



Dear Friends,

I am amazed at your care for us. I have received so many encouraging and uplifting e-mails after our July letter. It encourages me to know that I am not alone, I am a part of the Body of Christ, and you, my brothers and sisters, support me through your prayers and encourage me through your words. What an overwhelming blessing.



College MK group.

For me, it can be a scary thing to open up and let you see the “junk” in my life: my struggles, my questions, even my lack of faith. Recently I was asked if anything had changed in my journey with the Lord since I wrote the July prayer letter, and as much as I wanted to say, “Yes, everything is fine now,” the honest answer remains the same: I’m still longing to see Aslan and walk intimately with Him.

This summer has been a very encouraging time, though, as we’ve spent a lot of time with some of the Lord’s finest servants. We spent the majority of four and a half weeks serving in OC’s Internship for new missionaries. Then Kyle and I served as mentors for college-age MKs (missionary kids) during the Personnel Enrichment Program (PEP) for furloughing missionaries. And to top it all off, we spent half a week with Max and Renee Pfaffinger providing the final training program for them before they left for Guatemala.

Kelsey and Hilary were the only girls in the college MK group during PEP, and I loved spending time with them listening to their stories. These two girls, who grew up in Asia, impacted my life with their love for the Father and commitment to following Him with their lives. They also listened to me share about the loss I’ve felt leaving Guatemala and my struggles to see Aslan this year. Our time together was mutually encouraging and we continue to pray for one another.



Nell with Hilary and Kelsey.

Kyle was also deeply impacted by his time with the five guys in the college group. Along with Josh Grubb (an OC MK who co-led the group), Kyle spent hours listening and sharing with the guys. He was amazed at their openness, transparency, and depth of insight as they discussed life, God, the church, financial independence, and transition to living in the U.S. He continues dialogue with many of the guys through e-mail and Facebook.

I feel like God richly blessed the last three months by surrounding us with people who love Him! And even though I’ve struggled to see Him this year, I saw a lot of Him in the lives of those around me.

Thanks for praying!

Nell

From the President...

1 Corinthians 9:24-27 NIV

Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize.

Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last; but we do it to get a crown that will last forever.

Therefore I do not run like a man running aimlessly; I do not fight like a man beating the air.

No, I beat my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize.

This summer many of us have been caught up in the Olympic fever, enjoying some amazing races on the track and in the pool. If anything has come out of these games, it is the importance of finishing well. Finishing times with differences as small as 1/1000 of a second have made the difference between winning and losing a gold medal! In his letter to the church in Corinth, the apostle Paul teaches us that these lessons are true as well in missions (1 Cor. 9:24-27).



Greg Gripenrog
OC President

As we end our fiscal year this month, helping our missionaries finish the year well financially is of tremendous strategic importance to God's work in the world as it enables them to continue to focus on their ministries to those who are without Christ. Many of our missionaries are experiencing shortfalls in their financial support. Because of this I encourage you to contact your missionary to see if they have a remaining financial need for this year and then to prayerfully seek what God might have you do in response to the need. In God's hand even the smallest gift can have a significant impact.

In addition to the needs of our individual missionaries, our support operations here at our International Mobilization Center have significant financial needs as well. In order to keep our administrative charges as low as possible to our missionaries (currently averaging about 10.7 percent), we are asking the Lord to provide an increasing portion of the funds needed for the carrying out of our headquarters operations from our donors. As we enter this last month of the year, we are in need of about \$300,000 to meet our corporate income goal for this fiscal year. Again, I invite you to ask God if He would have you be part of helping us to meet this financial need.

Enclosed is a response card and envelope to help you carry out whatever God puts upon your heart. I again thank God for each of you who are faithfully partnering with us in this worldwide ministry of the gospel.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Greg Gripenrog". The signature is fluid and cursive.



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Reaching the world together.

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