



The King will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the **least of these** brothers of mine, you did for me.'  
- Matthew 25:40

## I AM LOVED NO MATTER WHAT

I want to start by apologizing for the length of time that has passed since we last produced a newsletter. God has done an incredible amount of things since we last talked most of which I will not be able to get to in this newsletter, but we have added a "news" segment to our website at [www.katalystministries.org](http://www.katalystministries.org) so that you can keep up with what is going on more regularly. Let me first say thank you to all of you for your continued financial support, encouragement, and prayers. Not only could we not do what we do without you, we would not even want to.

This first time I set foot on the continent of Africa, I knew that God had taken me there to teach me things that I could never learn in the comfort of an American church. Six years later, I stepped off a plane in Kenya, Africa to see with my own eyes the orphanage that our ministry has adopted as of June 2005. The orphanage which currently houses 41 of the 1.7 million orphans in Kenya is located in a remote village called Lemoru. Since June the orphanage has been run by two incredible young ladies from our ministry named Julie Mustard and Kim McKinney. By the time this reaches you, both of the girls will be back in the states for the holidays and some much needed rest. After a month or so here, at least one of them will return to Kenya to continue the work there. The children will be looked after by the matrons of the home over the holidays. You can actually read updated correspondence from Julie and Kimberly on our website, so let me expound on the spiritual impact the children there had on me in August of this year.

The question for us is not does God love us; the question for us is how do we respond to His love for us.

Since arriving there, Kim and Julie had been telling me about a young boy named Linus that reminded them of my son, Kaiden. Upon arrival in the orphanage I got my first look at this young boy who had been abandoned by the world to die. He ran to me and wrapped his arms around me with the same fervor that my own son would upon my return home a week later. After a time talking to him in English and realizing that he does not speak it, I finally said to him the one thing I had flown around the world to say, "Linus, I love you." His response broke my heart and taught me an incredible amount about our gracious God. Linus replied to me in broken English, "No matter what." Every night as I put Kaiden and Kait to bed I say to them, "I love you", to which they respond, "no matter what." These abandoned children had been taught the one undeniable truth about our God. He loves us no matter what. Romans 5 tells us that when we were still sinners, (orphaned by the world by our own sin) God showed His love for us in this, that He sent His son to die for us. The question for us is not does God love us; the question for us is how do we respond to His love for us. Jesus said that if we love God then we would obey Him and we would love our brother as ourselves. Linus responded to my love in this way, and my life changed that moment. Ezekiel 16 is one of the most brutal passages of scripture that God included as a statement to His people. He says that when no one cared about us, when we had been born and left for dead, He gave us life and love. Have you ever thought about what would have happened if upon your birth, your mother would have just let you lie there? You had no way to fend for yourself, to feed yourself, to live, but she took care of you and nursed you into what you are today. If the same way, God has done that for us, orphans without the ability to ensure life on this earth or beyond it. He has lavished His love on us and provided for us in ways that the world could never do. How have you responded to His love? There are only two ways. We have rejected it and chose to do things our way or we have accepted it and given up control of our lives here and forever. I have included a picture of Linus with a t-shirt we took all the children that



says on the front, "I am loved" and on the back, "no matter what." I would like you to at least allow your mind to ponder this question today. How have you responded to the incredible love and mercy of the Lord?

If you would like to partner with us in tending to the children there please call Andrea Honea at (325) 212-3796, and she will send you a packet on our sponsorship program that includes more information about the children and the work being done there.

O yea, by the grace and provision of God, we were able to hire Andrea Honea full time in June to tell me what to do and when to do it. Andrea has given us the ability to do more ministry in more places for more people, and still allow me to be recognized as daddy by my own children. We also completed a week long mission trip to Mexico in July with a team of twenty or so young people. We are running full steam ahead with our college outreach service each Sunday night called "the Way", and traveling to at least two or three different cities a month on Wednesday nights to do community youth events. We did a youth camp in New Mexico in July and have done youth events in ten or so other cities since that time. The year is now slowing down for us a bit, just in time to set up the new house that we moved into a month ago. Wow, who said walking with the Lord was boring?

