

## Loftus' Lifelines

The psalmist sang, *"Oh God, thou art my God; early will I seek thee: my soul thirsteth for thee, my flesh longeth for thee in a dry and thirsty land where no water is; to see thy power and thy glory..." Ps. 63:1,2a*

At this Christmas season, we reflect on the amazing ways in which God revealed himself to people at the advent of Jesus. The shepherds outside Bethlehem yearned to see God's power and glory just as the psalmist did many centuries earlier. God's answer to their longing hearts included the angelic host filling the sky with praise, and an opportunity few others had to see the Babe in the manger!

Perhaps the sweetest part of the past few months for Dean and Lorie, aside from just being together, has been the ways in which God, our God, has drawn us to prayer both as a couple and individually. The more we pray, it seems, the more people and problems come to mind for more prayer! God loves our dependence on Him! He is faithful to answer!

## Fall to Winter

In early September, our team hosted the Ladies' Retreat at camp. Extending the summer camp theme of *Wagons West*, the retreat focused on "Traveling the Trail of Life." Our speaker, Tami Matney (former camper and counselor at Red Cliff, now a Pastor's wife in Casper), led the ladies on a beautiful journey into God's Word. Lorie had the privilege of teaching a workshop (on a hike ☺) as well.



One week in late September Lorie traveled with her dad and mom to Wisconsin to visit friends and family. Dean flew in at the end of the week, and together they began a two week recruiting trip at Bible colleges in WI, IA, and SC, followed by a ladies' retreat in CA at which Lorie spoke. Though tiring, the three-week-long trip proved to be a blessing.



While at home in mid-October, Dean worked up at camp and in the office in town catching up, and following up with contacts from the recruiting trip. As time and weather allowed, Dean and Lorie worked on a few house and yard projects before the snow arrived. Though without a harvest, Dean hunted elk with Phillip and friends for a few days, delighting in time in the mountains.

Traveling to Idaho the first weekend in November, Dean and Lorie had opportunities to share God's truth – Lorie at a Ladies' Fall Roundup, and Dean in a church service. (The story of the Lodge fire and the resulting challenges and blessings clearly demonstrate God's power and glory!)



After Thanksgiving, the second part of the summer recruitment travel took Dean and Lorie to CA and AZ for a 10-day trip. Since Lorie's parents live between the two colleges on the schedule, spending a weekend there worked out well.

Daily we thank God for His care for us. Truly, it's a privilege to serve the Lord in our home, in our church, in our community, and at Red Cliff Bible Camp. Thanks for all of you who pray and desire with us to see God's power and glory revealed on earth!

Because of Grace,

*Dean and Lorie Loftus*

### Praises:

- Safety in travel
- Gannett passed his check for the pre-med major
- Ike likes Ironwood and is growing there.

### Prayer Requests:

- Wisdom in care of our aging parents
- Wisdom in community service areas
- Wisdom in relationships

