

Further Up & Further In

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Encouragement in the Dark Much needed for the path is long

Previously we mentioned making a video to try and get our story out there, raising funds for our legal fees. That video is finally done! Please take a minute to watch it [here](#) and share on your social media platforms. We would greatly appreciate it!

Our lawyer in Dominica watched it, and responded with the best encouragement we have ever been given.

“Just watched this. It was very touching. I am really proud of you all and want to thank you for never giving up. For putting the government of Dominica on relentless blast whilst the rest of the world ignores our suffering. You are not an enemy of the state, but an advocate and, unfortunately a martyr for the Dominican people. Thank you for having the courage and audacity that Dominicans have lost to shame and degradation. And thank you for always leading with God.”

She gets it, more so than many believers we talk to. This isn't about us. This is all about God, His dominion mandate, Christ's Kingdom on Earth, and our job to help bring every Nation into submission (Heb. 2:8). God has chosen to use people to bring this about. He has chosen each of us for good works He has planned.

We believe God is using us to help bring Dominica to His throne, in submission. We're playing the long game here, so we press on until our King tells us otherwise. On that note, the 10th of this month found Jason and Gracia on a zoom pre-trial

hearing. This was the second and final one before the actual trial, now scheduled for December 3rd and 4th. This in regards to the lawsuit we have against the Gov't of Dominica for illegally arresting our three minor children. We have yet to hear if we'll be allowed on-island, to testify in-person. That (and the outcome of the case) are things you can pray about, God's will to be done. The judge would give no answers to our lawyer regarding that topic, only to say she'll "give more direction 14 days before the trial." I'm guessing she already knows we won't be allowed to attend, because we all know international travel with only two weeks' notice is not practical.

A Bit on Us Life keeps rolling!

Nathan: He turned 15 this month! Hard to believe how he's grown and matured. We give all the glory to God! Nathan was the house from the book *Goodnight Moon* for Knight's Fest this year. He made it to presentation in Speech Meet, meaning he was one of the best out of grades 7-9. You can watch it [here](#) (filmed by a Logos teacher). We allowed him to try out for a part in the Junior High mini production of *Alice in Wonderland*. He's the caterpillar! It will be performed the week after



... PRAISE ...

- A fresh year to glorify God.
- Norred Law coming beside us. (Watch the Video)
- Nathan turning 15, and having grown not just physically, but spiritually. We are very proud of the young man he's becoming.
- Jason being able to fix almost anything and setting such a Godly example to all those around him.

... PRAYER ...

- Wisdom as we continue striving to get out of debt and stand on our own feet.
- Knowledge and finances to keep our borrowed vehicle running and in good condition, plus the two non-functioning ones that we're buying to fix up.
- Gracia to find a suitable job.
- The kids' lawsuit to be expedited or the Dominican gov't choosing to settle with us.

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Spring Break and I had no idea of the time commitment until that schedule came out! He's pretty excited about it though. What he's not excited about is that after a crash on

the ice-skating rink over a month and a half ago, his hip is still in pain. We've done x-rays (all is well there) so we're on the road now to physical therapy. He's been removed from PE and other games at school and that's making him one sad young man. Do please pray for healing for him.

Elijah: She's been so busy with school and research papers and presentations it seems like all she does is homework. The most recent was a paper on Ancient Rome, drugs and poisons. I think she went into that for the mushroom aspect but found some very interesting information in the process. This project was also one she was given about 18-20 minutes to teach her subject to the class. For Knight's Fest, she was the Girl with the Pearl Earring for her class' skit and this was her first year for High Protocol, in which they ate dinner at the Historic Davenport



Hotel in Spokane, WA, then watched the touring Broadway production of The Lion King. Next

year (she and Nathan are already re-enrolled) will be her senior year and I'm sure her most challenging. She's slowly gearing up for it and we think she'll do great!

Gracia: She's still plugging along at home, cooking one meal a week, watching Felix often, starting to help me clean the house, working on her comic strip/book, digital art commissions, and now we have her looking for a full or part-time job, including offering her assistance to the church mothers who need help with kids, chores, cleaning, or cooking. We're also looking into her apprenticing with a local caterer. We'll wait and see what the Lord has planned for her.

Hannah, Benjamin & Felix: Benjamin started a full-time job with Jason at CHS last month. He's excited to learn everything Jason knows and is willing to teach him. Felix is now six-months old and making attempts at crawling. Even though he doesn't quite have it down, he's 100% mobile now and we've had to start watching him more closely. Hannah is doing a great job being a mother and wife. We're pretty proud of the godly young lady she's become.

Jason and me: Sometimes I think we have too much on our plate, but then I'm reminded that not all these things are going on all the time or at the same time. Also, our time on in this world is very short, in comparison with eternity, and God has given us good works to do. Therefore, we do what He places in front of us and ask for the energy to accomplish it and to His glory. Our work is to be a fragrant offering to Him. So, in addition to Jason working, he's also running sound for church (plus funerals and weddings), still trying to get the Maker's Shop up and going, working on vehicles and in the process of getting honey bees (amongst other



things). The past two Saturdays he was taking a class to learn all about them. As for me, I'm trying to work myself out of a job by handing over more and more responsibilities to the kids. After all, they are entering adulthood sooner than later and they need to swim, not sink. 😊

Jesus is King!

Until next time, the
Groggs

*You have put all things under his feet." For in that he put all things under him, he left nothing that is not under him. But now we do not yet see that all things are under him.
- Hebrew 2:8 NHEB*

