



Monday Matters

March 23, 2015

A DEAR JOHN LETTER

Kim Bennett, a nurse practitioner, treated one of the Kentucky Wildcat basketball players, Marcus Lee for a minor ailment. During the time Kim spent with Marcus she revealed that her stepson, Noah, has been recuperating from mononucleosis at an out-of-state college where he played soccer. The stepson was depressed, not being able to play soccer, and was homesick. It was to the point that he wouldn't even get out of bed.

Marcus could relate to being homesick and having an ailment that kept him from playing ball. To Kim's surprise, Marcus wrote a letter to Noah to share the secret of his success about "faith over fear" and encourage him to get out of bed.

Upon receiving this letter Noah was taken back that someone he didn't know would write to him. The impression it made on him caused him to get out of bed and return to his studies and the sidelines with his team.

Kim wrote to John Calipari, coach of the Kentucky Wildcats, saying, "I am writing this letter to tell you what a remarkable young man Marcus is and how he has blessed my life." Calipari took that letter and read it to the entire team, embarrassing Marcus in the process. He told the team that this is what he wanted to instill in each of them for the rest of their lives. John calls it "The Three Pillars." The first pillar is "Industriousness" - always striving to improve yourself every day. The

second is "Servant Leadership" - to care about others more than yourself. Lastly is "Have a Kind Heart." He said this exemplifies the life of Marcus Lee.

In the two years Marcus has been with the team he has shown his "Kind Heart" over and over again. It was not the only letter John had received regarding Lee. Marcus spends quite a bit of time visiting children and playing with them in the hospital. He knows that someday he might play in the NBA but that will be over in a few years. He knows that there is more to life than



(Photo: Melton family)

basketball. Lee has said, "If I pass a smile on, then they'll pass a smile on, and then it's just a chain reaction and I get to my big goal of making some type of change in the world, and that's all I ever wanted." This is just a page or chapter in Lee's life and he has a full book yet to write.

Looking back at Calipari's "Three Pillars", I would encourage each one of us to always strive to improve, be a servant leader, and have a kind heart. No matter what you do in life, remember what it says in II Timothy 2:15 (TLB), "Work hard so God can say to you, 'Well done.' Be a good workman, one who does not need to be ashamed when God examines your work. Know what his Word says and means."

RN

Ron Nelson, CCA - Email -
MondayMatters.us@gmail.com

Linda J. Nelson - Email -
ArtByLJNelson@bellsouth.net

Click below to view previous posts to
Monday Matters

www.MondayMatters.us



Pond Front Property
Original and Prints Available
Email - ArtByLJNelson@bellsouth.net