

Emra Expressions

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Circumstances and Qualities

Sheryl and I talk about our passion to change our culture. That idea is used in the books I wrote and the parenting seminars we lead. As we train inner-city Churches how to start and run a S.A.Y. Yes! Center one of the topics that run throughout the training is the need for the neighborhood Church to affect the culture of the people who live around the Church.

Every once in a while someone will ask: "With all the things in life that need doing, why that? You could make sure college is affordable for the kids with whom you work, or eliminate poverty, homelessness and hunger. If you were really ambitious you could even work toward curing cancer."

All of that is true, and while all of those things are good causes – they are all circumstances of life.

I decided a few years ago that I would not spend a lot of time or energy on circumstances of life. (Circumstances are those things that can be given or taken away.) I chose to focus my energy on the qualities of life. (Qualities are characteristics that we choose). Circumstances are temporary, qualities last into eternity.

We cannot change the culture without a group of people like you who are committed to reading our letters, praying for us and supporting our ministry.

I would like to say "thank you" for your time and energy on our behalf this past year. Your interest in our ministry has helped us share the truth of Life Is Full Of Choices with people who were ready to hear what we shared!

In His grip,



for John and Sheryl Emra

Answered Prayer

We spent an evening with Maria from China last week. She is doing well and very excited about her Youth Ministry.

She is working with about 10 volunteers and they are dealing with about 30 kids each day.

We are praying for more opportunities to share with her the truths of Life Is Full Of Choices and how those truths can make her ministry easier and more productive.

Prayer Requests

February 9 we will be leading a Parenting Seminar in Oregon at the Oregon City School District.

Pray that this will help us develop some credibility and contacts within School Districts around the country.