

January 2020

The Lowedown

An update on the life and ministry of Dave & Jennifer Lowe



A Health Setback

I recently met a Young Professional for a coaching appointment over dinner and to my surprise, I saw another Young Professional who had attended a home group we hosted during the time in our lives when Jen was really sick.

Baxter had moved out of the area a few years ago to take another job but recently moved back to Orange County. Though we had exchanged some texts and engaged on Facebook, we hadn't actually had an opportunity to connect personally since she moved back to the area.

Having been around during the time Jen was struggling with her health, Baxter saw first-hand the effects of the disease and medications Jen was taking. Naturally Baxter was curious about how Jen was doing.

For the past few years, as I've been asked frequently about Jen's health, I've been able to share about how good Jen is doing and how the condition that afflicts her (Vasculitis) is under control, thanks to the care she's been receiving by her doctors at UCLA.

In fact, early last year, I wrote about how Jen's condition was considered to be in remission and her doctors wanted to take her off her medication completely, which they did in May of last year.

Unfortunately though, I was not able to give such a positive and glowing response to Baxter as Jen has recently suffered a setback in her health.

Back in December, Jen received the results from some blood work which indicated elevated levels in her kidney. Jen has only one kidney so this was very concerning to her and her doctors. Shortly after Christmas, Jen experienced elevated potassium levels which forced her to spend the night in the hospital.



Jen sports her Navy spirit on Christmas day!

We don't know why we continue to be faced with these health challenges, but we know God is good and He has blessed us in so many ways. We would greatly appreciate your prayers. Specifically, we are praying that this vasculitis flare would be quickly stabilized and that Jen would not have to be on Prednisone for very long. Additionally, we are praying that Jen would not have to be admitted to the hospital for ongoing treatment but that whatever treatments that are prescribed could be done on an outpatient basis.

We are grateful for you, our friends, whose prayers and encouragement have sustained us. Thank you for your ministry in our lives!



While meeting a Young Professional for a dinner appointment in Irvine, I happened to run into an old friend, Baxter, who was involved in a Young Adult Home Group we led for several years.

Last week, Jen made several trips to UCLA to meet with her nephrologist as they try to figure out what is happening with her kidney. The good news is that the ultrasound and CT scan showed no abnormalities in her kidney. However, some of the most recent bloodwork came back indicating that the vasculitis that has been in remission has returned. We suspect that this is the reason for the elevated levels in her kidney, as these same symptoms were present back in 2014 when the vasculitis first presented itself.

To say there is discouragement with this development would be an understatement. Jen is not looking forward to going back on Prednisone as the reminder of the damaging effects it had on her body are pretty painful.

We are hoping and praying that because we know what we're dealing with and Jen's doctors are extremely competent that the path to stabilizing this "flare" will be quicker and much less traumatic than before.

Love,
Dave & Jen