

THE ADVENTURES

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Of Nate & Emmy

-Update on Emmy's ministry-

"So, every healthy tree bears good fruit..." Matthew 7:17a (ESV)

We always love to see the fruit of our labors. This graduation was one of those times when Emily got to see the fruit of a small part of her ministry: the giving of academic scholarships. Emily's work for the Ministerial Advancement Department includes contacting donors who are wanting to donate scholarships to those students in our pastoral studies program who are exemplary. This bore fruit again this past semester with the giving of three new scholarships!



Dr. Loyola, Our Vice-President of Education presenting the scholarships Emily helped to organize!

-Update on Nathan's Ministry-

"Whoever walks with the wise becomes wise..." Proverbs 13:20a

God has been doing some exciting things since our last prayer letter! One of the prayer request that we shared in our October update was that Nathan would be doing a remodel of the coffee shop over the Christmas Break. Thanks to the help of a great many of our winter volunteers and staff we were able to overhaul the entire kitchen in just a bit...

Continued Page 2

-Graduation!-

"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing." 2 Timothy 4:7-8 (ESV)

Graduation is always an exciting time for us here at RGBM. We have seen these students grow from raw, rough pieces into useful tools for the Lord! This December we got to see another group of these capable future church leaders end one part of their journey and go into a new and exciting part. God has been molding these students as we have taught them and He has prepared them for the next step in their journeys. As the speaker for these Commencement Exercises spoke, Dr. Larry Windle gave a challenge out of 2 Timothy 4. As you meditate on the ministry that you have chosen to partner with through us know that your support is not only allowing

us to effect the lives directly around us but also to affect hundreds and thousands of lives for the kingdom of heaven through those whom we train. When you stand before God and you give account for what you have done with what God has given you, know that you have kept the Faith in your faithful support of us!



Our President Dr. Windle giving a giving a challenge out of 2 Timothy 4

-Update on Nathan's Ministry- Continued

...over three weeks! We are so very blessed by this remodel as it will not only allow us to better serve our students and the local community, but will also allow us to more efficiently use our time with the installation of a new in-kitchen oven! With the wise staff fellowshiping with our students in this new, improved, and quieter environment we will be able to better instill the wisdom of God into them!

-An Exciting Expansion-

"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts."
Isaiah 55:8-9 (ESV)

God has blessed us beyond what our words can express! Not often do we get to see God's hand at work in our lives just a couple of days or weeks after the event takes place. We often have to wait years until we can see how God was orchestrating our lives. We however were blessed with one of the former times this past Christmas! As we have shared with you in our previous updates, God has called us to prepare for ministry in the medical field. As Nathan approached the end of his time in pre-medical studies we began...

Continued Page 3

-Items for Prayer-

- Pray for us that God will continue to use us where we are.
- Pray for wisdom and financial provision as we transition into training for Medical Ministry.

-Items of Praise-

- Praise for acceptance into Medical School!
- Praise that Emily's family visited for Christmas!
- Praise for all those who helped with the remodel!
- A new group of Christian leaders and missionaries serving God!



Two of our hard working
Winter Volunteers.



Dr. Windle presenting one of our Bible School graduates with her diploma.



Emily with one of our Language School graduates!

-Why We do What We do-

"For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. Claiming to be wise, they became fools, and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things." Romans 1:21-23 (ESV)

Every so often we experience something that really hits us when we see people running after things that they think will get them to Heaven. Emily and I saw something that really reminded us as to why God has called us to ministry. We were in one of the local grocery stores when we saw a lady carrying a life size clay doll. It was cold outside so the baby doll was clothed with a sweater, pants, hat, and mittens. Here where we are so close to the border with Mexico (less than a 45 minute drive) we see a lot of the cultural aspects of Mexican Catholicism. One of the things that people are encouraged to do by the priest is to go and buy a clay doll in the likeness of baby Jesus. Then in order to earn some more grace the person is to care for and worship this doll. These people have as Romans 1 says because of their refusal to honor God as God have become foolish and have, *"exchanged the glory of God for images resembling mortal man."* It is these people whom we are reaching with our evangelism teams which go out every weekend and through our radio ministry!



The new kitchen is Awesome!



Our new counter top oven!



-An Exciting Expansion- Continued

...to apply to our local medical school believing that God wanted us to stay in the local area. However, God closed the door and Nathan was refused admittance to UTRGV for the 2017 medical school year. Looking at two years of sitting on his hands didn't seem very appealing so we started praying about what God would like for us to do. A further problem was that most medical schools had closed their application date the same time as the first university that he had applied to.

As we continued to pray we decided that it would be good to apply to the schools that we found with their application processes still open. One that we found was called Trinity School of Medicine and is a US accredited school in the Caribbean. Nathan sent in an application and the next day received a response from the school. Over the next couple of weeks God organized for the doors to be opened in a way that only He could have orchestrated. On December 22nd we were accepted into medical school for the 2017 May term. It has been an exciting time seeing God's hand at work! He has guided and opened doors that we never imagined that He would! The more that we look at Trinity the more we are convinced that the program is right for us. After we sent in the application we found that Trinity is partnered with the Baltimore hospital network including John Hopkins which is one of the top educational hospitals in the country!

Please be praying for us as we start this new stage in our journey! Not only do we have a heart for medical missions but we also see that there is a need here at RGBM for medical personnel here on the campus. It will not be an easy journey and God has a lot to show us and to help us in. Please be praying for the RGBM leadership as they decide how our roles will change as we move away from campus for a long period of time. Please be praying as we need to gather the funds to buy necessary supplies and the tickets to go to the Caribbean for the 15 months and then move to Baltimore for another year. Pray that God will use us to bless the lives of the people whom we will interact with there.



We received help from so many people! From our Winter Volunteers all the way to our President, everyone pitched in to help us get done!

