

STEPPING OUT

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Thank you all for praying! In my last newsletter, I told you all how I was feeling so heartbroken. The next Sunday, I was meeting with some of the other foreign teachers. One of the ladies started telling us how she felt so “heartbroken.” Some of her Tibetan friends who’d made steps of faith in Jesus also started backing away, just like mine had. We tried to encourage each other to keep our eyes fixed on Jesus.

The next few weeks, God really encouraged my heart. Most of you know how much I love basketball. During the NBA playoffs, I kept hearing stories of how Steph Curry plays and lives with joy. Some videos and stories on ESPN and other sites often talked about his faith in Jesus and how it gave him such joy.

God used that to give me perspective again. I love teaching. I want to be full of joy here in my classes and as I spend time with students. I was reminded of the joy I do have in God, even in the middle of some heartbreaking situations. The rest of the semester finished really well. God opened the door for several more Tibetan students to start coming to my house to study English. Some are now reading Bible stories with me as part of their language study. I’m so thankful for God moving in my heart and helping me to finish the semester with JOY!

Now during this summer, I have time to do some Tibetan language study. God has provided a good tutor for me, a young man who’s a freshman at our school. Tibetan is really difficult. The sounds and pronunciation are especially challenging. Please pray for God to give me the ability to hear and make the sounds. I’m really thankful for this change of pace of being a student right now.

During the month of July, most of our students still have summer school classes. So, several of these Tibetan students are still coming to my house once a week to study. Please ask God to continue to work in those relationships.



The other really fun thing that happened recently is that our area had its first high school and adult-league basketball tournaments. My good friend, Sarah, played on one of the teams. It was great to get to see some games and talk with some of the players and coaches. I saw a lot of my students at the games, and the atmosphere was so lively.

Another great thing was that a couple of weeks ago I made a short trip to Xining where I used to live. I was able to spend an afternoon with my old friend, Yvonne. You all prayed for her a lot! She’s doing well spiritually. She actually said several times how she was thankful to God for helping her son with his college entrance exam. Not only that, when she asked me about my future and I said I didn’t know much longer my school would let me stay (because of visa regulations), I said, “But I know I can trust God. He’s taken care of me every step of the way.” Right away she started nodding and saying, “Yes, that’s so true!”

God has used all of these things to encourage me. He is so good to me.

Thanks for praying!

Kara

Praises:

- *God’s encouragement
- *Good friendships here
- *More students coming for language study
- *A couple of students studying Bible stories
- *God has provided a good Tibetan tutor for this summer

Requests:

- *For God’s help in starting to learn Tibetan, especially help in pronunciation
- *For Sarah—for God’s Spirit to keep working in her heart
- *For renewal of my teaching visa and residence permit in August (I don’t expect any problems, but please ask for God’s grace in this)