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**Hey everyone,**  
**This is the end of my first week in Bible School. It feels great to get stuck back into the Word of God again for another year. So far it has been introductory only, with two subjects repeated from last year.**

I will start with some bad news first, I'm afraid. One of my friends from Tanzania, who I studied with last year, drowned in a swimming pool in Stockholm over a week ago. Prosper Emmanuel, was in his early twenties and everyone here is obviously shocked and very sad that such a young man of God was taken in this way. Our prayers go out to his friends and family.

As I said this is the end of the first week and to be honest it's been mixed emotion the whole time. It was great to be here and take part in the annual Europe Conference in late July-early August. I was helping with security and we had an estimated 10,000 to 15,000 people who attended, so you could say it was quite busy.

I have been travelling back and forth from Sweden to Ireland over the summer. But my last trip to Ireland was for only two weeks and it was very difficult saying good bye to many people, especially those who left me to the airport. That was very hard and *if* I wasn't 100% sure that God wanted me here, then I know, I most definitely would not have returned for the second year. I know that He has something very special for all of us students this year. But this week has been so emotionally straining as we have faced much resistance in being here so far.

I know this year is going to be extremely difficult. To be honest I can't think of a more difficult challenge at the moment and that's how most of us feel. God is really testing our endurance and character, so He obviously believes in everyone of us and we don't want to let Him down! We know that when He is at the centre and as we look directly to Him, He answers our prayers and so we need prayer this year.

As I mentioned above we have met a lot of resistance so I have some prayer requests below, and I firmly believe that the more who ask sincerely, the more abundantly and quicker God comes to our rescue, no matter what the problem. It's also good to remember that our little insignificant voices become

infinitely significant in the throne room of heaven when we take time to book the Lord into our busy schedules.

**Prayer requests:**

1) Please pray for finances. This is going to be a major request this year as it is a more expensive year than the first year with the mission trip in March time and the survival weekend in October/November which is in preparation for the mission trip. At the moment many of us have no jobs, and it seems to be just as difficult as last year to get one so this one is urgent. Please pray not only for me but all of us in the school here, God can only answer if He hears, and He can only hear if we speak out.

2) As I also mentioned it has been hard emotionally to be here. I miss many people back home whom I may not see until Christmas. That may not sound like a long time and it isn't really but when you are in this kind of atmosphere as others here are, it's so easy to think about giving up and coming home. This year especially is about others and what we can give back to the body of Christ, while hopefully gaining more of a heart for the unsaved who God loves and who Jesus died for. We need to be Jesus hands and feet speaking words of love.

3) Please also pray that God shows us, what and where in the future we are called to and that He continues to reveal the things of His heart. Also that we can find strength and endurance to run with what He shows us, as fast and as far, as we can.

These prayers would be very much appreciated and I can promise that whoever prays for these things in a genuine attitude will be very blessed. No good deed goes unrewarded.

I will attempt to update this weekly but it can be quite busy so to those of you who actually read this, please bear with me as this is a more time consuming and practical year.

I'd like to thank again all those who supported me prayerfully and financially, last year or upon my return this year - you will be blessed. Also, thank you to those who spoke kind encouraging words to me, spurring me on for this new academic year.  
God bless you all.