

# Nice News

## SERVING AT BIG SKY BIBLE CAMP

### LIFE IN THE FLATHEAD VALLEY

Summer is finally here with full sunshine, mid 80 degree weather and the start of Camp Promise. Last week was our first week of camp with 70 high school campers and 32 day campers here. The Lord has blessed Big Sky with full weeks of camp and registrations still coming in for the weeks that are not full yet. By the end of summer, we will have had the chance to share the gospel with close to 1000 campers in 2016. We as a family, are overwhelmed by God's grace, that He allows us to be a part of this ministry. Our hope is that each child and adult that comes onto our property, is taught the Gospel over and over again each day!

I (Ryan) have spent much of the spring, preparing for the summer and learning my new position at camp as the program administrator. I am so humbled by the opportunity I have to serve the

Lord in this way. I don't know that I ever fully grasped how much work goes into preparing for the summer until now



where a lot of that work is my responsibility. Finding strength and wisdom in the Lord and not in myself has been a good lesson for me to

learn. I am also blessed with a wife who has shown me so much grace in my times of stress and long days of work. God continues to pour out His blessings on me. The highlight of my spring, has been the opportunity to be a part of a pastors college at our church led by one of our pastors. The first half of the Spring we studied Systematic Theology, starting with the study of who God is. The last couple months we spent time studying Biblical Theology, learning how the whole bible fits together as one story of redemption, rather than it being individual stories that have no connections. I am so thankful for this class and the chance to dig deep into scripture with other young men to learn what it means to be a Godly leader. I look forward to starting that class again in the fall.

# LIFE IN THE FLATHEAD VALLEY (CONTINUED)



It has been a wild ride on the home front. Abram and I (Amanda), have been juggling doctors appointments,

therapy appointments, Costco runs, food orders, and sometimes cooking for camp. When we get around to it, we might even squeeze in time to keep a normal, clean house for daddy! We've had fun doing all except the ear doctor appointments- but thankfully we learned quickly that lollipops are the answer to all kinds of trouble avoidance. This pregnancy has been flying by as Abram keeps me

so busy that there isn't even time to think about this precious little one we are blessed to have growing inside me once again. Abram is SUCH a joy and a blessing in our lives. I have seen the goodness of our heavenly Father as we have walked this road of Abrams deafness. There is so much that I am learning both in my weakness and my doubt and in the physical inner workings of being deaf. I keep coming back to the words of David in Psalm 27: 13-14. "I would have lost heart, unless I had believed that I would see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. Wait on the Lord; be of good courage, and then He shall strengthen your heart; Wait, I say, on the Lord!" I can say beyond a shadow of a doubt that our Lord will always come through when

we recognize our own weakness and come to Him for our strength and encouragement. God has been so faithful in our lives, even when I begin to let fear creep up on



me and I feel like a failure as a mom and wife as I battle my new roles and try to soak up all the changes around me and the signs that I can't get to stick in my brain. God keeps showing His goodness in His perfect timing. We are blessed with excellent doctors and therapists and advocates who come alongside us even when duty doesn't require it. We are blessed with the good news that Abram is receiving cochlear implant surgery. The Lord has heaped blessings upon us, simply because He loves His children- not because we deserve it. I could keep rambling about how blessed we are, but for now I will leave it with a request to join me in thanking God for the blessing it is to be Abrams mom! He brings a smile to the face of everyone he meets and he is a total quirky, loving, smart, stubborn, BUSY handful that I do not deserve and wouldn't trade for the world.

I was recently asked by one of our summer staff, what is one thing I have learned from being a father. I thought about it for a second and said, God has revealed to me how much of a sinner I am and how incredible His grace is. Being a dad is such a blessing and I can't even imagine coming home and not having Abram greet me, but it has also exposed my selfish heart. I now appreciate so much more my heavenly Father and His faithfulness and grace even when we (his children) disobey.

### The Nice family is thankful for...

- God providing all we need for summer staff and full weeks of camp
- A church family in Kalispell that we love and cherish, and who displays the gospel so clearly in their teaching and actions.
- All of Abram's doctors and therapists.
- New Life inside of Amanda
- Beautiful summer nights in the Flathead Valley.



### We would like prayer for...

- Wisdom for doctors and Abram's surgery next week.
- A healthy pregnancy for Amanda
- That the gospel will be spoken clearly through camp this summer.
- Good time management during the business of summer.
- That God is glorified through us!