

TW Quarter Circle Ranch Ministries October/November 2009 Prayer Letter

Cemetery



What a day we had at the Cemetery Rededication! We had 203 people sign the guest book. Curt had great freedom to share the gospel publicly and it was received very well. As you can see from the pictures, Curt, Caleb, Nick, Marietta, and I were able to mingle among the visitors and to share. It was a great ceremony. We even had a Christian singing group The Pitch Hitters with our own church member Nathan and former student Greg singing "America the Beautiful."

The ministry continues as visitors stop by and the cemetery continues to draw attention. Just the other day, the furnace repair man noticed the cemetery in our backyard and asked about it, giving Curt opportunity to share stories about Dicey and a tract. We expect even more as this is publicized more and more. They are now talking of erecting a statue downtown in honor of Dicey Langston Springfield. Please pray with us about Curt writing a tract about Dicey. She had a rich Baptist history in her family.





Witnessing and Discipleship

We continue to have opportunity to witness to and disciple our families that ride with us. One evening I had a very lengthy discussion with one of our rider's parents. I was able to witness to him and to also have a deep conversation about some doctrinal issues that are separating his family. I know it sounds redundant, but everywhere we go, we have opportunity to speak with people, or give them a tract. It's such a privilege to serve the Lord!

Wrangler Prayer and Song Activity

Several of our wranglers organized a fellowship and praise Friday evening, October 16th. We had a great group come out to our house in Travelers Rest. The guys went to the trouble of building a fire pit and making it ready for cooking hot dogs and s'mores, but the Lord instead brought the rain, so we ate inside. We didn't need to cook the marshmallows, as we had abundant, yummy desserts. The testimonies were very transparent and encouraging.

Learning To Trust

Recently we have been learning to step out in faith, even when the funds are not there. It's a very scary endeavor as one has to rely upon the Holy Spirit's guidance. Sometimes the Lord asks us to take that step of faith and then He provides. That's what happened when we found out that the Boys Farm was having their annual activity that we had promised we would attend. We did not have the money to do it, but we knew we needed to. We told them we would be coming and ordered the tickets. The next Wednesday at church we were handed free tickets for the BBQ. Praise the Lord for His faithfulness and graciousness to us.



That Saturday, we visited the Boys Farm in Newberry. The weather was a little chilly, but it was a good day of seeing their endeavors there. We got to ride on the hay wagon to see the wonderful property and animals that they use to reach young boys. We appreciated our friends the Gorsuches and Maugers for the tickets and invite. Kelsey is a daughter of some good friends in the Christian school in Montana.



Testimony

One of our wranglers Nick came back to school this fall, and unknown to us, was very discouraged, even to the point of deciding that maybe this was not where he was supposed to be. We had a work day at the cemetery and afterwards he and several other volunteers came down to the ranch for the horsemanship sessions. We asked Nick to give the others a tour and explain the different programs. He ended up giving a round pen demonstration as well. During his demonstration, the Lord worked on Nick's heart to the point that, just as he was explaining the rebelliousness of the horse, looking to go his own way and running around in mindless circles rather than submitting to the master, Nick realized that that was what he had been doing with the Lord. He wrote: "After many years of running in that circle and not wholly trusting in the Lord, I was now ready to follow Him." Nick rededicated his life and is now zealously serving the Lord and working diligently at his college classes.

He just came back from Thanksgiving break where he was able to present our ministry in his grandmother's church. The same church was instrumental in his asking his grandmother about salvation at age 9. Nick is seeking to raise his support for the summer, so that he can work at the TW Quarter Circle Ranch as a counselor and wrangler. Nick preached, showed the ministry DVD, and answered questions. This church gave him a love offering and the pastor said afterwards that they will be substantially supporting Nick for the summer. What a tremendous encouragement! We have three others who have decided, or are still praying about staying the summer with us.

