

SPECIAL PRAYER SHEET MAY 2010

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Well, I am definitely due for a new prayer sheet. I wrote two months ago, and there's much to say. However, I am going to delay that for a bit and just give you a few specific foci/things I'd love prayer for in these next 2-3 weeks...

- **Haiti!** I get to go to Haiti, so exciting to me! I leave 6am this Monday, May 3, with Craig McElvain and one other man. The trip is short; we'll return Friday, May 7—it's a get-things-ready-for-an-upcoming-larger-trip-in-June trip for Craig (he and Laurel have a long-term relationship with a missionary family down there), and I'm basically tagging along to prayerfully observe. My motives/reasons are threefold: (1) since the earthquake, I have had a definite desire to go to Haiti if God opened one up; (2) it allows me to explore the possibility for future Ichthus trips/partnership with this missionary contact in Haiti; and (3) it's an excellent opportunity for me to get to know Craig better personally. He's been a key relationship with Ichthus in these last few years, as many of our Ichthus students have been and are connected with the Ministry Apprenticeship Program and REACH church he leads, and we are seeking to pray/discern together about what further role his apostolic coaching and gifting might play for this work in Manhattan. So...
 - **Pray God would show me what He wants to show me, lead us to whom and where He wants, basically for me to have God's eyes**
 - **For wisdom and guidance as to any ministry/mission opportunities Ichthus might have with Haiti in the future**
 - **That the three of us men would bless and deeply minister to one another and that my relationship with Craig would grow and be led by God in strategic wisdom**
 - **For safe travel and health to enable us to maximize our very short time there** (the short time of the trip was actually a blessing to me, as my children are about to revolt if I'm gone any more... I have traveled more this past year than any other year of my life I think!)
 - **For Jeanette and the kids back at home**—it's not a small deal to leave her home with our four kiddos
 - **That I, even as a “tag-along” and for such a short time, would bring the blessing and presence of Jesus to every person I encounter in Haiti**, especially to Jean and Joy, the missionaries who faithfully serve there
 - **Oh, and my upper back has this weird twingy pain in it over the last week or so that I'd love God to heal before we go**
- **The End of the School Year!** It's really kind of a crazy time for me to miss a week of school in Haiti as things wind up and Ichthus is in a very interesting (and frankly, pretty confusing) time of its life. Basically, we have such strong students, such a sweet spirit, I see it (and such good fruit) and others who visit comment on it, much internal life—and yet we are the smallest in our large-group expression we've been since 2003 (50-60 on Thursdays, about the same number in Life Groups, which is actually encouraging). What is a “natural” (or even God-ordained) ebb in the flow of collegiate ministry (for indeed, I do see ebbs and flows since we got here in '96); what is something not good that we need to address/fix/repent of/work on? We need much wisdom and discernment about how to best guide and shape the ministry in the future. I have so many key meetings with key people/student leaders that will all get put into finals week (plus senior graduation dinner, graduation luncheons, etc.) ... I just need God to put it together. I appreciate your prayer that God's kingdom would come in Manhattan and Ichthus would play its full part. And for God to give us help quickly, because to be honest, this strategic stuff wears me out when I'm the one driving it. Don't even get me started.☺ We so crave God to bring us some team members to do this with here in Manhattan.