependency upon God, health and safety as they are in a very volatile nation.*



As we mentioned last month, we are overjoyed to announce that our Bible college semester, which began this February, has 5 Kenyan national Bible College teachers! As the director of our Bible College, this is a very proud moment as well as a busy one. Although I will not be teaching during the regular semester, my focus will be turned to the Men's and Children's ministries. **Please pray for vision, wisdom, and faithful co-laborers*



Please Pray:

- Please continue praying for the **church-plants: Benedictor in Mombasa (Pray for the Lord to provide for his family and church plant) and Ibrahim in the Congo (Pray for him as he was robbed but not hurt!)**
- For wisdom and diligence in my administration of the Bible College and discipleship of the new Bible College teachers
- Please pray for vision and wisdom in leading the Men's and Children's Ministries
- Please pray that our water system and electricity will begin working properly
- Please continue praying for our monthly support

We are truly grateful for each sacrifice made so that our family may be here in Nairobi to serve our Lord. May His blessings be upon you all. We humbly request that when enclosing financial gifts on behalf of our family, please be sure to write "Ramirez Family" on the "memo" line of your checks. Should you choose to give us gifts on-line, please write: "Ramirez Family" in the "gift designation box" to ensure that your gift gets to our family. Thank you again for co-laboring with us for the gospel's sake.

By His grace, for His glory,

The Ramirez Family, Psalm 73:25-26

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