



Esther Mueller's Update from serving with Youth With A Mission in Canada May 30, 2015

Hello,

I hope you are enjoying spring! This morning I woke up to see a light dusting of hail on the grass but since the grass is turning green I think spring is on its way. Below is an update from my Biblical studies course with Youth With A Mission.

Studying the prophets!

Since mid-April I have begun studying a new genre of literature in the Old Testament of the Bible called the prophets. The prophets were people God called to speak God's message to others. Some of the messages dealt with foretelling what God would do in the future but primarily the message was meant to address people's sin, express how judgement would come and urge the people to repent and return to God. God asks the prophets to do some bizarre things in order to communicate his message such as Hosea who God asked to marry a prostitute to convey how God's people chose to "commit adultery" by worshiping other gods. I have appreciated receiving instruction on how to approach and interpret the prophets since many of the prophets use poetic language and other unique literary traits which, when grasped, bring greater understanding to God's message through the prophets.

One of the main messages I have noticed in the prophets is God's loving, patient and merciful character. God's people choose to sin which creates a corrupt society where the poor are ignored and oppressed while the wealthy live in abundance. Out of God's love for his people he waits to judge them for their sinful behavior and sends them prophets to warn them of how God will correct them if they do not repent. After his people refuse to repent after hearing numerous prophets speak God can no longer let the injustice and wickedness continue among his people so he allows judgement to happen. Despite the stubbornness of the people God shows his mercy by promising to restore his people and other nations after their judgement. What an amazing God!

I would encourage you to read some of the prophets (like Hosea, Jonah, Amos, and Habakkuk) and invite God to show you more about his character.

What is next after completing the Bible course with Youth With A Mission (YWAM)?

Since I have four weeks left of my Bible course I am contemplating my next steps quite often. I will definitely be **heading back to North Carolina in the summer or fall of 2015. I am very interested in continuing to serve with Youth With A Mission (YWAM)** which would give me opportunities to grow in areas of **passion and interest like Bible teaching, and discipling others**. I also have a **strong desire to learn a second language and live among a culture outside of North America for at least one year**. I am processing, researching and praying about how these dreams and desires could direct my next steps as I serve within Youth With A Mission (YWAM).

Would you stand with me in prayer as I seek God's guidance, direction and peace for my next steps? It is exciting and scary to move on to something new and unfamiliar, but I am looking forward to having opportunities to bless others with the training and experiences I have had over the past few years while serving with YWAM in Canada.

Canadian Fun Fact:

Basketball was invented by a Canadian (<http://o.canada.com/entertainment/50-insane-facts-about-canada-we-bet-you-didnt-know>).

Praises:

- Getting to facilitate a prayer time
- Enduring and persevering through studying all the major prophets
- Enjoying the spring sunshine

Prayer Requests:

- energy, focus and perseverance to study diligently for the last month of my course
- more revelations of God's character as I study the Bible and insights into practical ways to apply what I am learning
- wisdom, guidance and peace about my next steps with YWAM

Thank you so much for your continued partnership through prayer, finances and relationship that allows me to serve God in Youth With A Mission (YWAM)! You are such a blessing to me.

Please let me know if there is any way I can pray for you. My address and e-mail address are on the bottom of this page.

Blessings,
Esther

Donation Information:

For a tax-deductible donation **American checks** can be made out to "**Main Street UMC**" with "**Esther Mueller**" in the memo and can be mailed to:

Main St UMC
306 South Main St
Kernersville, NC 27284



(Above: I am learning about God's word through a lecture with my fellow classmates and staff)



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