

Dear Saints in the Lord,

Well, I didn't think I could do it, but I did! It's been a month since I saw my wife's beautiful face. However, she has finally moved to the lovely Northland of Fargo. She brings good news: she has been accepted to practice cosmetology and only has to take the law test. You guys are like family to us. Please continue to pray for us, specifically that she passes the test and finds the right job. I know she will because she is FABULOUS! Thank y'all so much for all your prayers and support; we love y'all dearly!



Deborah in her element.

Since I last shared, a lot has happened. I am now going into the juvenile center a lot, three or sometimes four times a week doing Bible studies, church, and youth appointments! I love going to the juvenile center, those boys are awesome! A lot of them are right where they need to be to hear the gospel and respond. It is such a joy to see them every week. One day we went in to do a church service and it was focusing on the Passion Week of Jesus.



On the plane to get Deborah.

We showed movie clips from the "Passion of the Christ" movie. There were so many questions asked by this one group that I couldn't even answer them all. We honestly ran out of time! While we were there, one of the boys, John,* said, "Hey, I saw y'all meeting with one of my friends the other day. What was that for?" We told him we meet with whoever wants to meet for counsel, questions, or to get something off your chest. He said, "I wanna meet!" The next day, we sat down with him and talked for a while about what he had been through, who Jesus is, what He did for us, and what that meant for him. John cried out "Jesus is Lord! Jesus save me, forgive me, I believe in You." We had just enough time with him before his mom came for a visit. It was such an incredible moment, and we are grateful to have been a part of seeing this young man come to Christ!

I also love going to the Alternative Learning Center! I have started going there every about two and a half hours every Monday and Tuesday. I am a mentor to several students who struggle in school. I meet with them and coach them on being productive and improving as students in homework, attendance, tasks, etc. Some of these kids are the same ones who come to the Church for activities on Thursdays. I can't talk about the Bible or Jesus at school unless the students ask or bring it up, so please pray for opportunities to share the Gospel with them. I can lead a Bible study outside of school if they want.

Note: Names of kid's are typically changed for privacy purposes.

I got the chance to share my testimony with some of the students in our activities one Thursday. When I asked if anyone had any questions for me after we were done, nobody said anything, and I was a bit discouraged. When I stepped down from the stage and started walking around the gym, nine or ten students came up to me and started asking me so many questions about addiction, suffering, living in Memphis, hardships they faced, etc. They weren't comfortable asking in the larger setting, but something I said had pricked their hearts and they wanted to hear more. Praise God that He can use my past to reach these kids!



Eating pudding through a nylon race.



End of the year relay games were film-worthy and contained much laughter.

One girl from that group, Stacy,* stood out to me. She talked about how she is homeless and "couch surfs" from house to house. This is common for several youth out here I learned. We got a chance to talk for a little bit before the bus left. Her story broke my heart. She said she wanted to talk more and invited me to sit with her and her friends at lunch whenever I came around. Pray I am able to connect more with these youth and that the love of Christ beams from me as I love them and get to know more of their stories.

Please partner with me in these ministries. You can be a part of this work first and



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foremost by praying for Deborah and I and our marriage and protection. Pray against the enemy and his work. Please pray I produce fruit and continue to abide in the Vine. You can also partner with us by giving whatever the Lord leads. This can be a one-time gift, or if the Lord puts it on your heart, I ask that you consider committing to a monthly or yearly donation to His ministry, which He has entrusted to me here at Youth for Christ. Donations can be made online at <https://redriveryouthforchrist.givingfuel.com/giving>, by selecting the option "BT" in the drop-down menu, or through the enclosed envelope. Currently, I have \$125 per Month committed to my \$2,000 per month goal. I have also had \$6,686.50 given in other gifts. I am so thankful! We love each and every one of you. You all are the bricks that hold this ministry together. Let the Lord use you!

In His Grip,

Benjamin Talley