



The Port of Hope

- Preparing God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up. Ephesians 4:12

Helping to Build Spiritual Movements Everywhere so Everyone Knows Someone who Truly Follows Jesus Christ

Merry Christmas

WHAT A YEAR IT HAS BEEN!

I must admit, at the beginning of 2008 things were going pretty good for us. I was doing very well at my job, we were living in a great neighborhood, and we had a lot of really good things happening with our church and the Navy Chapel. To be honest with you, neither Becky or I would have made any

major changes in our lives.

But it's funny how God works slightly different. Have you ever read the passage in Isaiah 55 where we're told by God that "my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways"? For me, I've known this for a long time yet I'm blown away when I truly see this in action. Right before this, we're told "seek the LORD while he may be found; call on him while he is near".

This is as true a statement as I can understand of God. Through both the good times and the bad of 2008 we can confidently say that when we sought Him, He was easy to find. Not always easy to understand, but easy to find.

One great example was an opportunity to move into a different home. Because of the credit market it was going to be difficult to qualify for. Yet we were certain that God had opened the door for us to have a better place to minister and we trusted Him

to work things out. We prayed and sought His guidance. In the end, everything fell into place (including a renter for our other house) and we were able to get into the home He's provided.

On the Sunday following Thanksgiving we had 21 people here for a Thanksgiving dinner. It was beautiful and it was a great reflection of how our Lord changes lives when we "seek Him". With children romping through the woods and parents enjoying some well-earned fellowship it was a terrific sight.

May I encourage you to do one thing this year? Regardless of your circumstances, good or bad: **SEEK THE LORD!**



December 2008

Prayer Requests

- Pray for the finances of our military families. Many have lost value in their homes and will need to sell them at a loss when they have to move
- Pray for us as we finish raising our support and begin to minister to more and more families
- Pray for those deployed to the Middle-East
- Pray for churches around our nation that need to prioritize their work due to finances



SO WHAT ELSE IS NEW IN THE SCHRADER FAMILY?

As mentioned above, this has been a unique year in many ways. On top of the house (if you haven't visited us yet, the door is open), we've stepped out in faith and joined the Military Ministry division of Campus Crusade for Christ. This has truly been a call from God and although we have to raise our support to cover family expenses, He has brought so many ministry partners into our lives. We're confident that we'll be able to finish our support goal and begin ministering to even more families here in Washington State.

Other life-events include:

- Monica is living on her own (gulp!)
- Jacob has his driving permit (gulp again!)
- Becky's involved in an experimental therapy to get more use of her left arm and leg
- Our church has gone through some major changes (please pray with us on this one)
- Jacob is a member of the police explorers (believe it or not he likes shining his boots)
- Jacob broke his leg (getting better)

- We celebrated 21 years of marriage (proof that Becky is a great woman)
 - Becky started a new book study for wives
- Like many of you, we've seen our investments decrease and a great deal of uncertainty. But we know one thing: God's grace is always abundant. He is interested in His children and not His children's stuff. May you discover in 2009 that your value has nothing to do with houses, cars, stock or a job. Our value is found in our Creator whose purpose goes beyond the things of this world.