



Musick Notes

March 2009
A “Wale” of a Time

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Hi friends,

I arrived back in Brussels on March 1. I spent most of February at the Wales Evangelical School of Theology (WEST), where Mark Pickett (a family friend from a long time ago) teaches.

Though several people have commented on how unfortunate it is that I could not get a visa to stay in Belgium, I am not complaining. Instead, I am thanking God that He brought me to Wales, specifically to WEST. To the students and staff of WEST: “I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all, making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the Gospel from the first day until now” (Philippians 1:3-5). God had His purposes in bringing me to Wales. Here are just a few reasons.

Why Wales:

- My time in Wales was an intense time of spiritual growth. God blessed me with a time of closeness to Him, both through my individual quiet times and amazing prayer and fellowship with the students at WEST. We had spontaneous times of singing “psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in our hearts to God” (Col. 3:16). The spiritual encouragement I received was a

reminder to me that no matter how strong I think I am, I need the support of others around me in the Body of Christ.



- As the students encouraged me in my faith, I also encouraged them in theirs. I was always available for discussion, prayer, or to just sit and listen. I shared some of the things I had learned at Wheaton and at Grace Church. I found that in many instances, God had taught us the same things in different ways. In Christ, we “are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit” (Eph. 2:22). There is one Builder, and it was a joy to see Him at work!

- My time at WEST gave me the urge to send everyone at Wheaton a message: Treasure the community you have! Make the most of it! We are not supposed to walk the narrow Way alone. Thank God for the opportunity you have to study there. You probably do not realize how unique Wheaton is; Christian liberal arts colleges and

universities do not exist in the UK. WEST is a Bible college, so all the students there are studying theology.

- Another reason I was in Wales was to have an opportunity to think more seriously about my job at BFA next year. Most of the students at WEST are hoping to go into some kind of Christian ministry. Up until now, I had been focusing on my training as a teacher. I see now that at Black Forest Academy next year, I will be much more than a violin teacher; I will also be a Christian mentor and role model for my students. There are responsibilities that come with teaching children of the church of God, “which he obtained with his own blood” (Acts 20:28). It is a very serious role, and I am humbled and excited that God has given me this special opportunity to minister to those kids next year!

What did I do in Wales?

People ask me what I did every day for 3 weeks. Each Sunday, I attended church with the Picketts, and went to their house for dinner and tea. During the week, I had lots of time to read the Bible and pray. I attended morning worship, meals, and church history lectures with the students of WEST. I did a bit of my own work also: I read 2 textbooks, wrote a paper, graded some scales for ISB, and wrote lesson plans. There was quite a bit of fun, too. In addition to running through the Welsh countryside looking at sheep, I also played cricket and a soccer/volleyball combination called foot-volleyball. I found a mischievous friend and we pulled a few harmless pranks. We took several trips to the sea in Wales, which was a blessing! Coming from Chicago, the closest thing I have to the ocean is Lake Michigan.



WorldVenture Update:

News from WorldVenture: I have officially been endorsed! This means that everything is set – I will be teaching at BFA next year, provided that God brings in enough support. Please pray about how you would be able to support me in prayer and/or financially. You can find my page under “Missionaries” on the WorldVenture website at www.worldventure.com.

What’s up next?

I have 5 weeks left of student teaching in Brussels now. My responsibilities have picked up, so I am teaching the full class period for most of the orchestras. It is fun and rewarding but takes a lot of energy. My brother Erich will be coming to visit soon, so I look forward to having a part of my family close to me again!

I ask that you pray for the following:

- Thank God for providing spiritual encouragement when I needed it.
- Pray that the passion I have for God now would not dwindle or shrink, but that it would stay strong.
- Pray that God would prepare me for my role as a teacher of missionary children.