

STARCHER SCENE

NOVEMBER 1, 2006

A CURRENT FAMILY REALITY - AMANDA

Over the past several months I have been faced with the fact that my will does not always completely match the Lord's. In June of 2005 Josh and I started trying to have children. When we got to Orlando in January I started to take my temperatures every morning to see when I might be able to get pregnant.

After 4 months of taking my temperature every morning I realized that I was not ovulating. At that point I made an appointment to see a doctor.

The doctor did many tests over 2 appointments and then diagnosed me with Poly Cystic Ovarian Syndrome (PCOS). As I researched PCOS I found out that it is often linked to pre-diabetes so I went in for a pre-diabetes test. The test for pre-diabetes came back negative and my general doctor suggested that I receive a second opinion about PCOS.

I went to another OB/GYN doctor and he confirmed the diagnosis as PCOS. Since I am not pre-diabetic he suggested that I start with Clomid (hormone enhancement) treatments as a first step toward pregnancy achievement.

I went on Clomid for 3 months without any success. My doctor wanted me to go on Clomid for another 2 months but the side effects were very severe for me and long-term use of Clomid increases one's chances of having uterine cancer. I decided that I did not want to continue on the Clomid.

I will be going to see a specialist next month to find out what other treatment options I might have.

Josh and I have both been fervently seeking God's will and direction for our lives through this entire time. There have been times of deep questioning and times of deep trust. It has grown us and stretched our faith. And it has drawn us closer to each other.

Over the last couple of months we have been feeling like God is telling us that he does not desire children for us right now. At this point we are not sure if we will ever be able to have children or not. It is a scary and saddening thought.

We continue to cling to what God says in Jeremiah 29:11, "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you a hope and a future."

Please pray for us as we continue to seek the Lord's will for our lives and his desire for our future parenthood.

CHIPOLTE

Chipolte gave out free burritos on Halloween for anyone who showed up dressed as a burrito. So we put on some foil and went with a few friends.

PRAYER REQUESTS

- Praise for closeness in our marriage.
- Pray for continued trust in God through our journey of infertility.
- Pray for clear direction from God as we make decision about next steps for infertility treatment and our futures.
- Pray the program Josh wrote for students to apply to summer mission trips will work without any major bugs.
- Pray for the Video Recruiting Conference Amanda is overseeing (from last prayer letter) happening Nov 7th.