



theWheatley Word

February 2007

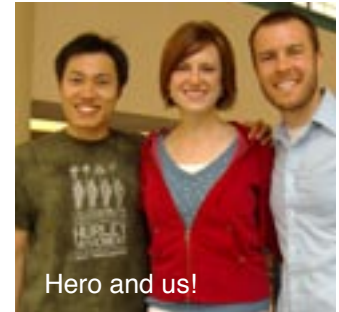
Wellll? Most of our conversations begin with the question, "Have you made a decision yet?" Not quite yet. Laughing and incredulous, "really?" Of the seven months we've been married, the past five we've labored over where to go next. Both sensing the Lord's leading to go overseas we are considering two compelling places: East Asia and Athens, Greece. We're just not sure which one!

Wrestling This past week at the Texas State Cru meeting, Paul spoke on the night Jacob spent wrestling with God. Jacob was born a heel-grabber, always figuring out a way to get what he wanted, and God proved to him during the wrestling match that he needed to be dependent on Him. At numerous times during the past few months, we've almost made a decision, sometimes feeling led and other times just wanting to have some direction. Each time, we've felt the Lord hold us back from landing somewhere. It's felt like a mix between just waiting and actually wrestling.

Catherine's Story Waiting has been a very interesting process. After living in Asia and loving it, the thought of going somewhere else is a bit strange and hard to grasp. Surrendering "what I thought would be" to the Lord has been tough for both my heart and will. I've had to let go of the security of where I thought I would be going. I want to trust the Lord whole-heartedly and be open to whatever He has for me. All through this, the Lord has moved me to be excited about Athens. I can't quite imagine life there yet, but my heart already breaks for the whole country of Greeks who have religion but don't have Christ. There's a possibility to serve alongside an organization that helps refugees, and ever since I read a book about refugees in America at the beginning of the semester, I haven't been able to shake the desire to help people who have had to flee their own country! I get excited about the variety of ministry opportunities we can pursue in Athens, while focusing on college students.

Paul's Story Preparing to leave San Marcos and San Antonio after serving here for 5 years has been challenging. I find myself reminiscing about the years meeting freshmen in Falls and Butler Halls at Texas State, young men saying yes to Christ, Bible Studies, discipleship appointments, speaking at weekly meetings, and all the different campuses I've stepped foot on. Beyond this, I see all the different relationships I've made with guys throughout the years, and how proud I am to see guys like Derek, Colin, Kyle & Kyle, Sean, Ethan, Dan, Joe, DJ, David, Van, and the Chinese guys surrender more and more to Christ. I thank God for it all. My hope is that wherever He leads us next, He would lead some of these guys to come join us!

Take Off! We will fly to Athens, Greece on March 7th for a weeklong vision trip. We are really excited about seeing our friends and are praying we'll get a clear vision for what life would be like for the next 3-5 years. Shortly after returning, we will make a decision about what path we will be taking. At that point, instead of returning to the college campuses each week to meet with students, we'll focus on developing a team of people who share our vision for reaching lost students in whatever part of the world the Lord leads us to. Will you please pray for our trip and our decision? Thank you so much for enduring with us in prayer for our future!



Please pray....

- for safe travel to Greece, and for the Lord's clear guidance for our future.
- for the students we've worked with over the years to continue to surrender to the Lord and reach out to their peers.
- for our walks with God, and relationship with one another as we pray, wrestle, travel, wait and decide.



Paul + Catherine