

Joel's Journal

Deny yourself, take up your cross, & follow Jesus! (Matthew 16:24)

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Reach out; Be a loving, Christian friend!

Hi there, friends! How are things?

Thanks bunches for your prayers & support & encouragement & e-mails!

I enjoyed the medical conference in Kenya, & then the EFCA-IM Tanzania-field missionary retreat in February. They were both excellent! Good talks. Great people! And heartfelt worship of our AWESOME God!!!

Now, I'm back "at-it" — seeing lots of sick people in our two mission-clinics. May God bless & truly heal them, both physically & spiritually! May God use me to show HIS love & compassion to these needy people! As I treat them & then pray with them for God's healing & help, may they sense HIS hands of loving care. Thanks for praying with me!

I'm still playing piano/keyboards on Sunday mornings for the Worship Services. Thanks be to our merciful God, for sending us Jesus, to save us! He bore our sin. He paid our penalty. He makes us righteous before our Holy God!!!

Things are going well with Tomas, my medical student. We now have 3 new US volunteers (one fellow, two gals — in their mid-20's) too. They are on a "missions internship" with us. May God grow them & direct their future!

I've begun planning my furlough time for Fall 2004. I'll be back to the USA from August through November. I hope to see you then!!!

Love ya, Dr. Joel



EFCA-IM's Tanzania missionaries at retreat

Dr. Joel



Dr. Joel at clinic with little girl

Playing keyboards in church

What has God been teaching me lately?

Am I using my gifts/talents/passions/time/money/etc, to grow our local church & to glorify God? Serve with **humility**.

Am I reading God's Word daily, & letting it speak to my heart, what God wants to say to me for today?

Am I taking time to REALLY listen to God's words & heart? Or am I too busy serving Him in one ministry or another, to stop & worship Him?! Often, God uses suffering/hard-times to teach key lessons.

Am I truly pursuing a deeper intimacy with God? Taking time to faithfully seek Him, & to really know, love & serve him with ALL of my heart & soul & mind & strength? **Die to self. Live for HIM!**

Am I abiding in Jesus? I am a simple branch. He is the vine. I can't bear fruit without Him! Without the Holy Spirit's power & direction in my life, I am "spinning my wheels"... I NEED YOU, Lord! Holy Spirit, have your way in me!

JOEL'S SCHEDULE:

- Daily clinic medical work

- Weekly leading music/worship

- Praying with patients

- Friendship evangelism

- Witness to HIV patients

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- *Salvation for these families: Katakia, Vadgama, Parmar, Khan, Fagela, Dawda, Fonseca, Vyasa.*
- *Physical & Spiritual Healing for our clinic pts.*
- *HIV-outreaches/ministry*
- *Special evangelistic Easter services*
- *Growth of our 2 (Indian-Hindu-Gujarati & African-Muslim-Swahili) Church-plants in Dar. Leaders.*
- *My co-workers — both missionaries & nationals. Unity. Love. Harmony.*
- *My personal spiritual growth, prayer times, & boldness to share Jesus!*

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