

Hello from Phil and Amy,

We wanted to write you, our supporters through prayer and finances to let you know of our next step as a family. We have been working with Youth With A Mission for the past 17 years. 2 years ago we started a non-profit called Steps of Justice, which we have written about many times in past newsletters. Last year we did a 32 State tour with Steps of Justice called the Justice and Worship tour. As a family, along with some amazing friends we moved out of our homes, sold and stored a bunch of stuff, purchased an RV and truck and went around the USA teaching, leading worship and calling people to take a step of obedience to Christ and get involved in some aspect of justice focused living.

As a result of this tour some young people and not so young heard God speak for the 1<sup>st</sup> time. Some made peace with Jesus and others felt called to change the way they live their lives in obedience to what we see the bible calling us to as followers of Christ, to do justice, love mercy and walk humbly with our God (Micah 6:8). We also had 3 people join us on our 2012 Cambodia outreaches this past summer.

All along the way our family prayed and asked Jesus to reveal to us His next step for our lives and the ministry of Steps of Justice. Everywhere we went we asked God the same question. "Is this place for us, is this where you want us to stay and run the ministry of Steps of Justice"? And each time we heard God say no through many different ways.

Two months ago we were in New Jersey getting ready to drive back west. We received a call from Brett Curtis who runs YWAM Ships. YWAM Ships is a ministry of YWAM that trains students to go to unreached people and villages with no land access where they live. They go in by boat and bring medical treatment, education, water filters and more to share with them the love of Jesus Christ.

Brett called us and asked the same question he has been asking for a year now, "Phil and Amy, would you pray about coming and working with us, we value who you are and also the ministry of Steps of Justice." Each time Brett would ask this question we gave him the same answer. "Brett, thanks for asking, but we just don't feel it right now," then Brett would always respond by saying, "that's ok, I'll just ask again later." This time though it was different. I stood there in silence and began to weep. I felt Jesus saying to me, "Now is the time for you to say yes." I hung up the phone and walked over to Amy, wrecked and speechless.

This all reminds me of the original call on my life to go into missions, specifically YWAM. The voice and call were clear, I just had to respond and go. In Genesis 12 God told Abram to leave his home and go to a place that He would show him. Abram's response was obedience. He got up, gathered his family and started walking. This is what God wants from us all, to hear His voice and respond in obedience. It has taken us a while to write this letter to you as we wanted to know for sure and wanted to share with you in clarity and assurance that this

move was from God. Through many instances of confirmation we believe that this call on our lives is from God and we are taking steps to walk it out.

In two weeks we will be joining YWAM Ships and will work as two ministries with the same goal and purpose. We believe that this next season will be an accelerated period of growth for our family and for Steps of Justice. Working with YWAM Ships will provide a platform with the University of the Nations (the university branch of YWAM) and a place to share, invite and grow as a ministry through the joining of staff, students and other ministries.

The University of the Nations in Kona, HI and YWAM's founders Loren and Darlene Cunningham have invited YWAM Ships to come and run their next 3 DTS schools on their campus. They see the Ships ministry as a twin to the University ministry and want to incorporate Ships in what they are doing there. Brett and his team have invited us to come and incorporate Steps of Justice into these schools and into the work that is happening at the University of the Nations (YWAM). This is a huge honor. We share the same vision, passion and desire to do justice, and YWAM Ships provides an amazing vehicle to see that happen, specifically through reaching the unreached.

So, for the next 8 months we will be joining YWAM Ships on the YWAM University campus. This quarter (September through December) the campus will have over 800 students coming in to be influenced and trained in missions. We are truly honored to be a part of that. The girls will be attending grades 1 and 5 there and Amy will be taking a break from home schooling to focus on being with Eliza (1) and helping out with Steps of Justice part time.

We have seen God provide for this in ways that can only be from Him. We will not go into details here, but please feel free to contact us with any questions you may have as we would love to share with you how we have seen His hand throughout this entire process.

Thanks for your patience reading this, we look forward to hearing from you.