

# Table in the Wilderness

Loewen's Prayer Email Update

August 2011



I recently celebrated one of those “big” birthdays that seem to creep up on us unexpectedly. It really was not as bad as people say turning 40 might be, as there were so many celebrations and fun times both with my family and the Honest Hands staff and students. They invited me over to the Discipleship Home one evening and I brought my four sons along for a fun and crazy night with some guys who really know how to have fun. They cooked up a big dish of Filipino style spaghetti and decorated it with cheese letters wishing me a happy birthday. Of course almost everyone had prepared songs and we enjoyed listening to this. Our current group of students are doing great. All ten are still fully involved in the Discipleship training at Honest Hands. They arrive on time on Monday mornings, and their level of enthusiasm for God’s Word makes it easy to teach. I am just finishing off a series of lessons on Ephesians. We read through the book out loud, and I spent some solid hours teaching them the great theological truths, as well as the practical side of living the Christian life as Paul encourages the young church in Ephesus (even though he is writing from a jail cell in Rome)! It is quite exciting to spend time teaching the Word to a group of young men who are eager to learn, and are hearing most of what I am teaching for the first time.





Isaiah celebrated his 12th birthday on August 26th, and enjoyed some great shark / fish cupcakes that Lisa prepared. He had his friends over and they watch "Chariots of Fire" - a classic movie about Eric Liddell and how he demonstrated his deep faith in Jesus in the middle of the Olympics.

**Praises**

- August was a busy month for us, but we had a good time hosting future missionaries (Ellis family and the Seilings). See pictures on the next page.
- The staff at Honest Hands are doing well as they disciple a new group of students, as well as working on leading the tutorial program.
- Home school is going well overall - still need to keep focused which is a challenge for four busy boys and one busy mom!
- God is our strength in the middle of the normal challenges of ministry and family life, as well as the unexpected things that also happen!

**Prayer Needs:**

- We continue to need prayer for wisdom as we make decisions about our future ministry after we return to Canada in May 2012.
- Financial support has been a challenge for missionaries and ministries over the past months. Our coworker Barbara Burchert has been leading Mustard Seed Vocational Discipleship for young women over the past number of years, and they really need to bring in some extra monthly donors to keep the ministry running. If you are interested contact us.
- Carl's Grandpa Nick Eidse passed away in August, and just recently his Aunt Liz Genest also passed away quite suddenly. Pray for all who are grieving the loss of these two remarkable people. It is difficult being so far away at a times like this .
- Safe trip home and good time connecting with family during all the excitement of the wedding!

**Upcoming:**

**Sept. 14** - Samuel's 8th birthday, and Carl & Lisa's 15th anniversary!

**Sept. 16 - Oct 1:** trip to Manitoba for Corrina & Derrick's wedding.

**Oct 14 & 15:** Honest Hand's 10 year anniversary and reunion for former students.

**Oct 16 -18:** budget & proposal meetings for ACTION Philippines. Planning 2012 & 2013.

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**Update on Honest Hands graduates:** Jerry Albay (Batch #5) married Christine on July 23rd. Carl was a sponsor. Rocky (Batch #1) & Rizzea had a little baby boy - Carl Caleb Lucban — and Lisa is enjoying holding the little guy.



**Our boys & their friends:** eating popsicles on the front step, and relaxing after a fun day of swimming.



**Future ACTION Philippines missionaries:** it is great to see young families come out for ministry survey trips. During the month of August we hosted Peter & Lora Ellis (Heidi, Caleb, & Josiah) who will be working at the Home of Joy orphanage, and Greg & Sarah Seiling who are hoping to work with street youth at Second Mile. Pray for the Ellis family as they raise support in California over the coming year, and for the Seilings as Greg finishes Bible school in Ontario.