Gethsemane Baptist Church, Greenville

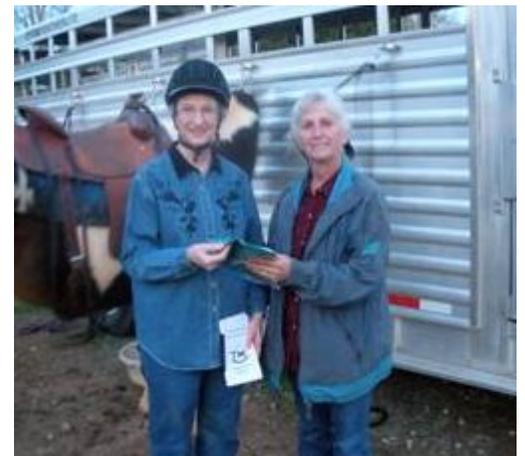
Dr. Ron Gatlin graciously asked us to present our ministry at his church Gethsemane Baptist of Greenville. It is a relatively small church, so our wranglers Nick and Caleb pitched in and sang with some of the other college students for their choir special. We showed our DVD presentation of the ministry and then Curt spoke. We had a wonderful time of fellowship. They later came out to the ranch for a round pen and cowboy gear demonstration. We thank the Lord for the sacrificial love offering that they gave to us, and we look forward to future fellowship.





Curriculum Development

Our former "On Campus Coordinator" Janna is still in town after graduation, now working in the community. She continues to be a great asset to our ministry. She has taken several horsemanship skill sets, verses on the gospel and Christian life and implemented them into our Horsemanship Levels Program. It is an excellent motivational tool for our students to achieve the skills needed and a wonderful spring board for our wranglers to teach about the Lord. Those who pass their levels get to purchase a TW Quarter Circle Ranch silk scarf indicating their level of achievement. It also qualifies them to ride in our flag ceremony at our shows. Dr. Grace Collins Hargis was the first to receive her Level I silk scarf.



MacDonald's Witnessing

Nick & Caleb, two of our ranch wranglers, have decided that going to MacDonald's after our lessons has proven to be a great opportunity. They walk in with their jeans and cowboy gear and people just seem to open up and visit with them. They have had several chances to share tracts and witness.

Fruit Harvested



Curt has been working with JB on the cemetery project on and off for two years now. JB is a 5th great grandson of the Revolutionary War Heroine Dicey Langston Springfield. Curt took JB out to breakfast on October 26. During that time Curt went through a very thorough presentation of how JB could know that all his sins were forgiven by the Lord, and that he was assured of eternal life. On November 22, JB came to Sunday School and church with us and made a profession of salvation and expressed the desire to join the church. We are so thankful for JB and the decision he has made. Curt and JB will now be working together in a weekly Bible study. If any of you would like that same assurance, we would love to speak with you. It is a life changing decision with the benefits of great peace in one's life as well as knowing for certain where you will go when you pass from this life to the next. *(JB at center of picture.)*

NBHA Championships

Marietta, Kayla, and I went to Augusta, Georgia to check out the NBHA World Barrel Racing Championships. We had a marvelous time visiting on the way down, and even though we missed a turn, we had a sweet lady at a convenience store that took the girls in the back room to her computer to google the directions. Marietta shared a tract with her, and we were on our way. It was a wonderful time, and proved to show us that the girls should be able to be competitive. It is exciting that this organization does not do their competitions on Sundays. We are looking to the Lord's direction in this new endeavor to use horses to contact those around us.

Wrangler Seminar

Twenty six attended our wrangler seminar this semester. Janna Walton added an important aspect from being a former extension student. The tips on taking initiative and being sure to talk to our students were very helpful. Curt presented the new phase he has been burdened to start with teaching a Netcasters soul winning class starting in January. As of now we have thirteen signed up, and three more who want to attend but don't have the funds for the materials.



Hospital Visitation

Georgia Caroline was again visited by our wranglers Myra & Jeannie, helping her two week stay to have a little variety. Afterwards Jeannie wrote:



-Continue to pray for Georgia Caroline. It was such a huge blessing to visit her in the hospital and to be reminded about how much we take everyday things for granted.

Curt and I visited her on her birthday and presented her with the rope bag that her parents had our daughter Sara sew for her. It was quite a surprise. Now Georgia Caroline can practice her steer roping at home. She did say she was going to rope some of the nurses in the hospital, too.



HTCS Reading

Special needs school Hidden Treasure Christian School asked us to dress up in our cowboy gear and come to the National Day of Reading. Curt read a true story written by Marguerite Henry about Skippy, a police horse in New York City, who, because of his calm submission to his rider, helped rescue other horses in a circus fire. The students were very attentive and had lots of questions. They presented us with a cookie cake afterwards as a thank you. It was a joy to visit with Mrs. Rigg's Adaptive Living Skills class. They want to schedule a time with the horses in the spring.



