

A THORN IN THE FLESH—Part 2

"Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. But He said, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness."—2 Cor. 12:8-9

In this 2nd letter of a 3-part series, we wish to update you on our vehicle situation. Since our last letter, our van was at the mechanic's for 10 WEEKS STRAIGHT and cost another \$900 to repair. (Thankfully, this money was provided in a timely way by funds raised from a garage sale on our behalf by Fran Greenough's Sunday School class in Mobile, Alabama). 1 ½ days after getting the van back, it had to be TOWED again to the shop (with a DIFFERENT problem). Kyle's immediate response, "I just KNEW it wasn't going to be long before our van died again!" Cody's response was, "How many times are we going to have to take it to the mechanic's before we get a new van?" Kendra's response was, "Oh no! Not *again!* "

I'm *happy*, however, to report four things to you in this update:

1. This time we took it to a new mechanic we found, paid only \$80, got it back after 2 days, and (with the exception of some minor repair work needed) it has been running well for a grand total of 3 weeks!! Ye!!! Vicki's response: "Don't you just feel like *royalty* now?"
2. We are learning contentment and gratitude, even during those 10 weeks it was in the shop.
3. There is currently about \$11,000 in our new car fund! This already puts us a little under half of what we need! Thank you SO MUCH to all who have generously and sacrificially given to this cause!
4. We will only mention our car need one more time in our newsletter context.

Thank you so much for the encouraging comments in response to our last letter (and for receiving it in the spirit with which it was intended), for your prayers, and for being such an important part of our life and ministry in so many different ways. WE APPRECIATE YOU!

