

We gently pulled forward into a parking spot directed by a gentleman with a yellow parking vest. As we exited our SUV to head to the Indiana State Fair this gentleman said, “*Are you the Lawsons?*” Tina said, “*The Larsons.*” He responded, “*My name is Jared, and I was involved in The Navigators at IU when you were there.*” He went on to share that he was married, had three kids, was a teacher and a soccer coach, influencing the next generation. His team was working that day to earn money for their soccer program. A “chance” meeting that reminded me of why we do what we do.



We long to see men and women come to Christ, grow into genuine disciples so that as they take on careers and live life, they continue to know Christ, make Him known and help others do the same right where they live, work, and play. We are excited to help develop fruitful disciplemakers.

One of the challenges we see is that most people lack confidence to be a disciplemaker. The Navigators commissioned a study by the Barna Group on disciplemaking. The top five obstacles that Christians gave to becoming a disciplemaker were essentially the same: a lack of confidence.

- 39% “I don’t feel qualified to address hard topics”
- 38% “I don’t think I would be very good at it”
- 33% “I don’t think I’m knowledgeable enough about the Bible or Christianity”
- 28% “This sounds like the job of a church leader or ministry professional”
- 26% “I wouldn’t know how to do it”

- Barna Group, commissioned by The Navigators, 2020

We desire to move people past their fears by equipping them to make disciples as we model it through life-to-life ministry in many diverse contexts: colleges, workplaces and military bases, churches and neighborhoods. We have endless opportunities, and we have our work cut out for us! As Jesus said, the harvest is plentiful, the laborers are few.

In addition, we are exploring new ways of connecting with people. We are developing a smart phone App with discipleship resources. We also launched Digital Discipleship Journeys™ which are designed for wherever a person is in their discipleship experience. These Journeys arrive as weekly emails over 8 to 13 weeks. Each provides a simple resource paired with biblically grounded encouragement to share with others. We launched this 4 months ago with 12,000 engaged so far and 3,000 people a month signing up. Let me know if you are interested in checking these out.

As you know Tina and I help supervise and coach various leaders in our work. This summer we had the privilege of being with two of them in Cincinnati and Los Angeles. (We are back to traveling!) We were involved in commissioning new leaders that we will supervise in each place. Patriece in Cincinnati and Armando in Los Angeles. In both places 80 staff, laborers, and friends joined to commemorate the time. We have included pictures so that you can get a visual of those events.



Praying for Patriece & Dex in Cincinnati



Praying for Armando and Annabell in LA



Armando sharing



Speaking in LA

Tina and I count it a privilege to serve the Lord and partner with you in this work. Your giving and praying is making a difference. During this long year of various COVID restrictions and health threats we deeply appreciate your faithful support. Your partnership is impacting places like Cincinnati and Los Angeles. **Thank you!**

Gratefully,

Ken & Tina

SOME PRAYER REQUESTS

Despite the smothering effects of the pandemic, the gospel is growing here and around the world. *Please keep praying!* Here are some specific prayer requests.

- Greater desire and passion for us to know and worship the Lord. Greater depth in His Word.
- Fruitfulness for Patriece and Armando as they seek to reach people in their cities in Cincinnati and Los Angeles and raise up multiplying disciplemakers.
- Grace and blessing for two couples we have invested in who are going overseas as missionaries. Brian (who came out of our ministry at IU) and Lexi (and their two children) headed to Japan. And Bryan and Kandice (with their 3 children) as they go back to a challenging country in Eurasia.
- Strength and creativity for our collegiate staff as classes start up and they seek to reach new students. In many ways they will be reaching two new classes this year as most sophomores did not do much on campus last year.
- Turkey, Haiti, Afghanistan, Nigeria. All countries where we have either staff or key disciplemakers. Pray for protection and help as each are experiencing severe challenges and in some places devastation. Pray that the gospel would go forward in power.
- Grace and wisdom as we are traveling more this Fall to visit and serve.