

NEWS FROM THE ROCK

THE WOODWARDS IN THE SAN JUANS

InFocus Family Ministries

May 2009

Island to Island...



For the first time, our family is heading out together on a mission trip. Our mission is from one island in the far northwest corner of the United States, San Juan Island to the island of Hispanola in the Caribbean. Our focus will be to share the love of God with Haitian refugees who live in the Dominican Republic near Barahona. Our goal is to build relationships through the sport of basketball, a passion in our family heritage. We will be joined by some great island friends too. Basketball is catching on among the Haitians and there is a desire to learn the fundamentals of the game.

Some of our team members will be connecting with the children through crafts, games, music and other activities. God has brought together a group of people from five different churches and two states to form a team that will grow in serving him in the Dominican Republic.



The missions organization that is making this possible for us is: Children of the Nations, www.cotni.org Would you pray for us as we seek God's provision for this trip? We need your prayers. The Haitians in the Dominican Republic are impoverished people without a country. They cannot return to Haiti and work opportunities are very scarce for them. Children of the Nations exists to provide the children with the hope found for living in Christ and give them a real opportunities for education, health, and growth.

You may partner with us financially and give online at

www.cotni.org **include our trip number - DR_TVW809**



Top row - Austin and Vic
Middle - Maggie, Monique, Darlene
Bottom- Sarah, Carly, Ellie, Erin

Not pictured - Amy Woodward,
Steve and Tate Brumsickle

A team of 12 in His Service!



Current InFocus News

Over the last six weeks Vic and I have had the opportunity to teach through the Flag Page Study with two small groups. This study was put together by pastor Mark Gungor and Larry Bilotta, who developed the Flag Page.

We've been blessed to connect with people from different churches and different generations, from teenagers to grandparents. It is a study that helps people understand their unique design. *"I praise You because I am fearfully and wonderfully made, Your works are wonderful I know that full well."* Psalm 139:14. Many people are experiencing the freedom to be who they are and are being released from trying to change others.

Parents are telling us that, for the first time, they are understanding their kids and able to speak to their hearts in a way they hadn't before. The Flag Page tool is something that has the potential to impact all relationships and it has been exciting to see how encouraged people have been through the study.

One of my favorite quotes from this past weeks lesson was: "If you fail to support or criticize what's important to another person, it tears at their heart."



www.flagpagetest.com

CTK Island Mens Retreat

The annual CTK Island mens retreat was an outer island adventure this year. Thanks to a number of men and their boats, we motored and sailed out to an island north of San Juan Island called Jones Island.

Quiet reflections

and

Campfire teaching



There is a great trail system around the island and a few of us took the time to hike the full loop.



Our teacher/facilitator, Don DeJong, encouraged us to fully embrace our identity in Christ and live a life pleasing to God from the truth that when we are trusting Him, he is never more pleased with us. Hebrews 11:6

We learned that God uses conflict in our lives to mold us and shape us to His image. We gain a whole new perspective for conflict. It is good.