

THE CANAAN CONNECTION

www.canaanbiblechapel.org

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From the Study

by Pastor Dave

In his book, Living Beyond the Limits¹, Franklin Graham tells the true story of a middle-aged man who felt the distinct calling of God to become a doctor and serve in Africa as a medical missionary. The whole concept of returning to school was bad enough, but to uproot his family and move to such a remote location was a radical idea.

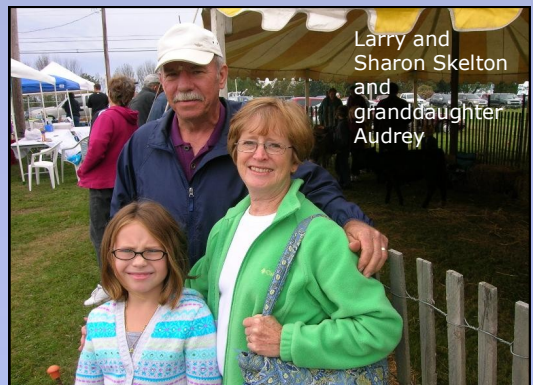
After much spiritual wrestling with God, the man stepped out in faith and asked God to begin His work. First, he had to go to medical school. Not knowing where to apply nor how this all would be financed, God began leading one step at a time through opportunities, people, and circumstances that were clearly His direction. The man submitted his application to medical school, and tried to put the thought out of his mind regarding the money he needed. As the days counted down to when he would have to register – and pay – the man became increasingly nervous and confused. Not one penny of support had come in. He had misgivings about whether or not he was being led to this, or if somehow he had imagined it all. Finally, the day came for him to register. As he drove to the school he began to devise and rehearse what he might say when asked to pay for the first semester. Even then, there would be books, lab fees, housing, and other expenses not to mention his family's needs.

Arriving at the school, his first impulse was to turn around and leave, but he could not – for the spirit of God was leading him forward. Standing in line at the bursar's office, he made notes on how he might be able to pay small amounts of money each month if he kept working. He could go back to the people he had previously contacted, and ask them a second time for any amount of money they could spare. Finally, he was at the front of the line. He reluctantly slid his paperwork across the table and waited. The registrar looked it over carefully, and consulted a piece of paper to her side. "Thank you," she said with a nod. "All of your expenses for the first two semesters have been paid. We have everything we need."

¹ Graham, Franklin, Living Beyond the Limits, Nashville, TN, Thomas Nelson, Inc. Publishers 1984

SOUTH CANAAN DAYS

Many thanks to all who helped make this possible. It was a day of fun and fellowship with our friends and neighbors.



Larry and Sharon Skelton and granddaughter Audrey

We don't know all the details of the next few years for that man, but he did go to Africa, as God had directed him, and practiced as a medical missionary doctor for many years. Without doubt, as he encountered new hurdles and obstacles, he had the confidence that if he moved ahead in faith, God would do the rest.

In the end, God only asks us to trust and obey. When you are listening for His voice, you know it when you hear it. Whatever God leads you to do, do it in obedience and confidence, and let Him take you one step at a time. ☺

Meet Our Young Adults—Theresa Black

I first felt led to come to Albright in November of my senior year of high school when I was planning out my college visits, and Albright was at the top of the list for size (relatively small), distance (relatively close to home), majors (good science program) and scholarship opportunities. After I visited, I decided it was the right one. Everything just felt "right" and I didn't feel the need to search anymore. I prayed about it and still felt led to go; I applied, got in, and went!

I started going to Muhlenburg Area Community Church (about 2 minutes away from Albright) last October, and I loved it right away. There is a small group of young adults (we from Albright make up most of it) that I love to spend time with; several of the people made it a point to talk to me and welcome me the very first week, and they continue to do this. The pastor and his wife open up their home to us almost every week for lunch, and there are several other families with adorable children that we can hang out with. It is just a great small community. Being away from home isn't bad...but sometimes I really feel the distance. Towards the end of last year, I was in fact considering taking time off from school. I wasn't coping with stress well and thought that a trip home for a while would be good. After spring break, I felt rested and ready to go back to school. God's blessing of a couple Christian friends here made it possible to get through; I could cry with them, complain, and celebrate, and they supported me in everything. This year has been a little struggle to get situated, but I am feeling more comfortable every week. God is teaching me that sometimes healing comes through tears. And I need to trust Him and know that He is the only one who will never let me down; He is the only one who perfectly relates to me. And that knowledge causes me to better appreciate the people that give their time to listen to me and help me. ☺



Theresa Black is a 2010 Graduate of CCA and is in her second year at Albright College.

Do You Know These People?



Pictured in the front:

William & Pearl Highhouse,
Sarah, Emily & Matt Madden,
Virginia & Claire Madden;

Back row:

Donald & Vivian Peck,
Lorraine & Eugene Bancale

"Children's children are
a crown to the aged
and parents are the
pride of the children"

Proverbs 17:6

Little Emily Madden doesn't know it yet, but this picture, taken at her dedication in July, will be something she treasures in years to come. Thanks to Grandma Holly Highhouse for sharing such a remarkable family photo. May God's fullest blessing be upon Emily and her parents as they establish a new generation.