

The Castagna Connection

Accelerating the Spread of the Gospel Through the Power of Media

March 26, 2019

Navajo, Yakama, Zuni and Nez Perce



In spite of being sick with a cold, I had a good week of teaching at Indian Bible College in Flagstaff, AZ. There were nine students from various tribes including Navajo, Yakama, Zuni and Nez Perce. The equipment all ran fine and the students were able to pick up the basics of media production for ministry.

In June I will be heading back to IBC with a couple of pastor's from our home church. They are looking at the possibility of partnering with the college.

BAM Update #9

Pictured below is a refugee woman from here, in Denver, learning to sew. Our business as missions efforts will center around providing living wage jobs (rather than low, fast-food type wages) for refugees seeking to fulfill the "American Dream" for themselves and their families.

Recently God opened the door to some financial resources. We will be purchasing 1,000 NÜEDGE knives



"Business is a primary moving force of the love of God in human history." Dallas Willard

from our factory in China. We'll then begin selling them as soon as they arrive; best guess is July sometime. For those of you who pre-ordered one on Kickstarter, we'll finally be able to offer you the actual knife!

Fruit From An Old Film

Last year I met someone at our bank, whom we'll call "Mary". Mary works helping people set up new bank accounts, etc. As I talked with her I noticed a slight accent. Over the course of filling out paperwork, I determined that she was from Russia or one of the former Soviet republics. When I asked her she told me she was indeed from one of the republics, but that her roots were Tatar from Russia. (The Russian government transplanted 100's of thousands of people from Russia and Central Asian countries as they conquered them, her grandparents had been two of them.) Her being Tatar probably doesn't ring a bell in your mind, but it sure did in mine! In 1998, I was a part of a group of three guys who helped Tatar believers shoot the first ever evangelistic film in the Tatar language. When I told Mary that I had been to Tatarstan (an autonomous region within Russia), she just couldn't believe it! She asked what I was doing there so I told her we had shot a film there in the Tatar language. Of course she wanted a copy! A few days later I brought her a copy of the film. The next time I was in the bank she let me know she had watched it. Recently I gave her a track titled, *Jesus and the Qur'an*. Pray for Mary to find Christ!



We shot "Korban" in Kazan, Russia. The film told the story of a Muslim man's journey to faith in Christ. That's me on the far right holding the audio boom pole.

Our Golden Girls



Joshua's baby dedication

Reasons my boys are ready for the Spring:

- **Opportunity to explore the pond** - and, of course, as all good boys do, throw rocks into the water.
- **Searching for bugs in the dirt**
- **Planting the garden** - well mostly, they love to do the digging and I do the planting. And then they re-dig what I plant and I re-plant and distract them with bubbles.
- **Bubbles**
- **Searching for bugs in the grass**
- **Hikes at the Reservoir** - they are true Colorado boys who love a good outdoor hike!
- **Searching for bugs at the Reservoir** - and then carefully carrying the bug with them back to the car where mommy empties out an old french fry box so the bug can come home with us
- **Going to the outdoor pool** - Timothy is just now getting brave enough to dunk his head under the water. Joshua, my water bug, will pretty much dive headfirst into the bathtub if I let him.
- **Searching for more bugs**
- **Going to the Zoo** - Joshua is learning to say all the animal names and sounds but he only gets the second syllable of most words. Butterfly is "fly" and Mac N' Cheese (not an animal, I know) is just "cheese". I'm excited to hear what "hippopotamus" will be in "Josh-speak"
- **Storing all bugs in every possible container around the house** - Timothy was quite certain that Spring would NEVER come (whoever tells you boys are not dramatic - lies!) and that he would NEVER EVER see another bug AGAIN. Yesterday, we found a ladybug and an ant and Timothy thanked God in his prayers that night that the bugs were finally coming back...pray for me...

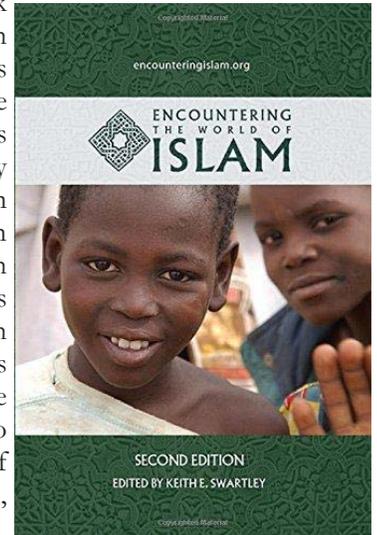
Leslie's Life

Leslie continues to work on coordinating 18 short-term missions' teams that will be going out around the world this year. She will be leading a team to Italy to work with military personnel and their families, near the Vicenza.

Please pray for our health, we've both had some issues as of late. Pray for wisdom, patience and spiritual vision as we seek to follow God into all that He has for us.

Encountering the World of Islam

I am now beginning to work on finish editing the Spanish version of a 12-week class called "Encountering the World of Islam". Students learn the history, theology and practices of Islam in preparation for Christian outreach to Muslims, both locally and globally. I was able to finish the English version of the class videos and hand them off to the EWI staff before heading to Flagstaff. EWI is a team of Pioneers much like my team, 10X Productions.



**Sometimes a valley is not the sign of a wrong turn,
sometimes a valley is the place you have to go
to get to the mountain top.**

Pastor Larry Osborne, Sticky Teams (In the Church)



PRAYER ALERT

"Prayer is a shield to the soul, a sacrifice to God and a scourge for Satan." -John Bunyan

- † Pray for Leslie as she coordinates and plans 18 short-term mission trips.
- † Pray for final editing of the EWI course to go well and for great world-wide distribution.
- † Pray for wisdom as parents for both the Lammott and Margosian families.
- † Pray for "Mary" to have a hunger for truth
- † Pray for people who have a vision for reaching Muslim back ground refugees and BAM (**B**usiness **A**s **M**issions) to join us.
- † Pray for good health for Leslie and I.

BECAUSE YOU PRAYED

- † Nine Indian Bible College students were trained how to produce media for their ministries.
- † God recently opened the door to some financial resources for our BAM project.

Serving with you, *Matt & Leslie*

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