

A GLIMPSE INTO "OUR" MINISTRY WITH TEENS FOR OCTOBER 2009!

A Dilemma — Who do I cheer for?

So I'm sitting in the NV gym watching the Jr High GNEC volleyball tournament — and the best of all things happens for the girls of my NVTFC group and the girls of my Logan TFC group — they are playing for the championship! But I have a dilemma — who do I cheer for? I'm sitting kind of on the NV side—by one of my Logan girl's moms. And even as I find myself yelling "Alright!" - I find myself also feeling "Oh man!" for whatever is happening on the court!

On the Logan side of the court almost the entire team is active in TFC — on the NV side a majority of the girls are the ones that have brought life and fun back into the NVTFC group

— what to do — what to do? :) I found myself excited for the NV girls as they eventually won — but sad for the Logan girls as their perfect season ended in a lost.

It was a heartbreaker and thriller all in the same game. But it was also a good picture of youth ministry. Sometimes it is thrilling and sometimes it is heartbreaking — and all the time it's about individual teens in the middle of life that need someone to walk beside them in the discipleship process.

You made it possible for me to be in that gym sharing that moment with them! I'm glad you are with me cheering the teens on in all kinds of life situations!



The Logan Jr High girls were undefeated during their regular season — but the NV girls beat them in the tournament. It was an exciting match!



Zero for 3!

The advantage of doing youth ministry for 26 years is that you learn flexibility is the key. You grow to understand all things will not go as you have planned — but... that said, "Being zero for three out of special activities planned is really stretching my flexibility and testing my resistance to asking, "God, what are you doing?" ☺

What happened you ask? Well,

on Oct. 3rd, I had 12 teens from Logan all set to go to a major Christian Concert — and it was canceled! I've never heard of that happening before! Then on Oct. 10th we had to cancel our EDGE — that I had 17 teens going to — because of ice in the town hosting the EDGE — in October! And on Oct. 11th—we had scheduled our big "outreach event" game of Mission Impossible for Logan TFC—with

lots of parental involvement and we had to cancel it because of weather too! We considered rescheduling it for the next week and couldn't because Influenza A and HINI had hit the school system.

Yep, we are Zero for 3 — Makes me wonder what this year is going to be like? So my plan now... hold on and see what God has planned next!

Below are the people who allowed me the privilege of teaching them as they attended our first ever adult track at our Leadership Conference. Last month I shared with you that I was going to attempt to share with them the Sequence of Jesus Disciplemaking process in 4 hours — we made it! I was blessed and honored by their response and reminded again how God has created in me a passion for that kind of teaching setting. Their response was overwhelmingly positive! It was fun to help them map out the chronological order of Jesus ministry and in doing so watch them grab hold of the strategy he used to propel people along in the disciplemaking process! We wrestled together with what we found in scripture about how Jesus built his team of disciples, we skimmed over, even as we dug deep, into what a ministry looks like that can minister to all people at their level of spiritual interest, and we all left thinking about what we saw in Jesus life and what that means for us as we minister to the people God has placed in our lives. It was a good weekend!

And speaking of teaching—I'm scheduled to go to Belarus and teach at the Bible College again at the end of January. This is the last year for the Bible College — they are putting it "on pause." It will be bitter sweet. The process to go there is much more complicated than in previous years and the cost is more — but I'm trusting God for all of it! Belarus shaped who I am as a disciple of Christ—I want to share that with the students again!



Pictures of the Month!

Even though we were Zero for 3 at the first of October — we packed in some great weekly meetings as we explored our need to respond to God's love with Vertical Obedience and Horizontal Living! Plus, we ended the month with a great Leadership Conference! I'm thinking that God knew what was going to happen — Love that about Him!



The NVTFC group having fun as we took "Snap Action" pictures. I'd say a phrase—count to five and they had to portray it as I took the picture! It was great fun! These teens continue to be high energy that need a firm hand but I love 'em!



Christina from Logan TFC — quick to say— "I'd be glad too! Proud of her!"



I love watching relationships at Leadership — these teens love to be together!



Rhonda—my volunteer at Logan was in an accident and broke her back in two places. Please pray for her recovery! WE MISS HER!



These are most of the students at our Leadership Conference. What a great bunch of students!



Snap Action and faces at Logan TFC — we have had several new students at Logan TFC. — Our attendance has stayed consistently between 25 and 30!