



Fall 2014  
Thursday, December 18, 2014

Dear James & Sara,

Greetings to you from Tyler, Texas!

Recently, I came back from a refreshing time with thirteen other Youth With a Mission-Tyler staff at a beach house in Galveston, Texas over Labor Day Weekend.

Several years ago I had the heart of getting other friends and staff members of Youth With a Mission-Tyler together for a time of rest, relaxation, and community fellowship. Recently, I felt led by God to sell my house which was completed in less than twenty-four hours and at His direction, \$5000 more than the suggested listing price of the realtor. However, complications arose from the buyer that my realtor had never seen in her experience which put the potential sale of my house into jeopardy.

I was already making plans to get people together for a Labor Day Weekend getaway when my realtor found out the day after the designated closing date, the buyer had not even done the bank appraisal of my house. Another closing date was scheduled for three weeks later with no real assurance that the sale of the house would go through, and there was potential for my budget to be tight at the beach house in Galveston. I decided to take the chance, instead of waiting until next year and went ahead with the beach house and we all had a good time of community fellowship. Also, my house closed two weeks later! ☺ I am grateful for how God works things out in my life and in the process births new ministry. The new ministry is to help coordinate a vacation week next year for the single staff of Youth With a Mission-Tyler where people can get away for fellowship and community.

Please pray as I delightfully take on this challenge to bless and serve others within the ministry by coordinating this group vacation for the singles.

Sincerely, Dave

Winter 2014

Saturday, February 14, 2015

Dear Family & Friends,

Greetings to you once again from Tyler, Texas!

I am happy and grateful to report to you the success of last fall's outreach to Ohio! My friend James and I traveled over 6,000 miles, met with 22 pastors, did eleven chapel services where over 1700 students heard his incredible testimony, two church services, four youth group meetings, two Youth With a Mission-Akron gatherings, and met with thirteen friends. Overall, James and I had 54 appointments that spanned a 27 day trip. Meeting with pastors was great, however the best times were the chapel services.

The first chapel service was a group of over 200 young people in 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade who seemed to respond well to James' PowerPoint testimony. After James shared I promoted opportunities for training and discipleship at Youth With a Mission-Tyler. I expected many to pick-up business cards for either Summer of Service and Training (SST), the missions training program for teens, or information about Discipleship Training School (DTS) for those who have already graduated from high school. Two people came and asked for more information. One was a young man with down syndrome who was a graduating senior. The other was a young girl who was an ecstatic junior and she wanted more information on SST and DTS. I gave her what she asked for and she turned around and skipped away. Even though only two people asked for information I was reminded from scripture that many are called but, few respond and that God is looking for quality, not quantity.

Over two weeks later, James and I were at a K-8 school and after James' testimony I shared with the 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> graders about Summer of Service and Training. The opportunity for questions was given and one young man asked, "Does it cost money?" I responded by saying yes, it does cost money. The principal said that they could raise money from their churches. Then I told them that if they were really in need it is possible for them to apply for a scholarship. After meeting with these young people, the principal told me that the young man who asked the question about the cost for SSTs has a brother with cancer and as a result, the family is having huge money problems. The principal said that she sees this young man has great potential to be a leader and wanted him to come for SSTs this summer.

Currently, James and I have visited and shared about Youth With a Mission-Tyler to 39 pastors and sixteen chapel services where over 2000 students have been encouraged by God's work through James in Central Asia. I am excited as I look forward to more sharing of what God has done through James and the team in Central Asia in the weeks and months to come.

Sincerely, Dave