

A NICKEL FOR YOUR THOUGHTS

who am i?



A PROPER INTRODUCTION

Who I am and why

Welcome to my very first newsletter! Since this is the first one, I thought it would be fitting to introduce myself and give an explanation as to why I have decided to write such a thing. And, since you all know *something* about me but none of you know *everything* about me, I thought it would be good for us to at least understand what is important about me.

I am a regular young man with hopes, dreams, faults, secrets, and stories. I have grown up in the Waterloo region of Ontario with my mom, dad and two younger sisters. I enjoy music (songwriting, singing, recording, producing, jamming... you name it!), travel, and great food.

I recently graduated from university having studied Computer Science and Spanish, and am currently working as a Software Developer. Soon (when travel is safe) I will move to Mexico to serve as a full time missionary. These are all accurate descriptions of me, but one foundational truth orients everything about who I am. The most important thing about me is *Who* I follow.

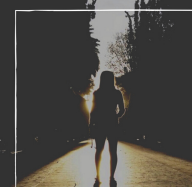
The reason I am who I am, the reason I am moving to Mexico, the reason I'm writing this newsletter is because I follow Jesus, and this is where He is leading me.

NEW MUSIC

Many of you know that I love all things music. I just released a new project at the end of May called "Home" based on the story of the prodigal son.

CLICK TO LISTEN TO THE ALBUM [→](#)

MATT NICKE & SARAH GEIGER



HOME

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A LITTLE STORY

Ensenada

The last 5 years and how God brought me to where I am

In September of 2015, I participated in a Music and Missions Discipleship Training School (DTS) run by Youth With A Mission (YWAM) in Ensenada, Mexico. This 5-month program is designed to help students engage with God, grow in their relationship with Him, and then return to their sphere of influence better equipped to engage their community with the Gospel. God did that in my life, and also began to share with me His heart for Mexico.



Our DTS outreach team (Dec. 2015)



The Harryman family

During DTS, I met some important people that I'd like you to meet. First, the Harryman family from Joplin, Missouri. Rob & Kathryn Harryman and their 5 children participated in the DTS to receive the necessary training to pioneer a new YWAM base in Queretaro, Mexico. Now, almost 5 years after we began our DTS together in Ensenada, the Harrymans are approaching their 3rd anniversary of serving full-time in San Juan del Rio, Queretaro at their base "YWAM Queretaro".

San Juan del Rio

The other very important person I met during my DTS is Bonnie Jaclyn from Melbourne, Australia. Long story short, we became really good friends in DTS, stayed in contact after DTS ended, and then began dating in May 2019. Bonnie has a heart to "help people discover their full potential... the gold in them", and has been serving with the Harrymans in full time missions for 3.5 years!



Bonnie visiting Canada (July 2019)



Short term mission with YWAMQ (April 2019)

After DTS, I earned a Bachelor of Computer Science with a Spanish minor at the University of Waterloo (UW). I was able to visit the Harrymans and Bonnie twice: once in Panama in 2017 and once in Mexico in April 2019.

And that brings us to now! June 2020.

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HARRYMAN'S
WEBSITE

YWAMQ'S
WEBSITE



YWAMQ

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THIS MONTH

It's difficult to have a conversation these days without some mention of COVID-19 slipping in, and I wanted to quickly address how the pandemic has affected my plans. I was originally intending to move to Mexico in late August, however the current COVID-19 situation in Mexico will not allow that. As a result, plans have changed and I am now hoping to move down at the end of September. This is not set in stone, but it is the plan that I have made (Proverbs 16:9). Right now I am working full time as a Software Developer at a company called Georef, and I plan to continue until I leave for Mexico, whenever that door opens.

Even though my departure has been postponed, there are still things I am doing to prepare for when the time comes. I am practicing Spanish (mirando episodios de *Psych* en *Español* y a veces platicando con Bonnie solo en *Español*), creating a budget, working out details and saving money for a Mexican Temporary Residency Visa, and doing other bits of research and prep. I was officially accepted as a YWAMQ staff member in April and have already been involved remotely by joining weekly staff meetings and creating our website.

Y W A M Q

YWAM Queretaro (YWAMQ) is located in San Juan del Rio, Queretaro Mexico. I will share more about Mexico and YWAMQ in future updates, but for now I want to introduce you to "The Circle of Silence".

Unfortunately, Mexico is often seen as a drug hotspot marked by violence and corruption. This is a **very** complex topic that I only scratched the surface of in my Spanish studies at UW. One region in Central Mexico has very few (< 3%) Evangelical Christians. This is what missiologists call "The Circle of Silence". Along with bringing practical help and support, our goal at YWAMQ is to break the circle of silence by being a voice for the gospel.



The Circle of Silence

WHAT'S NEXT?

First and foremost, thank you. Thank you for taking an interest in what God is doing in Mexico, in my life, and in the lives of His children. I deeply appreciate each and every one of you taking the time to read this newsletter and I value your investment!

In my next update, I will share more details of how you can be involved in 'breaking the silence'.

Thanks again for reading!

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