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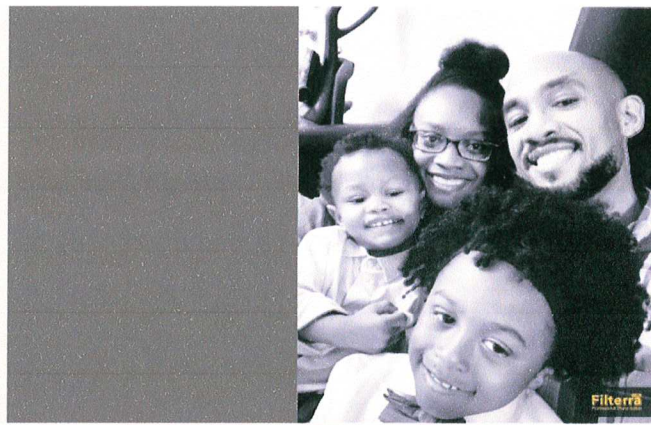
*Our Transition*

*The Boys*

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Issue  
**OCT**

A Monthly Insight to the Gilkey's Journey in Lubbock, TX

# Moved on **FAITH**

## All About the Boys

The boys have adjusted well. In fact, better than we thought. Christopher likes his new school and loves his teacher. We struggled a bit at the beginning because 1<sup>st</sup> grade is his first year for having homework every night. He has spelling words every week with the test at the end of the week. He was not a happy camper that he had so much homework to do. However, he is doing well and making friends. He even has a neighborhood friend he likes to play with outside.

Jon gets to tag along with us everyday. He comes to chapel with us every morning and then we take him to the SIBI Daycare on site, where he has a couple of other friends whose parents are also students. The staff and instructors of SIBI have Jon spoiled! If you ever livestream a chapel service, listen carefully right before the speaker gets up to speak, you just might hear him say, "Preach the Word!" That has become his favorite phrase and we just love it.

The best part is that we are together more as a family and it has made all the difference in the boys' life.

Christopher used to pray that daddy didn't have to work so much during times that there was lots of mandatory overtime. Now that they have daddy around more, it seems that it has really done their hearts some good.



Jon & Ozzie at Chapel

Christopher, Jon, & C.J. on Christopher's 1<sup>st</sup> day of School

The boys hanging out at home

## Our Transition

### Getting Acclimated to Lubbock, Texas

We've been "settled" into Lubbock now since August 1<sup>st</sup>. We had orientation August 9<sup>th</sup> and the next week started classes. The first few weeks were filled with several different welcoming events and the induction of the new Sunset International Bible Institute President, Tim Burrow. I was enrolled in Christian Evidences, Spiritual Disciplines, Luke, Old Testament History (Genesis, Exodus, Numbers), Preaching Lab, and Introduction to Ministry. Alaina was enrolled in Christian Evidences, Spiritual Disciplines, Public Speaking I, Sign Language, and Gracious Hospitality. Those classes quickly came to a close and as we are writing this we are now on the final days of our break week preparing to start for our 2<sup>nd</sup> term of classes. Upon Arriving in Lubbock we immediately felt like we had a family waiting for us in the great state of Texas. The elders and their wives were so welcoming to us as students and our children. The congregation made it easy for us to get plugged right in. We have also found a good fit for a small group for our family. Our classmates immediately became family to us. It has been such a joyful experience.

However, we have had our fair share of struggles. Turning a house into a home, enrolling Christopher in school, buying school supplies for him and the both of us in just a few short weeks was very hectic, but we survived! Once classes started it seemed that there was never just a moment for a pause. But we are so thankful that we had Spiritual Disciplines for term one because we were reminded and taught the value of still finding rest in the midst of study and ministry. We were taught that there may be times you just have to say no so that you do not lose your relationship with the Lord or reach a state of burn out. In ministry the work is plenty but God gave us gifts such as prayer, solitude, fasting, sabbaticals and sabbaths just to name a few so that we can be fueled and ready to effectively help in His Kingdom.

