

The Winslows

Developing Christlike leaders for the Great Commission

BOASTING IN THE LORD

These last few months have been a flurry of activity for us. We left Singapore at the beginning of November and after briefly visiting family and friends in Houston and Saint Louis, we moved to the Chicago area at the beginning of December. We made a quick trip to Montana to celebrate Christmas with my (Matthew's) family and then in January, I started classes at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School. Since then, I have been working on reading a pile of books and writing papers. Sijie is homeschooling the kids and has been working hard to prepare lessons and keep the kids on track during the week.

Amidst the chaos of moving around the world, Sijie and I have at times both felt a little lost and unequipped to handle all the new things. Of course, the US is not a new culture to us, but it has been quite a while since we have lived here and it takes some adjustments to figure out how things work. Even simple things like cooking dinner can be a little hard when you aren't sure where to buy the kind of vegetables that you are used to cooking.

Recently I read Jeremiah 9 and was reminded that ultimately our competencies are meaningless apart from a deep abiding walk with the Lord. This has been an encouraging reminder, since it is easy to feel completely incompetent when moving to a new place. Well at least we can say that we are still seeking to know the Lord!

In chapter 9, amidst a prophecy of impending destruction, God reminds his people that wisdom will not save them, neither will power or riches. This is true for us as well. No matter how good we think we are in a certain area - how much power or wisdom or resources we have, ultimately what matters is knowing the LORD. We must know his character and actions and follow him. That is why doctrine is so important.

That is why we want to carefully study and understand God's Word. We want to understand God as he is. We want to truly know him and follow him with all that we are. Then if we boast in anything it will be in the fact that we understand the Lord.

The LORD says, "Wise people should not boast that they are wise.

Powerful people should not boast that they are powerful.

Rich people should not boast that they are rich.

If people want to boast, they should boast about this:

They should boast that they understand and know me.

They should boast that they know and understand that I, the LORD, act out of faithfulness, fairness, and justice in the earth

and that I desire people to do these things,"

Jer 9:23-24.



At our new home in Palatine, IL

FUN IN THE WINDY CITY

The move has been a little hectic and we certainly miss our community back in Singapore. Still, we are confident that God has led us here and we know that this will be a good time of preparation for more ministry back in Asia. Here are a few things that we have enjoyed over the past few months:

- ▶ **Snow!** We had a snowstorm when we first moved into our place here in Chicago. The kids had lots of fun building snowmen, throwing snowballs and just rolling around. Over Christmas, we also had fun sledding. Alethea, was fearless as she raced down the hill face first, flying over bumps.
- ▶ **The Doctoral Community:** I have enjoyed getting to know some of the other doctoral students at TEDS. They are from all over the world and it has been a good opportunity to hear about what God is doing in different parts of the world. I have had a few meals with different Chinese students and missionaries from China who are all thinking about how to proclaim the gospel in that part of the world.
- ▶ **Pizza, Hot Dogs and Chewing Gum.** Hudson has particularly relished the chance to eat Chicago dogs and deep dish pizza. All the kids have been excited to try different American foods and have been a little disappointed that we've had to limit their intake of "junk" food. Another big hit has been chewing gum which they had never tried prior to moving here.
- ▶ **Godly Faculty Members.** I have been very encouraged by several of the faculty members at TEDS. The three church history faculty members were all very warm in welcoming me and I have been impressed with their humble, godly demeanor and wisdom. I'm looking forward to learning from many of the faculty at TEDS.
- ▶ **New Friends.** Most of our new neighbors are very friendly. It seems that they are not believers though so we are looking forward to continuing to get to know them and to share the gospel with them. We are also thankful for the AWANA program at the church we have started attending. Our kids are enjoying memorizing Bible verses and meeting other kids.



Playing in the snow

Updates and Prayer Requests

- Sijie has still not received her Green Card. She is currently in the US on a tourist Visa and will have to go back to Singapore again in May. Please pray that her Green Card would be approved very soon!
- Matthew is writing a couple of papers about the history of the church in China. Please pray that he would do a good job as he reads and writes.
- We are still getting settled in and getting to know people here. Please pray that God would provide us with good friends and mentors during the time that we are back here in the U.S. Pray for our kids as well, that they would adjust well to life here and that they would find a few godly friends that they could play with.
- Pray that we would continue to grow closer to the Lord and that he would give us many opportunities to declare his glory to our new neighbors and others here in the Chicago area!

Thank you for being a part of our lives and ministry. We praise God for each of you!

If you would like to Support us, please go to: <https://give.cru.org/2789402> or make checks out to "Cru" and mail to us at 170 E Cedarwood Ct. Palatine, IL 60067.