

The Riedy Reader

September 2022



Amanda's college drop off day was short, but quite wonderful! We arrived on campus (in Siloam Springs, AR) about 9:30 and were gone by 3pm! Amanda had done so much prep work before move in day that we had very little left to complete her enrollment process. She had also done so much packing and sorting that all her belongings fit in our van, and we could even still see out the back window!

Now, we just had to move her stuff from the car to her room. Even that, though, was super smooth as they had a whole team of student 'stuff movers' who emptied our whole van into her dorm in about ten minutes! Our move-in time window overlapped with her roommate, giving the girls and us parents time to work together to loft beds and move furniture before lunch. After lunch we all gathered in the chapel to hear from various staff, student leaders, and the chapel praise band. Once the students were introduced to their "O" groups (orientation week small groups) it was time to say goodbye.

As Amanda will often point out, when she originally selected John Brown for her Construction Management degree we lived about 3 1/2 hours away in Little Rock. She never intended to go to college over 17 hours drive from home! We are proud of how prepared she is for this adventure and know she will do



Real Life Loading...with Shelby Abbott



This new podcast, geared toward 18-28 year olds, has now officially joined the FamilyLife Podcast Network! The first episode dropped September 9th, with new episodes planned weekly. This makes six different podcasts available, with four currently releasing content. Three (FamilyLife Today, FamilyLife This Week, and FamilyLife Blended) are aired on radio. All of them can be found, though, at [Familylife.com/podcast](https://familylife.com/podcast), using the FamilyLife App, or through your current podcatcher app. I just LOVE having a podcast on while driving, cleaning, exercising, and more—it's like having a friend to keep me company!

great, but God gave us all a little extra gift! In our years as part of Stoa Speech & Debate, we often went to competitions in this area. Through that, we actually know a few families who live in Siloam Springs. Some even have direct connections with the university. It is comforting that there are people we know in the area. Amanda even texted me after her first Sunday—a friend had offered to take her off campus for church. She sent me a picture and asked 'Recognize this?'. We had been to that church more than once for Stoa tournaments! A bit of comfort for our long-distance college kid (and her parents).

Back here in Orlando, our house may be a bit emptier, but our lives are still full! Brenna has begun online classes for her Masters. Eric is working hard in his new role as Chief of Staff of the Development department. He has doubled the number of staff who report to him from two to four, and is hoping to get even more help. There are so many improvements that he would like to see in processes and procedures—he is really having to choose which to focus on first! I have started up three more virtual IBS classes, working as TA and contact person for about 40 students. I'm also enjoying the chance to help shape some updates to these classes.

My newest endeavor, though, is getting trained in our Compassionate & Faithful Cru curriculum. This is material regarding navigating LGBT+ questions in ministry. FamilyLife will be offering staff the opportunity to go through this course in the new year in small group settings, and I will be able to help facilitate a small group. This has been great stuff so far about having a *posture of compassion* toward people while having a *position of Biblical faithfulness*.

In Him,

After we dropped Amanda off, we spent a few days with Jon & Charissa. Ruby & Oliver have grown so much since we were there in May! You can sure tell they are siblings-so sweet!



Tear & Prayer



Praise that the Weekend to Remember half price sale is HERE! Please be praying with us for this season's getaways and the sale. All registrations are now \$87.50 per person and is happening now through September 19. We can also sometimes provide even deeper personal discounts-contact us if you or a friend are considering attending.

Pray for upcoming travels-multiple family members coming & going along with Eric & I helping staff a President's Getaway in DC, Oct. 5-10

Pray for our Art of Marriage update team—the video production should wrap by Jan. with the hope of testing in Feb. and launch in Fall 2023

Pray for the Riedy Family
serving with

 **FamilyLife**
A Cru Ministry

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