INTERCESSORY PRAYER SHEET April-May 2011

John Schwartz c/o BCC, 1801 Anderson Ave., Manhattan, KS 66502 785.317.4733, thusman@ksu.edu Ichthus University Ministries--KSU 4/20/11

LIFE REPORT:

You know, it's really good for me to re-read my last month's prayer sheet, a good reminder of things/answers/God words. May God use these in your life too: not just for prayer for us, but to speak to you as well! **Oklahoma**City/Texas couldn't have gone better—wonderful work with The Refuge, very refreshing time with Stouts and Sean/Lauren, and our time at the Norman house church was fantastic in learning and Jesus-encounter. Felt more internal peace in TX than I have in a long time and had a ball with dear friends and their kiddos. Thankful to God for that whole Spring Break time. Jeanette and Genny's California trip was also excellent, lots of learning about worship and children's ministry stuff, lots of bonding, great beach walks and time with God. God keeps giving wisdom for life and ministry. I'm grateful. We met a newlywed couple who have a huge heart for Ogden and have already been ministering to the youth there for 18 months now, this relationship smells like the Spirit ... we'll see as we explore that further. Thursday messages have been very good, I think. Carol's two messages on 1 Peter were stellar, and God used mine on 2 Peter 1 last week as well. Family is a gift – Jeanette and growing baby doing well, we've had some sickness but thanks be to God for healing ... Girls' big dance recital in a couple of weeks, Joshua is running track ... we're digging the warm weather/spring, Joshua and I went on a 17 ½ mile bikeride a couple days ago. Crazy to have such old kids. Looking forward to the new little one due in mid-July. Jeanette's dad did some landscaping work for our yard that is a huge blessing, thank you Jerry. God is good.

REQUESTS:

- In 2 Peter 1:3, Peter says "Grace (favor) and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord..." Multiplied GRACE and PEACE, I need me some of that, especially the latter. I continue to struggle with generalized anxiety stuff even amongst such gladness to be here in Manhattan and gratitude for God's blessings still I wake up with it, it chokes my joy, tries to swing my focus to myself and wear me out. I hate it, I grow so weary of it. God's grace is abundant, his face is shining, I am a dear son, oh God help me receive and experience it.
- Ogden—Tuesdays 4-5 we go there, yesterday was Uno with a couple kids and some hoop. For Sam and Emily as they finish their time as Ogden 2:42 Lifegroup leaders; for Mariah (director) and Jutta (assistant). Most of all, for a constant presence there (i.e., adults being led to move there missionally) AND students to "catch" the vision—Sean, the Walkers, and I are not going to be the primary ministers in this mission field, we want to be catalysts! Could it be the couple we just met (they're looking to move closer to Ogden) and collaboration with them etc.?
- Seeing My Children With God's Eyes. I fail to hear their hearts (often). I am inappropriately harsh when I get tired or inconvenienced. What a humbler parenting is! Oh I need wisdom to understand each of our children and treat them according to God's plan and work in them. And most of all I need TRUST in God, as so much poor parenting is due to FEAR. They're his kids, isn't that what I/we said at their dedications?
- Seeing Jeanette With God's Eyes. Umm... same as above? Especially with Jeanette, I really need God to give me a fresh look at what a gift she is, how she's made, etc. I see good things going on in our relationship, enjoying each other, hearing each other, forgiving each other, may they continue. Eighteen years married coming up in June of this year!
- Seeing Ichthus Students (and non-students, and Carol, and Sean, and every other Ichthus person) with God's Eyes. Seeing a theme here? Seriously, that I might see what God's Spirit is doing in people and cooperate, and LOVE them as treasured sons and daughters of the King, my brothers and sisters.
- **Finishing the Semester Well...** closure, finishing strong, strength and purity and faithfulness in students and in non-students and in us.