

# INTERCESSORY PRAYER SHEET Feb-Mar 2010

John Schwartz  
c/o BCC, 1801 Anderson Ave., Manhattan, KS 66502  
785.317.4733, [thusman@ksu.edu](mailto:thusman@ksu.edu)  
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## LIFE REPORT:

Life is an adventure! God is good and not domestic and calls us to a life of trust. We keep walking. Since I last wrote, Jeanette and I got to invest in our marriage specifically (and then, by extension, of course every premarital and marital investment I/we make) a month ago at a dealie in California. It was like a really intense extended date, and we gained insights into ourselves and our relationship that are paying off now and I believe will continue to forever. Very practical as well as giving deep understanding. We're really grateful we got to go. Ichthus-wise, God continues to do good things in and through these students. It is a privilege to be making Jesus-disciples of them, and helping them make disciples themselves. A particular blessing has been seeing growth in a number of men against pornography/lust issues, hallelujah. Church-wise, God hasn't exactly "pushed play" again on the adult-Ichthus-church-thing, but things could be developing with some more direct ministry oversight that could allow for that in the semi-near future. Tune in next time.☺ In the meantime, personally our family is "visiting the church in Manhattan," going to several different congregations to get a sense for what Christ's body is doing in Manhattan and where the obvious needs still are. I do believe God has blessed my speaking—we're doing the book of James this semester, and the feedback I think is incommensurate (in a positive way) with my speaking... a great sign. Personally, I have more hope and enjoyment than I have had in some time—but my reserves are humorously low. I have to cling to Christ so closely, as in literally the course of a morning (or even an hour) I can feel the emotional tank empty and a painful scraping. Still, I believe Jesus really is teaching me what I've been asking—how to, as someone recently counseled me, "teach my anxiety to be wise" (basically, actually being able to apply Phil. 4:6-7 in a way that experientially works). This is a huge praise. Oh, how I appreciate your praying ... I'm so humbled by how many of you love and support us. Oh, and Jeanette has been sleeping better too—not perfect, but better!

## REQUESTS:

- **"Missional tipping point" and momentum.** Each Lifegroup is reaching out in some way... to the Towers, a government housing complex with many disabled and needy residents; to the Yuma area I talked about last time; to a dinner thing (providing food) for single and teen moms; in fledgling prayer and reach-outs to Aggieville (the bar/party zone of Manhattan); to fellow Architecture students. Please pray that the love of Christ would compel us to serve and love in Jesus-word and Jesus-deed. Pray that people would come to follow Jesus for the first time.
- **Jeanette and I.** Very desirous we would walk in the things and growth God enabled in California. We are gifts to each other. May God knit our hearts together.
- **Ichthus/Church wisdom and guidance.** That God would guide us to more specific ministry oversight (Colonial, then Christ Church, then Bridgeway have all offered this in one form or another in the past, but right now there is a void, NOT a good place to be biblically). As I mentioned, we're pursuing it. Pray God would guide us. I love that He promises that if we ask for wisdom, we will most certainly receive it (Jas 1).
- **James.** May the Scriptures be intensely powerful and applicable and life-changing in ME, and in the STUDENTS as I share on Thursday nights. I am working on memorizing the whole book of James with about 5 Ichthus students, and it has been really cool and helpful mentally. 3 ½ chs. down, 1 ½ to go!
- **Deep breaths.** ☺ I'm tapering my anxiety medication off. Plenty on the plate. Just to stop, breathe, put my mind on the Lord, and let my prefrontal cortex catch up with my amygdala. In other words, to not get my buttons pushed and get stuck/carried away by fear, anger, and anxiety, but to live in faith.
- **Joshua trip.** My son turns 12 tomorrow. He and I are going on a trip to Colorado Mar 12-17 (including the "Four Corners," we're taking a football and have a 4-state touchdown cooked up). Pray it'd be tons of fun, but also that God would use me to build into this wonderful young man for all God has in store for him, and that he would fully follow Jesus in deep admiration, love, and loyalty. I love my son.
- **Strength.** I need the power of the Holy Spirit. And I need to be broken/stripped of any merely human/fleshly ways to try to live. I think it has been happening...not much human strength lately.☺