

January 2009

2 Thessalonians 3:1 Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may have free course, and be glorified, even as it is with you:

So often we pray for those serving in the military in hot spots overseas like Iraq or Afghanistan and then really don't consider those troops who are stationed here in the states or other areas around the world. As I said in my last prayer letter, the military life can be a very lonely life. In 1994, while I was stationed onboard the USS George Washington, one of the sailors in my division went into deep depression and committed suicide while we were deployed. He was married and had 2 children. We have had sailors jump off the ship while out to sea and even in port. This past Thanksgiving, a sailor here in Mayport requested to go home for the holiday. His request was disapproved. That weekend, he committed suicide. During Christmas vacation, 2 sailors from Mayport went out drinking, and driving, ending in a sailor's death. Yesterday, about a half a mile from the main gate of the Mayport base, there was an accident involving a motorcycle. The rider of the motorcycle was killed. I have received many phone calls and emails from concerned parents and grandparents of those who are in the military. They ask for prayer for their child or grandchild because once they went into the military they strayed away from God and church. Therefore, when you pray for our military, (and please pray for them every day), remember **all** of our troops. Pray for their safety, salvation, and, if they are saved, for their spiritual growth.

In September, Richard and Charmaine accepted Christ as their Saviour. Two days after Richard and Charmaine were saved, Richard left to go to Army boot camp in Texas. He then went to Virginia for additional training. Two weeks ago Richard came home for Christmas, and he and Charmaine asked if they could be baptized while Richard was home on leave. Last weekend I baptized Richard and Charmaine in an outdoor swimming pool. I did not have to cut through the ice to get into the water, but for us Florida people, that water was cold!

Please continue to pray for my grandmother's salvation. Tomorrow she will be 102 years old. She just got out of the hospital from having pneumonia and is in poor health.

Also, continue to pray for Lou Anne. Her surgery went well but her recovery will take some time.

Pray for our daughter Nicole. God has impressed upon her heart to go to Peru to work with a missionary family for a year. She will attend camp BIML this July, then in January of 2010, she will fly to Peru.

God has used you and your church to bless my family and those we minister to in the Mayport area. I do covet your prayers. Pray that this year God will use my family and our church to reach and teach many military folks and their families for Christ. May God bless you for your faithfulness and your commitment to missions. Please remember the freedom you enjoy is because of those who serve in our military. Pray for **all** of our troops and their families each day.

In Christ,

Brother Chris War and Family