

Saturday, May 23, 2009

Dear Prayer Supporters,

I am reminded again today of our need for dependence on God and the necessity of prayer and am so thankful to each of you for your continued prayer support for our team as we serve here in Glasgow, Scotland.

It is hard to believe that tomorrow completes our first week here in Glasgow. These past few days have been filled with many wonderful opportunities. On Thursday we traveled to Paisley, a city about 20 minutes outside of Glasgow. Filled with addicts and users of all kinds, Paisley is among the most undesirable places to be from here in Scotland. Re:Hope participates in a ministry outreach to the city of Paisley called P.I.G. (Paisley Is Great). In reaching out to the young people in the community, P.I.G. attempts to bring hope to the broken and dark places of their lives to show them that the contrary is true. Great things do come from Paisley! The team sets up (usually in the town square where the addicts populate) but this week we set up on the lawn in front of Paisley Abbey where William Wallace is said to have attended in his day and handed out hot tea and biscuits (cookies as they are called here in Scotland). With their P.I.G. (Paisley is Great) display and bright colored Pink P.I.G. T-shirts it was interesting to see how the students were attracted to the site and open to sharing in conversation with Americans...Many came and we were able to enjoy some great conversations. Among those we met were Kat and her friends Emma, Ryan and Maxine along with several others (wonderful young people so desperately in need of the hope that Jesus brings). With the impact the economy has had on Scotland many of Paisley's youth programs have been shut down so P.I.G. provides a great opportunity for these kids to hang out in a safe place.

We've also enjoyed some great times having dinner with alumni Brian and Shawna Luse and Mike and Jaelyn Libolt and learning more about their individual responsibilities with the Re:Hope community. We were able to serve at the church by painting the children's area and cleaning out the balcony (last week Re:Hope reached attendance over 300 and had the opportunity to use the balcony for the first time--God is moving!). We've had individual opportunities to sit with Re:Hope staff to talk through the journey God has us on. Amanda was able to sit with Brian Ingraham and together they were able to walk through her spiritual journey time line in seeing where she is at right now and how God is leading her as she prays about future ministry here in Scotland. Katie enjoyed meeting with Jaelyn and was encouraged to be able to share her story and to feel heard and cared for as she explained how the different events of life have shaped her over these past few years. I was able to sit with Shawna and am feeling encouraged as well as I practice God's presence and "being" this week....so good for my heart.

This morning we had the opportunity to join the women of Re:Hope for their weekly prayer breakfast and we enjoyed a wonderful time together. Following our prayer time we went into town to pick up decorations for our upcoming outreach event, La Nuit (french for "The Night") that we will be helping host next week at Re:Hope as well as some souvenirs.

As you can see it has been a full few days but so good. Thanks for your continued prayers: Please join with us in praying for the students in Paisley. Pray for Kat and her friends that they

would come to know the hope of Jesus. Pray also for Re:Hope's upcoming outreach event to the community of Glasgow that God would arrange great conversations between the Re:Hope and the community and that the event would bring glory to God. Pray also for our team that God would continue to work in us and through us and that we would not miss out on what He has for us during our time here in Glasgow.

With deepest appreciation,

Michelle for the team