It's been a little bit of a whirlwind week for me. We landed in Vegas at 1 am from New Jersey on Saturday. I got home at 1:30 am and took a quick shower, repacked and was back to the airport at 3:30 am with Ray. We flew to Florida to have a few days together. Ray said the weather was supposed to be really windy so we wouldn't be able to fish, but it was absolutely perfect. We got to fish everyday. Just caught small fish, relaxing and fun.



Rayden lost his front tooth. Super cute.



Teancum has been teaching his children to work together. Even though Rayden is making more money than Mercy, if they put their money together, they will be able to buy the 3D printer. Teancum has been teaching the Law of Consecration, or to more fully look after one another and have things in common. He has taught them to look for others around them that may be in need and to offer help when possible. It has been a great lesson for them. They are working together.

Last winter Rayden and I were out. I can't place where we were but we were waiting for his dad to arrive. Rayden looked up at me and said "I really wish my Dad would get here fast." I thought he was doing okay so I asked "Do you need something?" He said "Yes, I need my Dad. Do you see that man over there? (He motioned to a man I hadn't been aware of), He looks like he needs help and my Dad will help him." He was right! There was a man who looked to be in need and his Dad did help him. What a great example Teancum is to his children. Help those around us!

Our family has had a big trip planned for 7 years to drive to Alaska. It was planned for 2021. We planned and prepared for years and had the trip scheduled for May and Covid stopped the world in March. The border was closed and our trip postponed. Over the past six months we have been preparing again. Ray and I flew home on Thursday, with the plan we would all leave Saturday night after the Destash.

On our drive to the airport, Brody called to say Sophie was giving Unity a piggy back ride and fell. With her arms behind her back holding Unity, her face hit the edge of the rocking chair. He was sure her nose was broken. Updated on our layover in Atlanta, Sophie had broken her nose, completely severing the cartilage. She would need to see a specialist and surgery may be needed. Brody was hoping to take her to a specialist the next day.



We arrived home late. The next morning we hoped Brody could get Sophie in to see a doctor. Brody had a seminary meeting early that morning and explained Sophie's situation. One of the other teachers happened to be good friends with a nose specialist. An appointment was set up for Monday morning.

All the food is prepared for our trip. The kids are excited to go. Motor homes are packed, but Sophie needs to see a doctor. No one wants to go without her, so all of my kids explained the situation to their kids and the decision was made to wait until Sophie can come. Unanimous! Rayden said "we can't go without Sophie!" I am grateful for them. I am grateful they love one another. I am grateful that my children are teaching their children to care for each other.

I have been thinking about the Law of Consecration. It is such a higher concept than what we think about today. President Kimball, a late prophet of the church said "When a giver gains control of their desires and see another's needs in light of their own wants, then the powers of the gospel are released into their lives. They learn that the law of consecration insures not only temporal salvation but Spiritual sanctification. The recipient receives with thanksgiving. In a pure form, one may partake of both temporal and spiritual salvation. They are motivated to become self-sustaining and able to share with others."

Elder Neal A Maxwell said "We tend to think of consecration only as yielding up material possessions, but ultimate consecration is yielding up oneself to God."

There was a time in the Book of Mormon where the people lived the Law of Consecration to its fullest.

Book of Mormon 4 Nephi 1:3, 16

3 And they had all things in common among them, therefore there were not rich and poor, bond and free, but they were all made free, and partakes of the heavenly gift.

16 And there were no envying, nor strifes, nor tumults, nor whoredoms, nor lying, nor murders, nor any manner of lasciviousness, and surely there could not be a happier people among all the people who had been created by the hand of God."

I hope that we can all consecrate ourselves to God and meet the needs of those around us. I know that our motivation to be better and meet the needs of others will increase as we do this.

With love, Leslie