

The Graumans

μιὰ ψυχῆ συναθλοῦντες τῇ πίστει τοῦ εὐαγγελίου

T-5 days: It's been way too long since we have talked to many of you, and this newsletter has been a while in coming. So for many of you, our big news may be a shock, but in just 5 days God is bringing a circumstance into our lives in which He calls us to rejoice. Josh is going to be having open heart surgery! (May 30th at Stanford). I will be having my ascending aorta (the artery that comes out of the heart) replaced with a synthetic one. They will also be taking my aortic valve and sewing it into the synthetic aorta so that I can keep my existing valve (isn't technology amazing!). Currently, I don't feel any ill effects from this as it is a preventative surgery (one that I've known I was going to need for several years, although I didn't think I would need it so soon). We know God's timing is best.

We appreciate your prayers, especially for you to lift Melody before our Lord as she bears the greater load than I. We are thankful for all our loving Heavenly Father is bringing us through to teach us to trust Him more and to bring about His glory. He continues to remind us that life is about Him, that He is real and all-glorious (the Minor Prophets class Josh taught drilled this home!), and that it's all that we can do to serve Him with our lives.



Nadiya (1 year, 7 months) is always a blessing to us as she continues to grow and learn. She is learning new words every day. She especially loves animals, and is always good for kisses and hugs. She's very polite with her 'please' and 'thank you'. She's also very excited to be a big sister at the end of July, and loves talking to her little brother/sister (looks like we'll be surprised!).

Life is Ministry: God has been good to us as He continues to use and grow us while serving Him. This semester has been a busy one with life and ministry, still serving as a pastor at the local church and teaching at Eternity Bible College. God is doing great things on both fronts and it is one of the greatest joys in Josh's life to be able to walk with godly fellow-pastors & teachers. Josh is currently excited about a renewed focus in the church on living out true community for the sake of gospel witness. At the Bible College, Josh is excited to be a part of developing a new curriculum from the ground up. It aims to better ground students in God's unfolding plan by teaching each of the books of the Bible with theology & ministry incorporated in rather than the traditional model of teaching those subjects in separate classes.

Melody also continues serving at the church alongside of Josh and is a great blessing there. She also finished another semester studying linguistics at CSUN, and is almost done with her Master's degree. We continue to pray for opportunities for the gospel with classmates and teachers. Chasing a toddler while pregnant has been exhausting, but Melody loves her role as Nadiya's teacher, enjoyer, trainer-in-righteousness, owie-kisser, & mommie, and is looking forward to meeting the new baby!

Sorry for the late notice, this semester has slipped away from us. Feel free to forward this on to others we may have missed. We'd love to hear from you! Love you all deeply,

Josh, Melody, Nadiya and Baby #2

With one soul striving together for the faith of the gospel...

