



Keeping up with the Jones' Family

NTM Tech Center

December 2013

Thank you all for praying for my trip back to the New Hampshire area and for my family as they stayed back in Missouri. It was very different for me going alone and not having the family with me. We kept in touch by phone so I could still be a part of their lives.

As I started my trip, I was checking my email and read that we had a new partner. Wow! I was so excited I called Tina and we prayed and thanked the Lord right there on the bus. I may have received a few looks from the people on the bus, because I think I was a little loud (due to the excitement) but that did not matter. See God was already answering prayers for us to have more partners in our ministry. I had not talked with anyone yet but God was already providing for us. I am so thankful that God did this, not only for the partnership but mainly for reminding me that it is God who goes before me, it is God who will provide and I need to put my trust in Him and not in myself. In Psalms 16:8 it says, "I have set the LORD before me continually; because he stands at my right hand, I will stand firm."

In my life I have not always "set the LORD before me continually". Many times I have set out to do something for God in my own strength, only to be disappointed by the results or frustrated while trying to do the task. I did not "stand firm" I usually slipped and fell. So I am glad that God had this happen when it did, to remind me to "continually set the LORD before me". With this in mind the rest of the trip went very well. I had the chance to meet with many

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church leaders and pastors to share with them this wonderful ministry that God has called us to in Missouri. In those two and a half weeks I put on 1,700 miles traveling around. I praise the Lord for the safety on the road.

While in NH, I also had the unique opportunity to attend a men's retreat. This gave me the opportunity to be refreshed and challenged as a man. It helped me to examine my life to see further if I have truly given everything to God. I praise God for the opportunity to get to know some new people and be encouraged in my walk with Him.

Upon returning home, I spent a lot of time reconnecting. I was so glad to be with them again. Tina did an incredible job of keeping things going at home, like she always does. I am so blessed to have such a wonderful wife.

Little Ernest (who is not that little anymore) was excited that he was almost done with his first wood working project. Here is a picture of his completed shelf. He loved learning how to use

different tools, especially the laser engraver and the CNC machine.



Alizabeth was excited to tell me that she had joined the girls' soccer team and of how her grades were doing. She struggled a little in geometry but she really applied herself and is doing much better. The soccer team

Ernest & Tina Jones
134 Main Drive
Roach, MO 65787

573-317-8474
ernest_jones@ntm.org
ntm.org/ernest_jones

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1000 East First Street
Sanford, FL 32771

has enabled her to get to know other girls and have fun working together as a team.

Grace was excited to tell me all the different experiments they have been doing in school. As well as all the verses she has been saying in Awana. She loves Awana and the young girls' bible study she goes to on camp. I am thankful for young adults who are willing to invest in her life and help her get into God's Word. This brings us great joy because we desire to see our children seeking after God.

Thanksgiving was extra special this year since it was our first one back in the states after six years being in Canada. We tried to do all the traditional things you do at Thanksgiving. Make pies, my Grandmother's rolls, watch the Macy's Day Parade and being thankful for all that God has done for us. In fact, we were extra blessed by a local church that gave Thanksgiving baskets to all those who would be here for the holiday. They provided everything from the turkey, pumpkin pie ingredients and even the cranberry sauce. What a blessing!

One new thing that the girls did this Thanksgiving (which was the idea of a teenage daughter) was to "enjoy" Black Friday shopping. They went on Thursday night to get a jump start on all the deals. Little Ernest and I chose to stay home. They did have quite a memorable experience, mobs of people and long lines. They went to

one store and after waiting in line for about an hour and a half they decided they had enough. Now they can say they have done it and know what it is all about.



After Thanksgiving, the forecast was for snow in our area. We were all excited to have some snow on the ground. We only received a dusting, not even enough to get a shovel out. Further south they received a few inches, which was good because that is where we were going to get our Christmas tree. I had searched on the internet for a tree farm and found one about a half hour south of us. It was great walking out in the snow and cutting down our tree. Now it is 45 degrees out and the snow is gone but we enjoyed it while it was here.

We have been so blessed with this move to Missouri. God keeps affirming this decision over and over again. We have had our struggles but the peace of God in being here has never left us.

Thank you for being with us in our ministry here at the missionary training center. You are a vital part in getting the gospel out to those who have never heard the precious Gospel. If you have any question or input please feel free to let us know. Our contact information is at the bottom of each page of our newsletter. As you can see, we have implanted your suggestions into our newsletter. Let us know how you like it. We have started a blog and the address is at the bottom of our newsletter. We are still learning how to upload and maintain it. Feel free to take a look at it and let us know what you think.

Serving Together,

Ernest, Tina, Alizabeth, Ernest II and Grace



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