

June 15, 2009

Emmaus Journey



A Journey *To And With* Christ!



Don't waste a single minute over-thinking the next corner or the one you just passed. Remember you are journeying toward and with Christ!



LIVING TRUTH
MINISTRIES

ARE WE THERE YET!!!

I'm the kind of parent who loves to drive everywhere I go. I would rather drive from Marysville, Ohio, to Houston, Texas, than fly. It's partially a money thing but probably more accurately a control thing. I have a hard time relinquishing control, but that's a topic for a later entry.

As any parent can attest, when you drive everywhere you go you're bound to hear those words that every parent dreads to hear—ARE WE THERE YET?

We've tried everything I can think of to eliminate hearing those words but nothing seems to work. We've left in the middle of the night allowing children to sleep for most of the journey. We've loaded the car with games and coloring books and all sorts of things to do. We've even planned small bursts of driving with stops so that we can get out and stretch—not a big fan of this one, however.

No matter what we try the result is always the same. We're not out of Ohio and the questions start—how much longer? "Daddy, are we there yet?" "Daddy, I'm bored!" "Daddy, can we stop?" "Daddy, I'm hungry!"

Impatience is a huge problem with so many people today—not just children!

I know that I'm not a very patient person and have a hard time waiting for things that I really want. That's really what this month's journal is about—waiting!

I believe that most Christians are by-products of our fast-paced culture. Everything is ready in an instant. We have instant coffee, drive-thru windows and fast food, tv dinners and microwaves. We even have microwave Mac & Cheese! The regular stuff only takes a few minutes, but we need to speed this one up too!

As Christians we want everything right now. That's the way that most of our outreach is structured. The vast majority of Christians I have met want to host an event or canvass a neighborhood with invitations to church and expect the following Sunday for the church to be FULL of new people. That's crazy.

We drive through our Christian lives whining those aggravating words—"Are we there yet?!"

For some reason we have a hard time admiring the scenery and taking in all that life has to offer. The problem with this is that many people who are still far from Christ can see right

through our impatience! I know several people who are not interested in church at all. For me it's not about getting them into church rather getting them to know the love of Christ through my actions, words and lifestyle.

The end of our journey is NOT getting people into church! The culmination of our journey is an intentional walk with Christ. We want people to know Jesus anyway they can. True—church is important and even vital but it's not the end.

This misconception is what causes us to question if we're there yet. When we don't know where we're headed, we'll be impatient the whole way there.

The next time you find yourself asking "ARE WE THERE YET?" - re-evaluate where you're headed. Ask yourself if you're just interested in the destination, or if the journey is what brings you excitement. When you can find joy in the journey, you'll be more patient. Enjoy the scenery. Meet new people. Make new friendships. Love the life that God has given you. Don't waste a single minute over-thinking the next corner or the one you just passed. Remember you are journeying toward and with Christ!