



May 8, 2020

"...I could go on, but Scarlett you are young and I know that your attention span is not very long yet.

Scarlett, as I mentioned earlier, you have parents who love you so much... as well as a brother, cousins, aunts, uncles and grandparents. The grandparent part includes me. I love you so much. And God loves you too, even through this pandemic. I pray for you and I pray for this world because God says it actually belongs to Him and not to us. I hope that you remember that. And I hope that both you and that baby gosling grow up to be big and strong.

I wish you a Happy Birthday and ask that God bless you Scarlett, that He bless your life and also that you may live in harmony with all of God's creation, even that little gosling. Oh, I almost forgot ... I will hug you soon! I promise!"

Love,

Grandpa Todd

August 8, 2020

It's now been three months since I wrote those final words to my granddaughter Scarlett in an open letter to you who are on the Eagle's NEST mailing list. Much has changed, but much has stayed the same. The pandemic is still ongoing, God's creation is still being abused by humanity, but ... circumstances have allowed me to finally get some time ... and that hug I longed for, with my granddaughter Scarlett.

In fact, this past weekend Scarlett, Shawna, Trevor, Charlotte and I took a hike to Twin Lakes (above Huntington Lake). At 15 months old, it was Scarlett's first hike (carried on our backs, of course!). What amazed us most, was how much this young Scarlett enjoyed this experience. For over 10 miles, it seemed like she was in heaven here on earth. Her smiles, her noises that sounded like singing, and especially the constant gazing that she did - looking down and pointing at the wildflowers, looking up in awe and pointing at the trees and the clouds in the sky. What a glorious experience it was for us just watching her experience God's creation.

In the 16th century, Martin Luther proclaimed that "God writes the Gospel not in the Bible alone, but also on trees and in the flowers and the clouds and the stars". Oh, if all humanity could experience the creation like a little child did this past weekend ... and care for it like our children and grandchildren need us to.



Finally, like most non-profits, Eagle's NEST US has seen a significant drop in donations and funding during this pandemic. While, over the course of our seven years of existence, we have always requested funding from those we interact with, we have never really pleaded for donations to this extent ... until now. Whether it's leading a weekend retreat for a church youth group, a series of adult classes or working side by side with students building an organic garden, the Eagle's NEST model is that of hands on teaching, projects and interactions in large groups. But due to the pandemic, we have had to cancel dozens of adult and youth Expedition classes, weekend retreats, youth events and projects, community interactions, and our spring "Gardening for Good" fundraiser and educational event. In fact, 2020 on calendar, was looking to be our busiest and most impactful year yet of "providing quality creation education leading to better environmental integrity and conservation". And unfortunately, as of right now it certainly looks like our two big fall educational and fundraiser events "A Night at the Zooquarium" and "A Morning Menagerie" will probably be canceled as well. But it is important that we be ready when our community opens up again. So, with that said...

We need your help!

Would you please help us by making a donation NOW?

Any size donation helps!

For those who are willing to send a donation of \$100 or more by September 15 we have some extra Eagle's NEST logo'd items from past appeals that we would like to send you as a gift. Please send a note with your donation whether you would like an Eagle's NEST hat, t-shirt (list size) or coffee mug and we will send you that gift (while supplies last).

To make a donation simply click on the donate tab on the home page of www.eaglesnestus.org or write a check to Eagle's NEST US and send to: PO Box 322 Visalia, CA 93279.

If you are a regular monthly or quarterly partner (personal or business of any amount) please understand that you are valued more than you know ... you have kept us going to this point. Let us know what gift you want and we will gladly send it to you also with our appreciation. Thank you! So now, until our next correspondence, I wish you ...

Joy and Peace!

Todd Slinde, President & CEO

Eagle's NEST US

Providing Quality Creation Education Leading to Better Environmental Integrity and Conservation

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