



Emra Expressions

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The First Class

Last week we were ready! The room was all set up: Comfortable couches, stuffed chairs, a table for registration and the camera was set up and ready to record. Only thing missing was the people who had signed up for the class. Who would come?

It doesn't matter how many times we do the class - we never know who will show up. People sign up but sometimes something happens and they are unable to attend. Usually we have some people who never took the time to sign up and some who decided to check out the first class and see if they wanted to attend the rest.

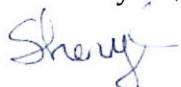
Our biggest challenge is just to relax and trust that God will bring in the people He wants to attend.

After starting the class with eight people it grew quickly to eleven. We were dealing with people who children that ranged in age from 18 months to a 49 year old living at home with a grandson. All were excited to hear anything that would help them in their daily interaction and problem solving with their children/grandchildren/adult children.

The first class is always full of fun and laughter. At the end of the class we give people homework and someone to partner with who will pray for them during the week. Many stay afterwards to ask questions or just to talk about stuff they learned.

All in all it was a great beginning. Pray for these families who are working hard at doing a great job of raising responsible adults.

Thank you,



for John and Sheryl Emra

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Answers to Prayer

After two days of driving we arrived in Sutton's Bay Michigan safe and sound. Thank you!

"The Rest Of The Story" will detail some of what we are dealing with, but in this place, we would like to thank you for praying for our family and the issues that are coming to the surface.

It has become apparent that the timing of us being here to deal with family is a God thing. We didn't even know to ask for prayer - but He has arranged this class to be at the perfect time for us to be here!

Prayer Requests

Continue to pray for the class, the people who are attending and people to lead this class next year.

Please pray for my and Sheryl's families health

Continue to pray for the politicians and the citizens of the United States. That we would seek God's answer to the issues that face our country.

The Rest Of The Story

Trust. How easy it is to say - and how difficult it is to do.

Every day is an opportunity to trust God for the day, what we need, those around us..... The list goes on and on. The good part is that the list never ends - the bad part is that there is no end to the list of what we can be, and should be trusting God for.

One of the results of "the fall" was that as humans, we are self centered beings. We think we can do it on our own and it is only after we try and fail will we look to God to provide an answer.

As we grow in the Christian life we mature to a point where we look to God first.

The problem is we are still human and the enemy is always looking for a way to get us to try to solve "that new problem" with our own strength or our own wisdom.

Our being here in Michigan is a good example.

We worked for two years to set up this class. There was always a reason the church couldn't schedule it. From my perspective it just didn't make sense. Most days I could let it go and trust God to do His job - but every once in a while I would get frustrated with the pace we were going and try to rush ahead.

Now we are convinced that God has us here to work with Sheryl's parents and the class is a bonus that we get to work on while we are here!

Our support is another area in which we have no control.

For 38 years we have lived by faith trusting in God to provide the people to support us and our ministry. We can ask in our letters for support, but the choice you make to support us or not is yours to make.

Our trust is not in you - that you will support us, but in God that He will provide the support we need.

We continue to learn the lesson that as we trust God to meet our needs, He will continue to direct every aspect in our lives - even this time in Michigan!!!

You can be a part of the miracle, that is our support, by using the response card that is enclosed with this letter and sending a check in the enclosed envelope.

What you send is totally up to you. We just praise God for another month in which He met our needs and appreciate you for your faith to be used by Him and be a part of His work in our lives!