

THE HEART OF A MISSIONARY

a heart for the world

I've been praying and asking for prayer for a more Christlike heart, particularly with a focus on being more servant-minded. If Christ came to serve and called me to follow Him, then if I'm following Him, I will also serve.

Well, as always, the Lord hears our prayers and He has begun answering mine in a way I didn't expect. He **has** given me a heart for the people of Mexico; a desire to know, understand, love, and serve them. But He's taking me a step further. God is expanding my vision and challenging me to commit not just to sharing the gospel with Mexicans, but serving whomever and going to wherever He calls me.

Last month, I read "Seeking Allah, Finding Jesus", a book written by Nabeel Qureshi. Nabeel shares his story of the intense mental and emotional struggle he endured as he carefully considered denying his beloved Islamic heritage (which meant utter rejection from his family) to follow Jesus. After finishing the book, Bonnie and I watched "Sheep Among Wolves", a documentary about Christians in Islamic countries. For these Christians, martyrdom is a daily reality. Hearing these stories made me question my heart. Would I *really* go wherever Jesus calls me, even to a place where the name of Jesus could get me killed? Am I *that* committed to Jesus? I've been trying to honestly wrestle with these questions for a few weeks, and it is a tough, humbling experience. It's easy to say something, but your true heart shows when you're making a real, life-altering decision.



A NICKEL FOR YOUR THOUGHTS

the heart

CURRENT PLANS

the bigger picture

Beyond the challenge from Nabeel's story and other persecuted Christians' testimonies, I have seen God begin to chisel away at my heart in another way. For the past 4 years, I have been dreaming about moving to Mexico, however as the move has now become a reality, everything has become more complicated due to COVID. Moving to Mexico is proving to be more challenging than I anticipated.

The Canadian government currently has a Global Travel Advisory in effect indefinitely, in which they "advise against non-essential travel", warn that "there are no plans to offer additional repatriation flights", and caution that "insurance may not cover your travel or medical expenses". I didn't foresee these realities, and they've caused me to ask myself if now is the right time for me to go. I know there are arguments for staying and for going, but it all boils down to this: where is Jesus calling me to go? When He said "pick up your cross and follow me" (Matthew 16:24), He was speaking to His disciples and He was talking about the potential life-and-death consequences that come with a decision to follow Him. While praying in the last few days and after talking with friends and family, I am currently planning to leave for Mexico in early October and am finalizing the details of moving.

Please join me in praying for wisdom and discernment. Pray for the many missionaries who have been removed from their mission field and are now struggling with doubts, uncertainties and fears about returning. Join me in praying for boldness to share the love of Christ with everyone we encounter. Join me in crying out to our Father to restore our land and heal our people. Don't let these days slip by, because every single one is given to us as a gift that we can either utilize or squander.

GIVING

My YWAM account is now active! If you're interested in supporting me, I would love to talk with you!

I am now able to receive donations in any of the following 4 ways:

following 4 ways:

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For more information, please <u>click here</u> to visit my website.

PRAYER POINTS

- Praise God for His guidance, provision and sovereignty in all situations
- Pray that God would stir His church to share the hope and peace we have in Him!
- Pray that God would give me clear direction and wisdom as I finalize plans for October

Thanks for reading!

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