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Issue
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2020



An Insight to the Gilkey's Journey in Lubbock, TX

Moved on **FAITH**

Thanksgiving



We thoroughly enjoyed our Thanksgiving together this year. It looked much different than what we have been used to but different is good. We have never spent a Thanksgiving or really any holiday in our house with just one another. Usually, we end up house hopping all day long. Last year we were able to enjoy Thanksgiving with some close friends at S.I.B.I. Last years' experience was a nice kind of different as well. This year we planned our own meal. I asked C.J. and the boys what they would eat on Thanksgiving and they said fried fish and chicken. Our meal was not the traditional Thanksgiving meal, but it was what they liked. We also participated in a Zoom family Thanksgiving prayer. One of our grandfathers prayed for the family and it was such a nice experience for us all to be able to be on Zoom and pray with one another even though we were not together. Most of our family on both sides chose to stay within their own homes this year for Thanksgiving since COVID-19 numbers began increasing. Though we missed our family, we enjoyed one another and played lots of UNO, noodle tag and pillow fights. We had a wonderful time

The Final Stretch *Our 2nd Year is Halfway Over...*

I cannot believe that we have already enrolled for our 3rd term. I never realized how quickly two years could fly by. It has been a bittersweet realization for our family. We have formed so many lifelong relationships here. Our classmates are not just our classmates, our instructors are not just our instructors, in fact they are not even just friends for that matter, but they have truly become our family and we love them. To say we will miss them, is an understatement. Everyone has been putting in applications and having interviews preparing for life after S.I.B.I. It has been fun discussing with classmates' the opportunities that they are looking into. I know that they will all be a blessing wherever they end up in ministry.

We have been preparing to transition back to Wichita, KS. Our move to Lubbock, TX was a bittersweet one. We were sad to move away from family and friends, but we were extremely excited for all that S.I.B.I. had to offer us and we were looking forward to meeting everyone at the Sunset Church of Christ. Now, as we are transitioning it is bittersweet once again. The kids do not want to leave their friends, or as they call them, their "brothers and sisters" and Christopher does not want to leave his school. However, we are all looking forward to being closer to family and friends again. We are excited to allow God to use us in a community that we love. With only two terms left we have started the process of cleaning out the house and packing up our books and some other items. These next few months will get busy with finishing up the last few months of school and looking for somewhere to live. We have been so blessed to have this opportunity to set aside two years to study God's Word. We are thankful to everyone who helped make this possible for us. This would not have been possible without your ministry in monetary support, prayers, and

C.j. & Alaina's Classes

Term 2:

C.J. took-

- *Isaiah
- *Family & Youth Ministry Class II
- *Hebrews
- *Effective Teaching II

Alaina took-

- *Effective Women's Ministry II
- *Public Speaking 6

Both of us took-

- *The Gospel of John
- *Galatians

SIBI Level 2



Term Two Update

This term was a difficult term in the amount of work we had assigned. We had LOTS of papers to write. In one class, we had 5 papers. However, we got them done and completed the term successfully. We will begin term 3 in January. ☺

S.I.B.I. Upcoming Events...

There are no upcoming events. Events were cancelled due to COVID-19 precautions. However, there will be a virtual workshop in January 2021. We will give updates and details as we receive them. ☺

All About the Kids



Christopher is doing well. We sent him back to school for face-to-face instruction. He was so excited to be able to see some of his other friends. His class size is small and only consists of 14 other kids. We have come across some challenges in his learning due to the staff and teachers having to wear a mask, however, I believe we have found ways to overcome these challenges. We have been able to make the best of the situation. He preferred the home environment for learning but prefers school environment for socializing. Imagine that!?! ☺ We needed to get him back in school otherwise, I am unsure how much he and Jon would have continued liking each other.

Jon has been enjoying spending time with his sister. He had the privilege to be a ring bearer in our classmate's wedding in October. Jon is always outside playing or trying to make an obstacle course in the house. When it is his turn to choose the family activity that is typically what he chooses. He recently had to have his front tooth pulled. He was busy being a boy with his brother and got hurt while they were wrestling. He was excited to get money for his tooth.

Joy is jabbering, sitting up, crawling, pulling herself up, and even cruising along furniture now! She is growing way too fast for my liking. She is quite the scavenger as well! Most of all, we are thankful she is strong and healthy.

Upcoming Classes...

C.J.

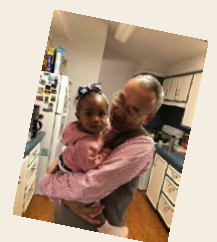
- Church History
- Family & Youth Ministry Class III
- Ezekiel/Daniel
- Effective Teaching from the Old Testament

Both of us are taking...

- Romans
- Christian Counseling

Alaina

- Women's Roles in the Church
- Public Speaking 7



Note of Encouragement...

This year the theme for our ladies' chapels have been "I am..." Fill in the blank with any feeling. My sweet sister, Jessica Solonka, gave us a lesson in ladies chapel and the topic she chose was, "I am overwhelmed." I wish I had remembered to record her because her lesson was a wonderful reminder I would have loved to share with others. In preparation for her lesson, she posted the following question on social media, "What have you been overwhelmed by?" She received hundreds of responses. I even replied saying that I had been overwhelmed with parenting. Apparently, majority of the responses she received related to feeling negatively overwhelmed. Jessica reminded us that feeling overwhelmed can be a positive feeling as well. She reminded us how God has allowed us to be filled with overwhelming joy and peace. During this season, where we could probably think of a never-ending list of negative things we may be overwhelmed by, I pray that we all remember the overwhelming love, joy, and peace that comes from God.

Love and Blessings!
□ *Alaina Gilkey*

We love and appreciate you! Thank you for being interested and supportive of our journey. Enjoy your holidays!
□ *The Gilkey Family* □

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Scripture:

*"Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you will abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."
Romans 15:13 NASB1995*


*"See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him."
1 John 3:1 NIV*



The Gilkey
Chronicles

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