

September 10, 2023

It has been busy and fun the past couple of weeks!

My nephews flew to Alaska to come fishing with us. One of them, Ethan, has had a lot of questions regarding how to acquire financial wealth. He wanted to come talk to us about our thoughts on the matter.

They were both ready to talk about how to obtain wealth and were a little taken back when we said "seek ye first the kingdom of God." They both said that they understood that so what was the next step? They wanted to discuss wealth principles. Each time they wanted to discuss how they were thinking they would achieve "financial freedom" I would respond with "where does seeking first the kingdom of God fit into that plan?"

After a few days Ethan said "I must not be understanding what you are saying. I read my scriptures, I pray, I attend church and I am a good person. You keep saying the same thing over and over again. Why?" I replied "it's because everything you are saying shows me that you don't understand what I mean." Ethan said "I really want to understand." And he started listening to the spiritual side of business.

No one wins in business unless everyone wins. Ray taught me that a long time ago. If someone feels they are getting a better deal than the person who is making the deal, you don't win... everyone actually loses. I have seen so many people over the years make decisions that actually hurt other people and say "it's just business."

Business should be able to help and bless the lives of those around you. With each decision you make, you should know how it will help/ affect others. You actually need to be aware of the ripple effect of each business decision. You should know how each decision is going to help those working with you.

Ethan started thinking differently and by the time he left his new business plans/ ideas were just perfectly followed through to be first "seeking the kingdom of God." I really enjoyed our time with them.



Brothers, Ethan and Spencer

New Testament

Matthew 6:33

33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

This scripture is also repeated in the Book of Mormon,

Book of Mormon

3 Nephi 13:33

33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

My kids all arrived throughout the week. We had these wonderful plans to float the river. We were able to take Zach, Belsy and Iron. It was absolutely beautiful. We had room for one more so Sophie sat in the back with me. She sang one line from a Barbara Streisand song for three hours. Finally, I got out my phone and played her the whole song...lol



The next day, a piece of a glacier dam broke off way up river causing the entire river to rise drastically. The river was high all week and no one else was able to float it. It was disappointing for everyone but just gives us all something to look forward to next year!

Rayden has become Grandpa's fishing buddy. They have spent many hours fishing together on the boat. Rayden just patiently waits for fish, happy to be here talking with Grandpa. He showed his mom how to fish one day. He told me she did "pretty good."



Brody was able to fish a couple of times... work sure gets in the way of fishing these days...lol. Life changes when you have a family to feed.



I love all these beautiful kids. Sophie lost a front tooth this week! All these toothless smiles are just so precious.

With love,
Leslie