

November 2013

The PCA Global Missions Conference

the Spirit moves



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Dear Family and Friends!

3 days, 2324 attendees, 4 dynamic speakers, 76 breakout sessions with a wide range of inspiring topics and many opportunities to see how the Spirit is moving around the world. The PCA Global Missions Conference, held in Greenville, South Carolina at the beginning of this month, was a great opportunity for both Ryan and me to examine our hearts, engage in intentional conversations about future ministry and to be surrounded by other missions minded people.

In Ryan's Words

Surprisingly, the most memorable moment in Greenville did not come from the incredible sessions, moving messages or even in the countless conversations with new friends. This moment actually happened within the first hour of arriving, in the taxi to the hotel. Our cab driver, Corey, began the conversation about God and Billy Graham which lead to him asking us questions about wisdom and the fear of God. Corey also shared his story. In less than a year he went from homeless to husband and father. And before we walked into the hotel, we laid our hands on him and prayed. I am thankful that God gave us the opportunity to bless and encourage Corey. This was a special moment that I will not soon forget. Especially since it gave me a glimpse of how well Joy and I work together as a team while ministering and reaching out to others.

The theme of the weekend was "the Spirit moves". It was encouraging to hear how the Spirit was moving around the globe and moving in individual lives as well. During one of the breakout sessions we were reminded that if you don't make or allow room for the Spirit in your life, the Spirit will just break in. Since arriving back from Papua New Guinea, I have been learning this lesson the painful way. In a world that is loud and busy, it is often difficult to find time to step away, be quiet and listen. And I do not like listening for fear that what I hear will cause me to give up more of my perceived control. But I continue to need this reminder and it is sweet to begin seeing how Ryan and I are starting to listen together.

We both came away from the weekend convinced that we are moving in the right direction, even though we recognize that our converging paths may ultimately lead us elsewhere. It is exciting to see how God is working in each of us individually as we continue to explore what it could look like to move forward with life and ministry as a couple.*

The Spirit was moving in during our taxi ride (see In Ryan's Words). The Spirit is moving in our lives. The Spirit is moving globally.

Joy Candee :-)

*This is not an engagement announcement.

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