

February 20, 2007

Dear Friends & Family

Our lives have taken an unexpected turn! After careful thought and prayer (and a lot of wrestling), we came to the decision that it is no longer a viable option to pursue a career in Missions at this point in our life. In December, we approached WorldVenture and asked to be withdrawn as mission Appointees, and January 31st was our last official day.

There were many things that played a part in this decision, and it was not made lightly. The largest deciding factor involves financial responsibilities that we have not been able to resolve. We feel that it is honoring to the Lord to be completely debt free, and we have not been able to address this with the amount of traveling we have been doing. In fact, our travels have increased our debt with the high price of gas and many unexpected mechanical setbacks.

Another large part of our decision has to do with family dynamics. As our family grows and changes, decisions have to involve what is best for the whole family. Joseph is able to start Kindergarten next year, and we needed to make a decision about where we were going to be. Our financial support has not come as quickly as we hoped, and the prospect of being on the Field by Fall, for school, looked very slim. It has also been increasingly difficult to travel as a family. Ministry is something that we want to do as a family, and part of that included the desire to travel together for Deputation. However, traveling with 3 small children led to many unexpected challenges that caused us to re-evaluate our options.

WorldVenture has been wonderful and gracious in this time of change. The door is open for us to reapply in the future, if that is the way the Lord leads us. In the meantime, we are praying about new ways to serve the Lord. Eric has been working hard fixing computers to earn an income, but that is not our passion. We believe that the Lord is leading us into Youth Ministry for this chapter of our lives. It is exciting to see the doors that have opened already and we are praying for

specific leading.

First Baptist of Long Prairie has generously allowed us to stay in their Mission House until the end of June. We are not sure where we will be moving to, but plan to stay in Minnesota if at all possible. Please keep us in your prayers as there are many big decisions that need to be made in the next few months!!

We want to say THANK YOU for each one of you who have been such an important part of our lives!! You have been a blessing and encouragement to us!!

God Bless You!!!!

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