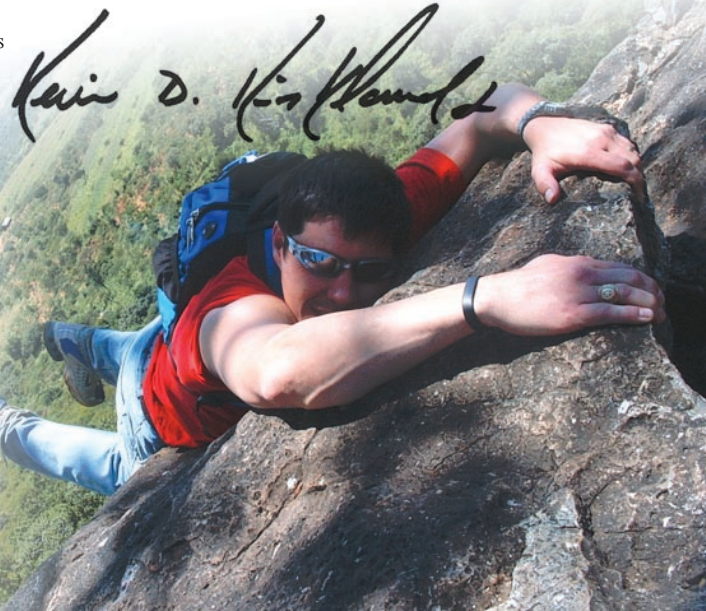
Kimberly and the children are more beautiful today than ever, and I am having a very difficult time adjusting to life as a 30 year old. My mind says I can do one thing, but my body disagrees. My mid life crisis is in full swing but so far no tattoos or strange new piercings. (not that I have not thought about it, Kimberly just keeps saying "NO.")

I could just write and write, because my heart wants to share with you every story of God's incredible faithfulness and grace, but I will not. We have seen literally hundreds upon hundreds of people come to Jesus in the past four months, and still my heart breaks for the lost. I want to close with this: Let us not be a people who take the love the Lord

has bestowed upon us and in our arrogance worship the things our hands have made. Let us be a people who recognize our orphaned state and thank God for His love by admitting our weakness and trusting in His strength.

Kimberly, Kaiden, and Kait send their "hello's", "thank you's" and their "I love you's" to you all. Check out the website for a recent picture of the family and more pictures of our summer trips and send me an e-mail. Stand up today for the "least of these," and receive the "no matter what" love of our gracious God.

Love Jesus  
Love you



## LEAST OF THESE

**16 But Jesus called the children to him and said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. 17 I tell you the truth, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it."**  
**Luke 18:16-17**

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### November 2005

- 2 Katalyst Youth Reach, Big Lake, Tx.
- 3 "Least of These" Kenya orphanage planning meeting at 5:20 p.m. at Chrstian Church of San Angelo
- 6 the Way- 7:15 free food, 8 P.m. worship service- John Glenn Jr. High cafeteria
- 10 Fellowship of Christian Athletes Ralley- John Glenn Jr. High 6 p.m.
- 13 the Way
- 16 Kaiden Kirkland's fifth birthday- thank you Jesus for my son
- 20 the Way
- 30 Katalyst Youth Reach- Ozona, Tx.

A full length newsletter  
will be arriving around  
CHRISTmas time.

### December 2005

- 3-4 Youth Retreat- Portland, Tx.
- 4 the Way- 7:15 p.m free food, 8 p.m. worship service- John Glenn Jr. High cafeteria
- 7 Katalyst Youth Reach, Big Lake, Tx.
- 11 the Way- last of the semester
- 11 the Gathering - Area Wide Youth Discipleship Training
- 14 Cornerstone Christain School Chapel
- 15-31 Time with my family- no events

### Address Change Notice

Our new address is:  
5825 Melrose Ave  
San Angelo, TX  
76901