“Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous! Do not tremble and be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.” Joshua 1:9

Note – this may be the first letter that you receive, but there are two earlier ones on the webpage that you can access here:


We are already half-way through the summer, and it is great to be hearing from students who are in summer rotations and summer jobs. In just a few weeks, they will be back in classes and fall rotations. I am excited about upcoming school visits and to see the new CVF groups forming in the fall.

As I write this, I am just getting settled back in Ontario after our ten-month sabbatical in Kelowna, BC. While it was great to be away on sabbatical, it is also so good to be “home” again. The sabbatical time allowed me to step away from part-time vet work, homeschooling, and many other responsibilities. This allowed me the time to pursue this position with CVM Canada – to volunteer, learn what the regional reps do and step into that role, and then be able to commit the time to learn the operational roles required as director. I’m so thankful that this is something that God has allowed me to do to serve Him at a time of life where my family is becoming more independent.

Continuing with the theme of “Strong and Courageous,” I have been thinking of the story of Gideon (Judges 6-7). When the Lord came to Gideon, Gideon was threshing wheat. He was a farmer, yet God greeted him as a “mighty warrior.” Gideon didn’t have experience as a warrior, and he came from the clan that was the weakest in Manassah, and he was the least of his family – Judges 6:15. Gideon didn’t have the strength or experience on his own to be a “mighty warrior.” But God had plans for Gideon; God was going to use Gideon to lead the Israelites up against the Midianites. To show that God was using Gideon and leading the way, He allowed Gideon to send home 22,000 of the 32,000 armies that were afraid. Then He had Gideon release the almost 10,000 men who kneeled to drink. Finally, Gideon and his band of 300 approached the Midian camp and “attacked” it by blowing their horns and breaking their jars, while God orchestrated the attack.

How often do we feel insignificant and inexperienced to accomplish something that God
wants you to do? I put off getting involved with short term missions for many years because I didn’t feel that I was qualified. I’m so thankful that I followed his call to take that first step of applying to the short term pool. Praise God – he has done the rest. Even a year ago, I never would have thought I would be doing this director role with CVM, but he has brought me along step by step and given me the strength and courage to press on.

Are there areas in your life where you are feeling inexperienced and lacking courage? Why don’t you take a few minutes to read the story of Gideon in Judges 6-7 and consider how God had a plan for Gideon and walked with him even though he was inexperienced and the least in his clan? God has a plan and purpose for you as well, and if you seek to follow his guiding, He will show you the next step along the way.

**Praise notes**

- Praise for a safe arrival back to Ontario and time this summer to prepare for the busy year ahead
- Praise for continued improvement with Stephen’s foot and that he was able to maneuver through 2 conferences and 2 countries in Europe with his crutches and AirBoot

**Prayer Requests**

- Please be in prayer for CVM Canada as we begin many of the fall events
- I will be preparing for school visits and conferences in the fall in both Eastern and Western Canada, so it will be a busy travel time
- Prayer for Zach and Jake as they finish up with summer jobs this month and head back to school in September