



# The Knickerbockers

## Missionaries to Nepal

March 6, 2018



Dear Praying Friends,

Everywhere we go, there are people from all walks of life, yet they have the same need— to know Jesus Christ. This year has been filled with a variety of opportunities to minister while we near the end of our furlough!

We have been privileged to report and preach in several churches and conferences this year in Florida, Georgia, Alabama, Texas, and Ohio. Most of the time, Luke has taken one or more of the kids with him as Jamie has been resting and preparing for the arrival of our son! It is a realization that our kids are growing quickly and we have made it a point to do discipleship Bible studies with our children individually once a week. This has been a blessing that we will always cherish. I count my children as my most important disciples. That's why I try to involve them as much as possible in the various ministry opportunities we have.

In January, Luke and Jason, along with Papa (Thomas Knickerbocker), went to our Florida State Capital with several pastors to pray with our elected officials and give them Gospel literature. This was in coordination with Awake America and the Capitol Connection. In times like these, our leaders need prayer. How encouraging it was to see Godly men making a difference by going directly to those who govern our state and letting them know we love them, honor them, and are praying for them. I was reminded that politicians are normal people who have fears and dreams, heartaches and needs. I would encourage every pastor to get personally involved in ministering to the leaders of your state!

Another recent opportunity to minister was in the wake of the tragic shooting at Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida. As I heard reports of this, my heart was broken and burdened for these people. I learned that this had happened less than 2 hours from where we are staying. Two days after the shooting, a friend accompanied me, along with our sons, to the area affected. We picked up some Gospel tracts from a nearby church and were directed to media row. As we gave out tracts, we came across some of the students who were giving interviews for various news organiza-

tions. We were able to witness and pray with some of them. During this time we heard about a funeral taking place. Long story short, we ended up at a mosque where a prayer vigil was being held. We thought it was a funeral, but actually two teenagers who had survived the shooting attended this mosque. While talking with different men and imams there, we were given their business card. So we gave them our card in return (a gospel tract)! Interestingly enough, most of the people we spoke to were Pakistani. They had a special meeting in which they spoke out against violence and invited anyone else from the community to say something. The leader looked at me, so of course, I was happy to oblige! With three news cameras looking on, I told them about our experience in Nepal and the earthquakes that took the lives of so many. But it was the presence of God that took away our fears. I shared that money and laws cannot bring peace, but only Jesus can. This is why God sent his only Son Jesus to die in our place, so we can have forgiveness of sin! The teenagers thanked us afterwards and graciously received the Gospel tracts. A week later, a pastor friend from Okeechobee accompanied me to give nearly 200 care packages containing cookies and gospel literature to the sheriff's department and fire department in Parkland. We were able to leave several more for the teachers and first responders at the High School. Please continue to pray for these families.

On February 22, not only did my wife celebrate her birthday, but she gave birth to a healthy 8 lb. boy we named Zachary Caleb. Thank you so much for your prayers for them. Please pray for Jamie as she still has had unusually high blood pressure. Please pray as we are making final preparations for our return to Nepal. Baby Zach's passport has already been applied for and we will be purchasing tickets soon. We are planning to leave in mid-April. We cannot thank you enough for your faithful support for our family and ministry.

In Christ, *Luke and Jamie Knickerbocker & Family*

P.S. Below are pictures of those we met in Parkland, Florida.



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