Colton

We have been working with autistic rider Colton for over a year now as a special needs riding student. We were so excited to hear from his mom that "because of prayer and riding horses" he is now staying dry during the day. Colton is twelve and has gone from riding for a half an hour to an hour each Saturday. One can imagine what a huge milestone that has been for his parents! Please continue to pray for him that this would be just the beginning of the control and awareness necessary.



Tax Exemption!!

We are so excited to announce that our non profit 503 (c)(3) status has finally come through. We are now an official non profit charitable organization.

Dupont Trail Ride Redirected

Our day after Thanksgiving trail ride was another testimony of how the Lord works. We had planned as usual to go to North Carolina to Dupont State Forest. Thanksgiving day we took one of the extension wranglers out to dinner and then to the ranch for a short trail ride, afterwards we loaded horses to bring back to our place in Travelers Rest for the next day. We got home just at dark, and I noticed that one of the horses had jerked a shoe off. I called our good friend and farrier Truman to see if he could help us out. He had thought about coming on our trail ride earlier. He told us that the weather forecast said snow in the mountains and 20 mph winds. He advised not to go because of the trees falling in the wind. He agreed to take us



on another trail ride north of Clemson in lower elevation. We still braced ourselves as it was going to be cold and windy even there. We had been praying for the weather, but, frankly, as I wrote to the riders the day before, I thought the Lord just wanted us to "cowboy up" and endure. I did not have much faith.

As it turned out we had a beautiful sunny day and everyone really enjoyed the ride. Many decided it was their favorite. JB said it was the most peaceful day he has experienced, because of his post-traumatic distress syndrome condition, since Viet Nam. He attributes it to, first of all, the Lord, and then riding and experiencing the creation that the Lord has provided through horses and the trail ride. Praise our Lord for His faithfulness to us all!



At lunch time Curt shared from Ephesians 2:8-9, that it is by grace we are saved through faith; and that not of ourselves: it is the gift of God; not of works, lest any man should boast.

Testimonies

. . . And thanks to you and the wranglers who taught me enough to finish Level One. As I think you know, I really enjoy my lessons. I appreciate the spiritual principles along with the horsemanship. Sometimes I think I learn the horsemanship slowly, but I do keep learning, and that's a blessing.

~Grace, riding student and avid horse show and trail riding participant

. . . The Lord showed his power to me in sooo many ways this Thanksgiving break!

- He provided my family with a much needed car
- He allowed someone to be burdened to give me \$150, so now i have the money I needed to pay for the Netcasters materials!
- He also burdened another family to give \$250 toward a car for my brother and me
- And even more, the same person that gave me a \$150 said that they are cutting back on their budget so that they can help more when I come back for Christmas to buy a car, so I will be able to purchase a car to come back to school!
- But the biggest blessing of all is that my Dad has finally begun to see how to truly trust God!

I can't stop praising the Lord for all that He has done in the last week! Not only because of the things He has given me, but just for the fact that He is an amazing and caring God even about the little things He gives over and beyond what I could have ever asked! Sorry it is such a long email but as you can tell I am excited! :)

*~Caleb, extension student, who is praying about being a wrangler counselor
for the TW Quarter Circle Ranch this summer*

Praise for Continued Support

Anonymous gifts from Faith Baptist Church of Taylors members-monthly
Heritage Baptist Church-Titusville, Florida-monthly
Grace-Greenville
JB-Greenville
Lloyd & Nelda-Greenville
Ranch Volunteers
Martha-special weekly prayer support
Don & Martha-Fountain Inn-donations
Double S Ranch-Fountain Inn
Connollys Saddlery - Billings, Montana
Sara-Indiana
Prayer Warriors
Kenneys-Germany-advice and book

II Thess 3:1: Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may have free course, and be glorified, . . .

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Training horses and riders
The Montana Connection
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And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and He that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He doth judge and make war. His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns; and He had a name written, that no man knew, but He himself. And He was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and His name is called The Word of God. And the armies which were in heaven followed Him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean.

*Revelation 19:11-14
We win!*