

Young man and woman, baby

I want to thank all of you for your concern and prayers for the two young people who had gotten pregnant. Debbie examined the young lady, and indeed she was no longer pregnant. We do not know what happened to the baby, if it stopped developing because of the drug she took several weeks back, if she miscarried, or something else. She says she made no further attempts to abort and I choose to believe her. Her adopted mother did not agree for them to marry.

The young man has grown so much through this situation. After a rocky start, he has taken responsibility for his actions, was trying his best to do what he thought was right: to marry the young woman and also save the baby. He was prepared to go to the city and begin earning money to provide for the child and mother.

Though we hoped for a different outcome for the baby, I am confident the Lord has been in control and knows what He is doing. I don't think they were ready for marriage. I am no theological expert on these matters, but suspect the baby is with the Lord now.

The young man was allowed to return to complete his discipleship training, which I think is a good decision. I will likely take him back on as a teacher later, providing he continues to mature and grow in the Lord, but probably after a period of suspension. Before he left for the training he sat down with all our other teachers, confessed his actions and apologized to them for any consequences they may have to their reputations and work. Most of them were not aware of the situation.

He has skills in welding and could go to the city and make a lot more money than working with us, but has said he wants to serve the Lord. I am very pleased with his growth.

The young lady is preparing for high school final exams. I sense she is growing but at a much lesser level than the young man. She has developed an over dependence on the young man and is struggling with her immediate future possibilities. She has some painful baggage. Her birth father and mother gave her up when she was less than a year old, giving her to an aunt to raise. They are both alive, divorced, and show little interest in her.

Expanding the Children's Program

Please keep praying. We are still in the growing pains with the expansion into a new village. The staff have not been as organized as I think they are capable of, so we have some work to do. The kids in the new village seem to be very interested in what we are teaching them, perhaps the most eager new group we have ever had.

Some Stress

The last month has been stressful, with 3-4 other crises that came on the heels of the baby situation. I won't bore you with details now but Debbie and I are glad for a break. God has been working out the crises for his good purposes.

Thank you for all your prayers, concerns, and support. Please pray for God to open the hearts of all these kids to Him.

John