

# Table in the Wilderness

Loewen's Prayer Email Update

June / July 2010



I thought this was supposed to be our June 2010 email update, but it looks like July is almost gone!

This past Friday I was sitting on our front porch chatting with friends after a busy day at Second Mile. I noticed a familiar figure walking up the road towards our house. It was Jomel, a young man who dropped out of our program probably four years ago. He had drifted back into life on the street, and started getting into trouble. As he sat beside me, Jomel slowly told me his story. He had just been released from jail after two and a half years, charged as an accessory to a murder that resulted from a knife fight. The jail was crowded with up to 65 men jammed together in one small cell, and food available only when someone brought them a meal. Here is the amazing part of the story: I just expected a request for money or a job, the usual thing. But Jomel said he had come to ask for forgiveness for the way he had acted four years ago, and to say thanks for the things I had taught him from the Bible. He still had the Bible I gave him and says he read it every day in jail. Wow! That made my day! We prayed together and he headed off to his home. Pray for Jomel—that he would find a job and stay out of trouble. He is back with his parents, but their relationship is strained.



Take a good look at the ten young men in the middle picture. This is our new group of students – Batch #8! We would appreciate your prayers as they settle into the discipleship program. Pray that they will be here each Monday morning by 9 am, and that their weekend church involvement would help them bond with their home churches in a deep way that would last long after their time at Honest Hands, and ultimately that all of this would help them follow Jesus for the rest of their lives. Our vision is to encourage and disciple these young men from the fringes of society so that they become strong men of God who are active in a local church body.



We had two excellent discipleship camps at Honest Hands in May and June (see picture of hot dog roast at left), and as usual the campers

enjoyed themselves — lots of food, sports, games, Bible sessions on core issues like assurance of salvation, purity, life of a disciple, what is the Bible, prayer and devotions, and sharing the good news of Jesus with others. A total of nineteen young men attended the camps, and from these guys we chose ten for our long term discipleship program.

You might have your suspicions about the wedding picture at the middle right — yes, it is Carl's parents — Danny & Florence Loewen. They celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary in June, and Carl was able to go home to Manitoba for ten days to help them celebrate. The rest of our family was quite jealous of his trip to Canada, but they let him go. He had a great time. The picture at the right is Carl with his siblings and parents.

Other happenings: Jacob celebrated his 9th birthday by going to the Mall of Asia and went skating. We also watched the Tokyo Canadiens defeat the Philippine national team in a hard fought game on the same rink. And then we came back to reality with a huge fireworks display on Manila Bay — hot and spectacular! Isaiah and Jacob spent a week at camp earlier this month, and had a great time!

Please pray for Lisa and the boys as they have started homeschooling once again. Isaiah is in Grade 6, Jacob in Grade 4, and Samuel in Grade 2. We have also been fighting a variety of sicknesses recently, so we appreciate your prayers for good health.

We appreciate your prayers, support and emails. Stay in touch by sending us an email.



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