Lubbock  
TX



# C.j. & Alaina's Classes

## For Term 2:

### C.J. will be taking-

- \*Old Testament History
- \*Preaching Lab
- \*The Books of John



*SIBI Level 1 Class of 2019*

### Alaina will be taking-

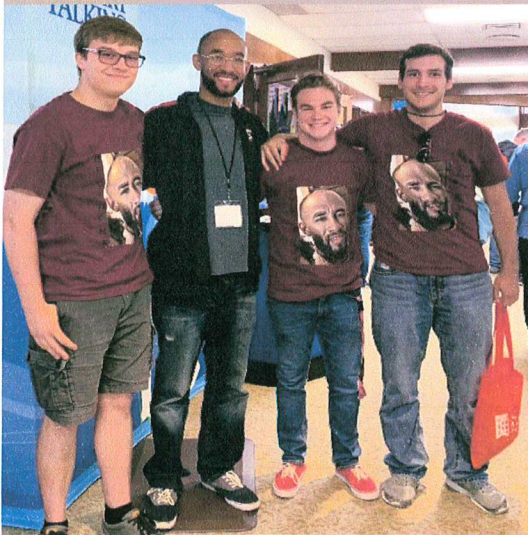
- \*Public Speaking II
- \*Essentials in Ministry I

### Both of us are taking-

- \*The Scheme of Redemption
- \*Christian Home

### Term One Update:

*We both passed every class without a problem!*



## *Surprise!*

At SIBI each class elects a chairman/president for the year. C.J. got quite a surprise when he found out he was the one elected. We have quite a few young men that are fresh out of high school in our class and they've been gifting C.J. with "presidential" name tags and calling him "Mr. President" all for fun and games. On our trip to the World Global Missions Conference in Austin, TX, they surprised him with shirts that had his picture on it. They have become like little brothers to us and Uncles to our boys.

## What We've Learned

We had some phenomenal instructors first term. There is no way we could adequately portray in a newsletter what we've learned and experienced, but we will try to recap. We started Monday and Wednesday mornings with Christian Evidences. We explored how the Bible is a historical book with historical facts. It was amazing to see verses that we typically would skim through without a thought were actually very important in proving the reliability of their testimonies. We even compared how reliable the Bible is in comparison to other historical and famous literary books. We also spent a class period going over the geographical evidences of the earth's actual age and how non-Christian scientists often leave out pieces of information or will fill in the gaps with unproven hypotheses to make the case for evolution. The afternoons consisted of Old Testament History I we studied Genesis, Exodus, and Numbers and reviewed the commands of God. There were a lot of "a-ha" moments where Old Testament information helped in understanding the New Testament interactions. Tuesday and Thursday mornings we learned about the importance of the spiritual graces that God has given us in order to form a relationship with Him. In the afternoons we studied Jesus' life through the book of Luke. In ministry we should follow the footsteps of Jesus and seek out those who are lost and broken. Jesus was found many times communing with those who were outcasts. On Fridays, the men took Introduction to Ministry Studies and studied formatting papers. The women took Gracious Hospitality and learned what it means to be gracious and hospitable to everyone whom we come in contact. They spent the term praying that God would open their eyes to those whose needs they could help meet. While the men were learning about writing papers, the women got to practice skills in the kitchen! However, food was always shared with them. ☺



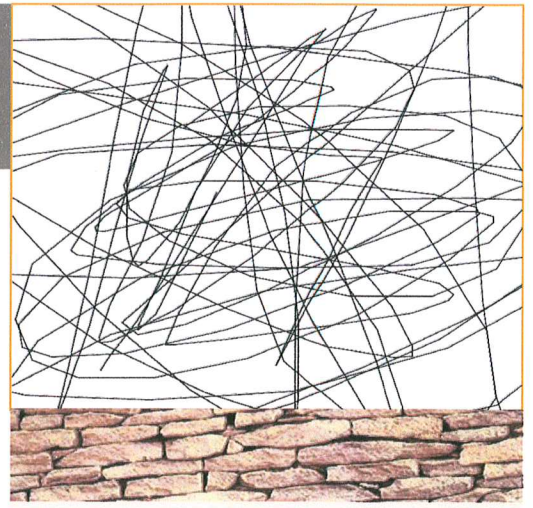
# Note of **Encouragement...**

A few weeks ago we sent this message out to our family members and a few close friends. We thought it would be fitting to share with everyone.

Encouraging Words inspired by Christopher Jon-

The other night, Christopher gave an EXTREMELY long prayer thanking God for literally everything under the sun. Near the end he said, "Thank you for making us beautiful and not just some scribbles on paper." We found it hilarious, but it really stuck with me because we had been learning in Christian Evidences about the evidence God has provided through nature, science and the intelligent design of all creatures and plants on this earth that there is a creator. God designed everything purposeful and amazingly beautiful. As you go about your day, Praise God for filling this world with more than just scribbles and Praise God that we are more than just scribbles- we are created perfectly beautiful with divine purpose!

♡ Alaina Gilkey



Words can't express how much your investment, love, prayers, and support mean to our family.  
Thank you!




The Gilkey  
Chronicles

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