

# The Malkemes Family Update

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*He has showed you, O man, what is good.  
And what does the Lord require of you?  
To act justly and to love mercy  
and to walk humbly with your God.  
Micah 6:8*

**Our Marriage.** What a roller coaster of a year! As you may remember, last March we realized that our marriage was strained and our home was out of balance. Thankfully, God helped us over time readjust our attitudes, expectations, and commitments. Thank you for the many prayers and those of you who sent us on a date (or two)! Now with all three girls in school, we are rediscovering the joy we had early in our marriage of spending our days together working for The Boston Project. God has made us to serve alongside one another.



**Our Kids.** All three girls are in school together at the Lee Academy Pilot School. Grace enjoys being a "tall girl" now, and a student like her big sisters. She loves to spontaneously make up songs about whatever is occurring in her life at any given moment. Megan is responding well to counseling for mild anxiety and has the typical 8 year-old sense of humor that often displays itself in puns or laughter around bodily functions. Cady (6) recently celebrated her birthday with friends at her gymnastics studio and has exploded in her ability and love for reading.

**Real Life.** We often say "life is intense." God is walking us, both personally and as a family, through layers of challenges, choices, successes, and issues. We could elaborate on them all, but some would take a book and others are simply so raw it is difficult to share in detail right now. But in the spirit of keeping it real, here is a list:

- Healthier living - eat more natural-less processed foods, greater intimacy with God
- Growing racial awareness and positive self-image within our girls
- Should we remove an influence of culture by getting rid of cable?
- Hopes: *Glenna* finds a piano to enjoy music again. *Paul* loses 30lbs (*half-way there!*).

**Ministry.** Although we still like to think we are young, we recognize we are getting older. This has led to a changing role we have at The Boston Project now more as mentors than peers, with often a 10-year age gap between us and newer staff. Glenna and I are both studying Micah 6:8 this year and are beginning to teach and write curriculum based upon this theme. Justice, mercy, humility – it's what God calls "good," but it is such a challenge to live out. We are struck by the reality of what the world would look like if we all did what is truly good.

## Please Join Us In Prayer

- More play dates for Paul & Glenna in 2009
- God's shalom (peace) in Boston
- God's wisdom as we study and teach Micah 6:8
- God to equip us as leaders

## Financial Update

In 2009, our annual financial need increases by 2%. Every January/February, we ask you to use the enclosed **commitment card** to indicate if you can help support our work regular (monthly/quarterly). This year, we have some people who need to reduce their support, but we know others may now be in a position to financially give. **You are an important part of God's Kingdom work.** Thank you for considering partnership with us in 2009.



We spent a lot of enjoyable time with family this recent Christmas season.



▲ Grandpa Malkemes teaching the girls the fine art of pinball.



◀ Cady with grandparent's dog Olivia. Glenna and the girls have been conspiring to get our own Havana dog - even with Paul's mild allergies.



▲ Glenna introduces niece Jasmine to Nerts.

Megan and cousin Noah (NH) play online games together while talking on the phone. ▼



Stay in touch

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