



Maiorano Minutes

Family Updates

Here we go again . . .



Once again the legal system and the court system have intervened in the lives of Sam and Storme to their harm. I was going to write this newsletter earlier, in fact, it has been on my computer for two months now. I had hoped that when we did send this out, we could speak of this incident in the past instead of the present. Since this is not in the past, I will give you the most information I can without giving information I can't.

Sam and Storme spent the summer with their mother. They came back in August to begin the new educational year. They were with Jimmy and us for two weeks before they were taken away. Sam reported an incident to his mother

that happened between him and Marc, his step-brother, back in May. The incident has been blown way out of proportion, law enforcement agencies have gotten involved, and they have stepped way over their boundaries to the point of breaking the law in several areas. Now this incident is going to trial. Dates have been set and broken, a continuance was sought by the prosecutor from the state Supreme Court for January 20, 2010 and that was granted, to our dismay. We had prayed that the continuance would be denied since the prosecutor has no evidence for this case.

Though these have been trying times, we can all see God at work in the lives of many people. He has done great things in this case, including bringing in a public defender who was truly interested in the truth. Because of our involvement in the lives of Sam and Storme, I, Linda, have been called as a witness for the defense in this case. Please pray for God's will to be done in the lives of all involved and glory would be brought to Him.

Holiday Reflections

It is hard to believe that Thanksgiving is over and Christmas is about to descend upon us. It is a time to reflect on all our blessings and be thankful for the good things that God has given and the trying times that God brings to strengthen and mold us. Job 2:10 says, "... Shall we indeed accept good from God and not accept adversity?"

We are truly thankful for the change that has come in the lives of Jimmy and Angel through this mess. We are grateful for the opportunities God has given us to be a witness to His power and glory to our students, friends, and the lawyers that have been involved. We are thankful for each other. As the pain pulls at our hearts and minds, Jim and I have each other to lean on and together we can hold fast to our Lord and Savior.



LOOKING TOWARDS A NEW YEAR OF PRECEPT CLASSES!

We just completed our fall classes on the first of December. We offered two courses that ran from August to December. We had seven coming to Spiritual Gifts that was offered on Monday evenings. This is the same course that we studied over the summer and it was so good we decided to offer it again. We had about 15 that came on Tuesday evenings for Covenant. I never cease to be amazed at the awesomeness of that study.

We will take a couple of weeks break in December and begin classes again in January. We are going to be studying the book of Daniel on Monday nights, and we are going to offer Marriage Without Regrets on Tuesday evenings. As long as there are people out there that want answers to the marriage problems, we will continue to offer help through this course. It changed our lives. Jim and I both wish we had heard these truths sooner!

 A NEW EDUCATION YEAR GETS OFF TO A ROCKY START

It has been an interesting year so far. We started out with 11 students. Nine former students and two new ones. After the first two weeks, we lost Sam and Storme. Four weeks into class, we had to let one of the new students go because of attitudes and actions in the classroom. We were down to eight. We received a call from a family who had a daughter, and they wanted to know if she could come. We said we would allow her to come for a week and see how it worked out for her and us. When we scheduled a meeting with the family to tell them it was not going to work, they informed us that they were moving back home to North Carolina.

We came into our second quarter with eight students again. Let me introduce you to each of the students. Kendall and Tracey are our seniors this year. This is Kendall's fourth year with us and Tracey's third. They are both planning on going to college, Kendall for business/finance, and Tracey will figure it out as she goes. She has a wide spectrum of interests. We will miss them both!

Keith and Ramone are both in 11th grade. This is their fifth year

with us. They are both scheduled to graduate next year, and they both plan on going off to college. Both are interested in the law enforcement side of things: CIA, FBI, criminology, etc.

Monica is in 10th grade. I am working with her and the boys to prepare them for their college entrance tests. This is Monica's second year with us. She has an interest in the area of social work with children.

Tia and Rosa are in 7th and 6th grade respectively. This is their second year as well. They make up the younger portion of the class along with Kendra. Kendra is Kendall's sister. She is in 2nd grade and doing very well. When we lost Storme, Kendra lost her friend. We pray that Storme will be back quickly.



We had one disappointment this year. Michael Hardy is no longer with us. He was due to graduate this year and opted to go to another school. After eight years of working with him, we will not have the privilege of watching him graduate like his brother and sister before him.

 GOD'S ANSWERS TO PRAYER

1. After a rocky start to the beginning of the year, things are beginning to settle down into more of a routine.
2. We have had a wonderful opportunity to explore the beautiful land that God has given us as we have studied earth science. We have taken the students to the Petrified Forest/Painted Desert, Meteor Crater, hiked lava tubes and a cinder cone in El Malpais, and traveled up the tram at Sandia Peak in Albuquerque and hiked four miles along the top of the mountain. We are thankful for the many safe miles and wonderful experiences.
3. We are grateful for the amount of students coming to the two Precept classes. We have some new ones that have joined the group as well as some old faces that have returned.
4. For a good harvest in the garden this year, even though the rains have been withheld.

 PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING REQUESTS

1. For the court issue with Sam and Storme - this is supposed to be heard on January 20th. Pray that God would move mightily, that truth will be heard, that God will silence the lies, and many lives will be touched by the testimony of our lives as well as those of Jimmy and Angel's.
2. Continued health and strength to do the work that God has set before us.
3. Knowledge for us as we talk to people and counsel them. We have been faced with many difficult circumstances as people have come looking for help. We need the boldness to speak the truth in love but also discernment in how to help these individuals.

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