

Hello GraceChurch,

Feb. 2018

Zach Johnson here. Some of you probably don't know me or have only met me on occasion. So let me introduce myself a little bit, I always joke around and say I basically grew up inside of Grace Church because when I was homeschooled I did my school work in the sanctuary. I have been a member since the day Grace Church opened. I also volunteered at tons of different ministries that have been at Grace such as the youth group and Ezekiel. Grace Church of Columbia holds such a special place in my heart. It is without a single doubt a home away from home for me. On October 5th, 2014 Grace Church commissioned me to Newcastle, Australia where I have been serving as a full-time missionary since. The way I have felt lead by God to be a missionary here in Australia is by volunteering with a missionary organization called YWAM (Youth With A Mission). YWAM is a global movement of Christians that are dedicated to two things, To know God and to make Him Known! In August of 2017 I got married to the most amazing woman, Annie, I have ever laid eyes on.

To tell you guys about the heaps of different things we do with YWAM Newcastle, Australia, I will split it up into two roles. Our first role is we are the directors of a ministry called "Youth Street". With directing this ministry our roles are to oversee the many programs that Youth Street has in the city of Newcastle and also teaching/ training other YWAM campuses around the world about how they can start Youth Street in their city. So the portion of this role that we do in our home, Newcastle, includes working with local high schools, leading and discipling a staff team that has 100+ part time volunteers and 4 full time staff, recruiting more people to become full time staff, running a youth program on every Saturday for 10 - 14 year-olds, running a youth program on Thursday nights for 15-17 year-olds, Leading mission trips around Australia, and speaking/ working at different youth conferences in Australia.

Our other role is being on the core leadership team (an executive leadership team) of YWAM Newcastle. This means that Annie and I meet with a team of 7 other individuals weekly and pray through the next steps that God is wanting to take YWAM Newcastle in. We also help Shepard the 100+ staff that YWAM Newcastle has and the two of us are house parents for the main accommodation of YWAM Newcastle. Which houses the majority of our staff and students that come through.

With the decision to say YES to serve God in Newcastle as full time missionaries comes with its challenges/ needs but Annie and I have made it a value in our lives to rely and trust God for every need we have in life. A BIG need we have right now is finances. The way we see our different needs get paid off is by monthly support and different fundraising campaigns. We are needing to see our monthly support come way up to be able to get our different needs every month. The reason we ask and believe for monthly support is to see different needs to get paid for such as; our rent for our apartment, groceries, toiletries, gas money, doctor visits, medications, school fee's, and misc. items.

Annie and I have prayed/ thought through how much money we need to see God bring in every month and our goal is \$4,000 USD every month. Right now, we are about 18.5% of our way there. We are obviously not meeting this goal of \$4,000 yet but we are believing that God will push us towards the other 81.5% of that monthly support. We are asking that you guys, Grace Church of Columbia, will prayerfully consider giving to us as monthly supporters? Your contribution would be extremely appreciated and we know that God would use it to bless so many different nations around this world and help raise up the future generation of Christ followers!

We are SO incredibly thankful for the ways that Grace has done different things in the past to support us/ pray for us and have honestly felt them even on the other side of the world. We pray for you guys so often and are so excited to see you guys later this year when we return for a short visit!

Love you all,
Zach and Annie Johnson

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