

June 5, 2013

I miss everyone at IBC! Some days I feel like I miss out being away, but there is a time for everything and now is my time to be a student.

My summer staying here at NTBI Jackson has been well. Thank you for praying for us who were searching for jobs (I now have 3! Praise the Lord!) and have decided to stay at the school to work and save up for next semester. Some of us girls here including my dear sister Jen Rabie and myself, have been working 10-12+ hours a day which leaves us very exhausted and sometimes very lonely. Our jobs in particular require a LOT of physical labor, some are/aren't very enjoyable, and I mostly work by myself with little social interaction. Some of us girls only get to see each other for 30 minutes or less a day due to our varying work schedules and we really miss our families back at home. However, we are thankful!!!

This experience has been very trying and has been bringing me back to dependence upon God. I would just like to humbly ask if you would be willing to pray with me that the joy of the Lord would be my strength (Neh. 8:10) and that we together would depend on His strength for our spiritual, physical, and emotional needs (Psalm 28:7). I truly believe that the Lord is using this trial to train, sharpen, and prepare us for what lies ahead.

He has been teaching me to deny the flesh and walk in the Spirit. We together are counting all things as loss for the sake of knowing Christ (Phil. 3:8), to abide in Him and to know His grace, with the goal of sharing His Gospel to those who have never heard (Mt. 28:19).

Please pray that I would embrace each day with eagerness and rejoicing (Phil. 4:4, James 1:2) in the midst of tiredness, exhaustion, and loneliness (Romans 8:18).

Please pray for more laborers (Luke 10:2).

Please pray that 100 students would be enrolled at NTBI Jackson this fall! (Many of us students are praying for this together!)

I am so thankful that I have this opportunity to study God's Word. I wouldn't trade this time for anything, it has been ever so worth it.

I love you all very much and can't wait to see you again soon!

(Psalm 19)

Phil 4:23

Ashton Mallory