

The Oliver Family Newsletter

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Serving at NTM International Headquarters in Sanford, Florida
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Take Care of Your Teeth

Last July, my upper-left eyetooth started giving me trouble; it felt irritated and became quite sensitive to cold. After a week, I saw a dentist who said that it would clear up. It didn't go away, though, and thus began my dental ordeal. I visited other dentists and finally saw an endodontist who confirmed that the tooth had pulpitis (inflamed pulp) and needed a root canal.

In the process of dealing with my eyetooth, I discovered that I needed some other fillings also (despite the fact that I had a clean exam 6 months earlier). Unfortunately, some of the fillings turned into root canals and two of the root canals almost turned into extractions.

In the midst of this, when a root canal was really hurting, the endodontist reluctantly prescribed and I reluctantly took an antibiotic (in case the tooth was infected). Unfortunately, as the antibiotic killed off the good bacteria in my digestive tract, I again developed a clostridium difficile infection (the same bad bacteria I had three years earlier). We thank the Lord that through His grace, a healthy diet, some good probiotic (good bacteria) supplements, and your prayers, the clostridium infection has cleared up and my digestive tract is back to normal.

Since July, I have made 40 visits to 10 dental or medical professionals (6 dentists, 1 endodontist, 2 oral surgeons, and 1 Ear/Nose/Throat doctor). I've had 4 full exams, 2 cleanings, 3 root canals, 15 fillings, and more x-rays than I care to count.

So, the "storal to the mory" is to brush your teeth at least twice a day, floss every night, and perhaps cut back on the sweets too. The root canals still bother me some, but they are better than they were and I am thankful to be through this. We want to thank you for supporting us in prayer through this difficult time.

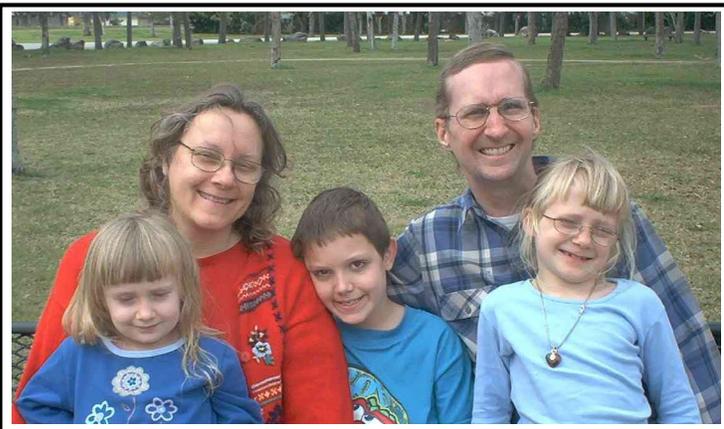
Upcoming Travels

Recently, Paula was able to take a much-needed break to visit some friends in South Carolina. Later this month, she and the kids will head out to Arizona for two weeks to spend some quality time with her mom and sisters. Then, in late April, I plan to fly to Jackson, Michigan to help install our NTM Accounting & Administrative system at our New Tribes Bible Institute. I had originally planned to make the trip last October, but had to postpone it because of my dental problems. I'm looking forward to installing the NTMAA system and helping our co-workers in the finance office at the Bible School.

God's Billboards

Have you seen the black billboards around the country, with short messages supposedly from God? Although the messages are not direct quotes from God's Word, they do get the point across. We came across a list of them recently and thought you might enjoy them also.

1. **Let's meet at my house Sunday before the game. -- God**
2. **C'mon over and bring the kids. -- God**
3. **What part of "Thou Shalt Not..." didn't you understand? -- God**
4. **We need to talk. -- God**
5. **Keep using my name in vain, I'll make rush hour longer. -- God**
6. **Loved the wedding, invite me to the marriage. -- God**
7. **That "Love Thy Neighbor" thing ... I meant it. -- God**
8. **I love you, I love you, I love you. -- God**
9. **Will the road you're on get you to my place? -- God**
10. **Follow me. -- God**
11. **Big Bang Theory? You've got to be kidding. -- God**
12. **My way is the highway. -- God**
13. **Need directions? -- God**
14. **You think it's hot here? -- God**
15. **Tell the kids I love them. -- God**
16. **Need a marriage counselor? I'm available. -- God**
17. **Have you read my #1 best seller? There will be a test. -- God**
18. **Do you have any idea where you're going? -- God**



Thanks for your love, prayers, encouragement, and support. Thanks too for your letters, cards, and emails.

We are thankful for the good health we are enjoying at present. Please check our web site, www.JPOliver.com, for current prayer requests. Let us know how we can be praying for you as well.

Your missionaries,

John, Paula, Nicholas, Joy, and Hannah Oliver ☺