



Yearlong Missions Experience Perspective

Above-Keller's w/ some of the preschoolers

SEND SUPPORT TO:

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So Helpful: Let us know if you would rather get this via e-mail. It is very surreal for us to think we will be leaving WISE in just a few short months and returning home to the United States. While our one year commitment at WISE is coming to a close, we continue to reflect on all the wonderful things God has allowed us to be a part of with this mission and how these blessings will forever be in our hearts!

Is there such a thing as a "Missionary Type"? For us, it was very safe to say working on a mission field was not on our radar. I (Maddie) had been on a few short-term mission trips and EK had never been on any. We always felt called to ministry but envisioned God calling us to work strictly in our local churches and communities. Little did we know that there is not a "Missionary Type" and God had additional plans for us...

One day we were contacted by WISE's director and his wife, Brice and Amanda Wurdeman, out of the blue, asking if we would like to teach at WISE for a year. I will say it again, working in the mission field was not something we had ever thought about, but we decided to pray about it to give God a chance to tell us what to do. Over the next few weeks God di d so many things confirming that WISE is where He was calling us. He gave us peace by allowing us to meet someone from St. Vincent and the Grenadines in our small town of Columbia, Missouri. We also asked Him to close and open doors for us...so He did. Once we made the decision to come to WISE God blessed our support-raising tremendously and made the overall transition go very smoothly.

God has taught us so much during our time here, we could write a book about it, but for the sake of space we will just list a few: to be flexible, willing, humble, submissive, culturally aware, joyful, thankful, and to try to be present in every moment God has given us. Our time at WISE has most of all taught us about trusting in God and how His plans are better than ours. We are still amazed how God changed the trajectory of our lives in such a short period of time. Often we get really stuck in our "plan for life" and we forget to look around to see what God has prepared for us. Our encouragement and prayer for others is to lean on and trust in God and to always keep your ears and heart open to His calling because you never know what He might ask you...He may even call you to the Caribbean!

It is bitter sweet to know that our time at WISE will be complete at the end of June. It has been a joy to watch God's work at WISE. It has been a privilege working with the faculty and students along with the community and we will dearly miss them. However, we are confident that God already knows His plans for us and we are excited to see what He reveals.

~Brother EK and Sister Maddie Keller



Left- The new mission truck! Below- Mrs. Brenda from Barbados helping us out.



Lifetrack Group eating with the students

PRAYERS

- For our graduates and God to provide for their families in ministry
- Staff unity amidst working with 5 different cultures
- Upcoming retreat this April in Antigua.
- 2nd yr. student's to finish strong in graduating next month.
- Preschool to reach community families
- -Future long-term staff family.
- -Praise for great trip to Jamaica to recruit students and share about WISE.

Thank You For Giving

- Thank you, Keller family, for giving your hearts, time, and love here to WISE for a year. You have blessed our students, staff, and community so much!

- Thank you, supporters, for being so faithful in the hard economic times and continuing to give.
- Thank you, prayer warriors, for continuing to lift up the graduates, the staff in their unity and for future staff, the current students, and the students for the future.
- Thank you, groups and adjuncts, for coming alongside us and helping/encouraging us here.
- Thank you, board of directors, for holding us accountable.
- And certainly not least, we thank you, Father God, for using us, continue to serve for Your glory, and are grateful to be involved in Your work here.
 - WISE Staff & students

Below – Praise and Worship at Beach with students & Campus House. Right- Prayer over students by Forum Group



