

Title: Lots of Drama, Thank You for Your Prayers!

May 22, 2022

Greetings all,

Just a quick note to let you know about the Nurture conference in Nashville. There was actually a bit of drama. First, one of our tires disintegrated in the middle of a construction zone on the way there. Our ride was suddenly very bumpy and noisy, and when I realized that the road surface was fine, I glanced in the side mirror to see large chunks of our tire sailing away from our car and into the construction area. We had to drive on the shredded remnants of the tire for maybe a quarter of a mile before we could get out of the construction zone and pull to the side of the road, which was a bit hair-raising since we and the rest of the traffic through the construction zone were traveling at 50 miles per hour, but we eventually found a safe spot and no-one was injured. Fortunately I had just recently gotten a new tire for our faulty spare, so that it was fully road-worthy. (This was especially fortunate, since it is now difficult to get tires for our twenty-two year old car – I had to special order the new tire for the spare, and it took a week for it to come in.) It was a bit comical to see all of our gear and bookstore inventory piled along the side of the road (necessary to get to the spare tire), but we were able to fix the problem without additional incident and were back on the road in 30 minutes.

When we got to our hotel in Nashville, I decided to check on the status of the new laptop I had ordered months earlier. I had actually ordered the new laptop with the intention of using it for the conference (my twelve-year-old-dinosaur laptop has really been struggling), thinking we would get it with plenty of time before the conference (the sales rep had assured me that this would be the case). Unfortunately, we kept getting delay notices instead of the laptop. Finally, on the day before the conference, I sent our small-business account manager a note to make sure that it would not be delivered while we were away. We were assured that this would be taken care of. But I decided to just check on the order anyway, more out of curiosity than anything else, since it had still been listed as “in production” when I had checked the day before. I was horrified to discover that it had been delivered while we were on the road, and had been sitting on our porch for more than four hours. We frantically called one of our neighbors and asked if she could see if it was still there, and if so, pick it up for us. Thirty nail-biting minutes later we were grateful to hear that it had not been stolen.

When we went to the Lipscomb campus to get everything in place for the conference, we discovered a major tangle with respect to admin for the book table. Fortunately, we had brought our own point-of-sale gear, “just in case,” and Charlotte was able take over and get everything set up in time for the first session in the evening.

Finally, we encountered problems with my PowerPoint presentations, so that none of Charlotte’s beautiful animations would play correctly.

Other than the above, the conference went really well. It was wonderful to connect with Dr. Wilder, the other speaker (Jennifer Barnett), and many who were attending the conference, and it seemed that our material was well-received.

So THANK YOU to those of you who were praying for the conference and for our travel. I don't want to think about the drama we might have encountered without all of the prayer support. 😊

Blessings,

Dr. Lehman/Karl

P.S. Please continue praying for the volunteer who is helping us with the project to make all of our DVD content available as online courses. She lost her mother shortly after we started the project, and has been swamped with a thousand various tasks ever since. (She is the executor of her mother's estate, she had power of attorney due to her mother's severe dementia, and she is also the sole successor trustee, so she is essentially having to take care of everything.)