

The Lowedown

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

October 2008

Settling in the OC

Last weekend I was actually in Northern California attending the UC Davis Campus Crusade retreat. I set the retreat up over a year and a half ago and the speaker was one of my good friends and mentors, so I did not want to miss out on it.

I was in Davis for only about 24 hours which was pretty weird considering we had moved out of town only 3 weeks earlier.

During that time, I ran into several people I knew. That is one of the fun things about living in Davis...no matter where you go, you're likely to see someone you know. We definitely miss that here in Mission Viejo. Life seems a lot less personal right now.

Our move was not without its problems. While the sale of our house went off without a hitch, it seemed that the purchase of our home was not quite as smooth.

On the day we were moving out of our house, I could not tell my movers when to deliver my stuff; I had not gotten an answer for when our house would actually be available.

After finally getting a solid move-in date, I arrived in Orange County the night before and called my realtor to see about getting the keys. The problem was that she didn't have the keys and was not able to get a hold of the seller's agent.

The next morning when my movers showed up, we still did not have the keys. I had to break into the house in order to unlock the front door and let the movers in. Of course, once I got into the house, we discovered that the keys we needed had been left on the fireplace mantle inside.

People have asked how we're settling in and how our boys are doing with the move.

I would say that Jacob and Joshua are doing well. They have been very good through all this. They haven't complained at all and have

generally had pretty good attitudes.

We enrolled them in school right away and they were placed in separate classes. We were pretty nervous about that but we're pretty happy so far with their teachers.

Jacob's teacher in particular is a very outgoing and friendly woman who has many years of teaching experience.

A few days ago, she approached Jen and asked, "are you and your husband on staff with Campus Crusade for Christ?" Apparently, she had gotten Jacob's file and seen our employer.

Jen told her that we were indeed working with Campus Crusade. She then told Jen that she is a Christian and had gone on a Campus Crusade summer missions project when she was in college years ago.

Later, when Jen told Jacob that his teacher had Jesus in her heart, Jacob said, "I thought so. When she talked to the class about the ancient Egyptians and how they worshipped idols, she told us that she didn't believe that. She told us she believed in Jesus."

I would say we're about 85% unpacked. To be honest, it has been a longer process than I anticipated. It's just so hard to figure out where stuff is supposed to go. The distribution of space is so different. In addition, after the first week, I've been diving into my job and there doesn't seem to be much time to unpack.

We are very blessed that the Lord has provided this house for us but to me, it doesn't feel like home yet. There are so many things that need work and need to be fixed and updated. I keep thinking about my friends in Davis who provided me help and advice on all my home projects. (You know who you are). I sure wish you were here. We have lots of projects in store for us, so if you want

to come for a visit and lend your help/advice, we won't turn you down. And we even have an extra room. ☺

As for my job, I'm slowly getting a feel for what I'm supposed to be doing. I'd say it's not as concrete as my previous role, which is the challenge. I know what we need to do, but the steps to get there are not as obvious. This will really test my leadership. I'm excited in many ways but in other ways, I'm quite anxious.

We certainly could use your prayers.

The ministry at Davis continues to do well. About 200 students attended their annual Fall retreat.

The Epic ministry has their biggest group ever. The Destino ministry continues to experience steady growth, and the Sac State ministry is also taking positive steps.

It was very strange to be there last weekend but not be the guy in charge. At the same time, it was good to see that the current leaders are leading and continuing to build upon the foundation that we laid. It was a reminder to me that God is in control and that He doesn't need me to accomplish His purposes. He will use whomever He wishes. He only asks us to be available to Him.

Currently, we are trusting Him to provide resources to help us reach the 1.5 million ethnic students in our region. It is a huge task; it is almost overwhelming. We definitely need the Lord to intervene for us.

Would you intervene on our behalf and ask the Lord to provide for us as we settle here? Would you ask Him to raise up laborers to reach students in this region?

Thank you for your partnership. We are very blessed by the many notes and e-mails of encouragement that we've received.

Also, please let us know how we can pray for you and encourage you.