

OH NO! NOT AGAIN!



Jenny & John Karraker

April 2025

We had a car accident this week. It was our fault, but . . . there were reasons. We rear-ended a car stopped in the left lane on a busy thoroughfare. The car in front of it had stopped to let some geese cross the road. Neither vehicle had brake lights or flashers illuminated. Both the other cars had minimal damage and could drive away. Ours had to be towed and is likely a total loss. Additionally, both of us have come away with some new pains, especially Jenny.

How do we feel? Frustrated, embarrassed, and ashamed. Ashamed that it was our fault. Frustrated that this is the second of our cars to be demolished this year. Embarrassed because people of our education and maturity don't have these kinds of problems. Our friends have been SO VERY gracious to lend their help - a car to borrow, meals, and sympathy. Our insurance broker may not be so kind. We're likely not a good risk anymore.

We're currently reading the story of Joseph in the book of Genesis. In his early life, Joseph was a bit full of himself, boasting to his brothers about his dreams that suggested he was better than they were. But his brothers' jealousy came back to haunt Joseph. Sold into slavery, Joseph suffered servitude and prison. And yet, even in prison, the text says, "The warden paid no attention to anything under Joseph's care, ***because the Lord was with Joseph and gave him success in whatever he did.***" (Genesis 39:23).

The day before our most recent accident, we had had a wonderful day on campus. While delivering "thank-a-prof" cards to professors that students had written, we met several faculty members who were open to dialoguing about God and the gospel. One professor was a Christian and was happy to take a copy of the book we use, *A Grander Story*, to coach faculty on how to live out their faith on campus. All but two of those we met indicated an interest in talking further. Despite our trials, it feels like God is with us and "in" our efforts to take the gospel to the campus.

As noble as it might seem that we are engaged in campus evangelism, the Lord's servant must be humble. Our accident is humbling. It is a reminder of our need for moment-by-moment dependence - as well as defensive driving. We're grateful for God's calling - first to be His children - and then also to serve in the great task of seeking and saving the lost. And we're grateful to you for helping to make this possible. We need your prayers and partnership.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jenny & John". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jenny & John Karraker • 6403 Welham Road • Indianapolis, IN 46220
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jenny.karraker@cru.org • john.karraker@cru.org • notasquareinch.com