

## “You cannot step into the same river twice.”

When I first heard this statement I didn't think it was true. Of course I can step into the same river more than once. I thought I could do it over and over again. But then someone explained to me that a river is moving and changing all the time. Even when you step back into a river, it is no longer the same river. It has changed.

The river of our lives is constantly changing and keeps on moving! As most of you know, the DeVries' family has experienced BIG changes!

- We were accepted as OC missionaries on the newly formed U.S. team.
- I transitioned from my role as senior pastor at Lake Hills Church.
- We sold our home in Castaic, California.
- We moved into a rental home in Stevenson Ranch, California.
- I began working on my doctoral dissertation through Bakke Graduate University.
- Our kids are pursuing incredible summer opportunities far away from home.
- We started to raise our monthly financial support.

Certainly it's a huge change to pre-maturely experience an “empty nest” this summer. We've been so grateful to stay in contact with Doug and Maddie through e-mails and phone calls and sending care packages, but we're eager to be reunited together on August 12. This has been quite an emotional step for us as parents.

And we know there are many more changes ahead. Life doesn't stay the same. I'm really glad about that. I need to change. And so do you. You see, God is in the business of changing lives—transforming us “to become conformed to the image of His Son” (Rom. 8:29). We need to change. As Christ followers, we must change. And we need to keep moving closer and closer to Jesus.

It's been noted that growing as a Christian is about proximity and direction—how near are you in relationship with Jesus and which direction are you heading? Our OC U.S. team is concerned about both of these. We envision vibrant, multiplying churches transforming America. We're committed to helping as many people as possible to experience life transformation through faith in Jesus Christ and to move closer and closer to Jesus.

If you believe, like we do, that it's not too late to reach the lost in America, or that the U.S. is not a hopeless cause, or if you are passionate about spiritual transformation here in the United States, **would you prayerfully join our personal support team?** We are asking God to provide a team who will pray for us and for the transformation of America, and who will invest monthly toward our financial support. Please include us in your prayers and see how God moves you to support us. Use the enclosed card or you may also go online: [www.oc-us.org](http://www.oc-us.org). Thank you so much! (And thanks to those who have already joined our team. We love you.)



Faithfully,

Dave DeVries (rookie missionary)

Please note our new home address below: