

***“Don't you see that children are GOD's best gift? The fruit of the womb his generous legacy?”*** -- Ps. 127:3 The Message

April 18, 2007

Dear Friend,

**“We're pregnant!”**

Not exactly the kind of news that I was prepared to hear at the moment.

I was lying in bed at the Holiday Inn in Kernersville, NC trying to avoid moving too much so as not to set off another wave of nausea. No, not from the announcement... from the stomach virus that had afflicted me earlier that day while preaching at Mount Calvary Baptist Church in Belew's Creek, NC.

We were supposed to start a FriendFluence conference at this church that evening, but had to cancel the event due to my illness and subsequent trip to the local Doc-in-a-Box place for IV fluids.

Secretly, I had expected this announcement. I hesitated to ask Penny because my heart knew what the answer was going to be.

Let me assure you, this was not in our plans. In fact, we sold all of our baby things after moving to the new house – except the handmade bassinet that Penny's brother made for Jeremy several years ago. Crib, high chair, car seats, strollers, crib sheets and all...sold! (You can stop laughing now...)

We had given up on the thought of having another child. Since many of you prayed us through losing Seth Joshua last February, I think you understand our feelings. However, we are thrilled at the prospect of adding to our family. At the same time, we are a little apprehensive for fear that we might have to go through what we went through last year.

I look at it this way; this is just another opportunity for us to trust God no matter what the outcome might be. Easy to say; much harder to do!

We had our first sonogram the other day and things are looking good so far. The nurse saw a good strong heartbeat. We ask that you pray for Penny and the baby as we wait for November 20 – the due date. Pray for Penny's blood pressure as she has some issues with that.

### **Now for Something Completely Different...**

This past month I had two opportunities to speak to a local group of business leaders from the Christian Business Network (CBN). According to their website, CBN exists to “connect Christ, companies and customers.” ([www.christbiznetwork.com](http://www.christbiznetwork.com)) Rick Caron, a local realtor with Keller Williams Realty in Cary, is the “chief connector” and founder of the group.

Rick has a great heart for people and for marketplace ministry. I met with him a while back at his second office, Bushiban Coffee Shop in Garner, and he invited me to speak at their Garner and North Raleigh meetings.

My message was about “*FriendFluence in the Marketplace*” from Acts 17:16-18. In the passage, Paul was waiting for Silas and Timothy in Athens. As he looked around him, the bible says he was troubled within his spirit because the city was full of idols. So he went to the synagogues, the God worshippers, and to the **marketplace** daily to witness to them.

My challenge to the business leaders in attendance was that they would influence those that God brought into their circle of influence for Jesus Christ. The outline was simple: if we are going to influence others for Christ, we must: 1) Open our eyes 2) Open our mouths 3) So that God may open their hearts.

After speaking at the North Raleigh meeting, one of the ladies in attendance who works for Capital Broadcasting said, “*I always have such a hard time talking to people about Christ. Thanks for your encouraging words. I want to be a better witness.*” Others made similar positive comments about my message at both meetings.

Rick Caron was so pleased, he later introduced me to a local optometrist who works with Priority Associates – another networking group affiliated with Campus Crusade for Christ. I have been invited to speak at one of their meetings in Fuquay Varina this coming September.

I want to encourage you to be like the apostle Paul. Open your eyes to the spiritual condition of those that God has placed in your circle of influence. They need Jesus more than they need their next breath! Pray for them! But most importantly, share the good news with them...

Under His Wing,



Darrel Davis  
Ps. 17:8

P.S. Pray for Penny’s morning sickness too. It should be called all day sickness!