

The Lowedown

A monthly newsletter from the life and ministry of Dave & Jennifer Lowe

October 2006

A Hard Fall

Jennifer and I have recently determined that our son Jacob is a head injury waiting to happen.

Two years ago, Jacob and Joshua were running around the house, acting crazy and excited as they normally do when people come over. They are extremely social and they love people.

As can happen when kids run around excited, Jacob hit his head on the corner of the door and split his forehead open, requiring an ER visit and seven stitches. That scar on his forehead is about the only thing that helps most people, including his teacher, from distinguishing him from his brother Joshua.

In August, when we were on vacation, we visited a small theme park. The boys were enjoying all the little kiddie rides until Jacob, getting off of one of rides, slipped and fell face first, hitting his forehead directly on the hard pavement. It was a HARD fall, accompanied by a loud "SMACK."

It was as if it was happening in slow motion as I saw the entire scene unfold. I immediately ran to him as he began screaming. As I picked him up, I saw the largest, goose-egg sized contusion protruding from his forehead.

We immediately rushed him to the Medic's station and got some ice on his forehead and got him checked out by an EMT.

The EMT didn't think there was a concussion but he advised us to monitor it. After a few minutes, Jacob calmed down and it seemed that he was ok. We continued our fun at the park.

A few hours later, however, he began vomiting. We weren't sure if it

was due to the head injury or the fact that he had just gotten off a ride where there was some spinning.

To be safe, the EMT suggested that we get him checked out. We heeded that advice and found ourselves, once again, in an ER, waiting for Jacob to get his head checked out.

The doctor that finally checked him out thought he seemed fine but wanted to get a CAT scan just to be safe.

The CAT scan was inconclusive so the doctor decided that Jacob needed to be admitted overnight for monitoring. The problem was that there was no room at that hospital so Jacob had to be transported by ambulance to another hospital 40 minutes away. After spending the night in the NICU, Jacob had another CAT Scan that showed everything was clear. Jacob was finally cleared to be discharged.

Fortunately, there was no serious injury for Jacob. Further checkups have shown no problems. However, just last week, Jacob again slipped in the kitchen and hit his noggin on the floor tile. Another head bruise ensued, albeit much smaller than the previous one.

As the bills start coming for our more expensive than anticipated vacation, and as we hear Jacob crying in the background once again from a head bruise, we are starting to wonder if we should require Jacob to wear a helmet at all times.

At this point that seems extreme. But who knows? One more hard fall might actually cause us to reconsider.

A Crazy Fall

We are either 5 weeks or 8 weeks into our Fall ministry, depending on how you look at it.

We began our fall about three weeks earlier than usual by launching a ministry at Sac State. That week was long and hot as we conducted over 2000 spiritual interest questionnaires on campus, shared Christ with numerous different interested students and had our first weekly meeting.

After 8 weeks, the ministry is settling in. We have about 15-20 students involved, which is about twice the number of students who were involved last year. The leaders are very committed and the exciting thing is that we have several freshmen who seem to be committed to getting involved. This was our chief goal all along and it looks like we are on track in the early phases of building this new movement.

At UC Davis, we started a little over 4 weeks ago with over 3000 spiritual interest questionnaires, 3000 newspapers and host of activities designed to reach freshmen during the first week.

All of our ministries are up and running and we are busily trying to get more freshmen involved.

One cool thing to report is that we ran some ads on Facebook (a college community website). The ads promoted our evangelistic website: everydavisstudent.com. After one week of ads we had 1300 UC Davis students visit the site, of which 18 indicated decisions to trust Christ. Praise God!

Please keep praying for us as we continue to reach out to lost students through our multiple movements at UC Davis and Sac State.