

DRAFT/SAMPLE FRIENDS AND FAMILY LETTER
September 15, 2015

I am sending this out the friends and church family that I believe can share the vision. I am convicted that I need to share this as I know He does not want me to "hide it under a bushel"... If you feel led to draft a letter and want to use this as your inspiration, feel free. I can help you write it and would like to review prior to you sending it out. - Thanks- Cris

Dear xxxx:

It is hard to believe it was just one year ago that my family and I moved back from our two years in South Africa. As you well know, we have always had a passion for doing God's will that involved getting out of our comfort zone. Even our three years spent in London showed us a side of the world that is dominated by a very secular worldview. Only 3% of the Britons are professed Christians. In South Africa this was nearly the opposite where over 80% of the population professed to be Christians. Strangely enough, just because they professed it did not mean it was evidenced in how they lived.

While I was in South Africa God drew me closer to Him in ways of solitude and service. I spent days of solitude painting, doing pottery and writing and I spent other days of service volunteering at a very poor school in a township called Diepsloot. I saw the need for the teachers to be inspired in how they teach, so I supported them with ideas and training. I saw that they were tired, so I took over their classes so they could take a break. I also noticed the lack of funding and had an art show where I raised 20,000 Rand for the school.

When I returned to Kansas last year **I knew that God had a plan for me** that included my love of education combined with my passion for spreading the Gospel to all nations. I knew I needed to do something that used my gifts in communications, writing, art and organization. I just had no idea what He had in mind. I also had no idea the world-wide impact I could make from right here in Johnson County.

I now am the Communications Director at Global Scholars. I know that God has placed me here for a reason and **He has a plan for advancing His kingdom through me**. Global Scholars is a non-denominational non-profit academic organization that exists to further evangelism, missions and discipleship, as well as train up leaders for the global challenges that will affect our nation and the world. In my short time at Global Scholars I have seen professors following Christ's example as they brought God's grace to their universities and helped bring many students to the saving faith of Jesus Christ. We even had a professor and his wife in China who hosted a small group and had the honor of baptizing students in their bathtub!

You may ask, “Why are you writing to me about this?” **As part of the body of Christ, I know I cannot do this alone.** I need those who share a passion for communicating the message of salvation to partner with me, pray for me and share this message to others. My hope for “such a time as this” is that one day every university student in the world has at least one professor who can articulate and demonstrate the love and Lordship of Jesus Christ and that in turn their students learn to live and lead as Christ’s followers.

I would love to visit with you and share more about this exciting ministry. In addition I am available to speak and share my faith story with others in small and large group settings. I also would love have you receive our email updates and prayer requests. Of course, I am also seeking partners committed to donating either their time as volunteers or donating funds to increase the number of students we are ultimately able to reach worldwide. You may e-mail me at lkersten@global-scholars.org, or contact me at (913) 962-4422 x308.

For His Glory,

Lara Kersten
Executive Assistant to the CEO
Global Scholars