

M A R C H 2 0 1 5

the

Harvester

Dan & Heather Litchfield

LifelinesMinistry.com

dan@intothewilderness.org



Stand firm

In Acts, Peter and John and the early church “raised their voices together in prayer to God. ‘Sovereign Lord’ they said, ‘you made the heaven and the earth and the sea, and everything in them. You spoke by the Holy Spirit through the mouth of your servant, our father David: ‘Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain? The kings of the earth take their stand and the rulers gather together against the Lord and against his Anointed One.’” David faced persecution. The disciples faced persecution. Today, our brothers and sisters around the globe face persecution. This past week a Moslem group killed 150 students most Christian on a campus in Kenya. Josephine, the Cru student leader, was among those shot dead. Please pray for the more than 100 others admitted to the hospital and for the thousands of lives touched by this atrocity. Pray too that God will use this massacre to change the hearts of the killers. *“In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world!” (John 16:33b)*

Happy Resurrection Day!

We hope you had a great Easter and have been able to meditate on the glorious goodness of the resurrection this Easter. To think that we have been adopted into the family of God and received the promise of eternal life because Christ took on and overcame death on our behalf! The three words “He has risen” separate Jesus from every other man who has walked the earth, just as Good Friday’s “It is finished” separate us from the penalty of sin. We rejoiced in the deity of Christ by hosting a dinner for staff, students, and family. The photo above was taken right after the egg hunt and just before the praise sing-along. “Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved,” (Acts 4:12.) Let’s rejoice!

Thank you for your support and prayers.

As you can see, there is mixed emotion on this front page of the newsletter. I look into the faces of our own students and think of those killed in Kenya. Because of Easter we have both hope and persecution (Mt 10:17-23.) Pray with us that we all be bold, faith-filled witnesses, empowered by the Holy Spirit, to God’s glory.



A Scouting Trip is all about Planning... and Changing Plans...

This month our team voyaged down to the Everglades in the south tip of Florida to scout out possible student trips for future winter and spring breaks. Thanks to 15-20 knot headwinds we were forced to abandon our original plan (though we did attempt a 13 mile paddle on Day one!) Our open canoes couldn't compete with the wind and ocean swells. Then we re-routed again the second day when the weather radio announced "all residents should move into the interior of their homes... cloud to ground lightening, torrential downpours and flooding..." Since we were on a raised platform surrounded by mangroves and alligators there was not much to do but tie everything down and wait it out.

We never saw the water spouts that were promised, but as the weather cleared and we paddled on we enjoyed scores of dolphins, sea turtles, alligators, and a shark. What's more, we discovered a route that looks ideal for student groups. God also led us to perfect housing for beach evangelism near Miami. Dan and I left eager to return with students (especially when we drove back to snow!) Our hope is to take groups from the northeast to the Everglades for some spiritual and character growth and evangelism this coming winter. God instilled this idea and he guided our steps while there; we pray he will draw believers and non-believers to himself through this adventure in the years to come.



Dan holds up the fish that actually jumped in his boat!

Fishers of...fish?

One of our greatest joys is ministering as a family. The kids love having "their students" over to the house. This month we took them on the scouting trip to the Everglades. Caleb helped set up camp and paddled hard in the bow of my boat while Emma enjoyed connecting with the staff. All four kids joined in the team devotions though Aliza's highlight was playing in the tent. We pray that they will grow up to be "fishers of men."