

## Living His Purpose

October 2020

Second year med student Andrew Folkerts is ready to quit. Med school is inflicting a huge toll—the endless nights of studying encyclopedic volumes of information; the preparation to take the upcoming first of three grueling medical licensing exams. Is being a physician what he really wants? Is it worth the huge cost? Is this really what God has for him?

Fast forward seven months. It's September 2020. Andrew survived the exhausting days of second year and is now doing his clinical rotations. Under the tutelage of others, daily he is seeing patients in hospitals and clinics.

Andrew's medical team enters Juan's hospital room. The night before, Juan (name changed) came to the ER complaining of pain. His labs showed problematic elevated calcium levels. He was admitted for further tests.

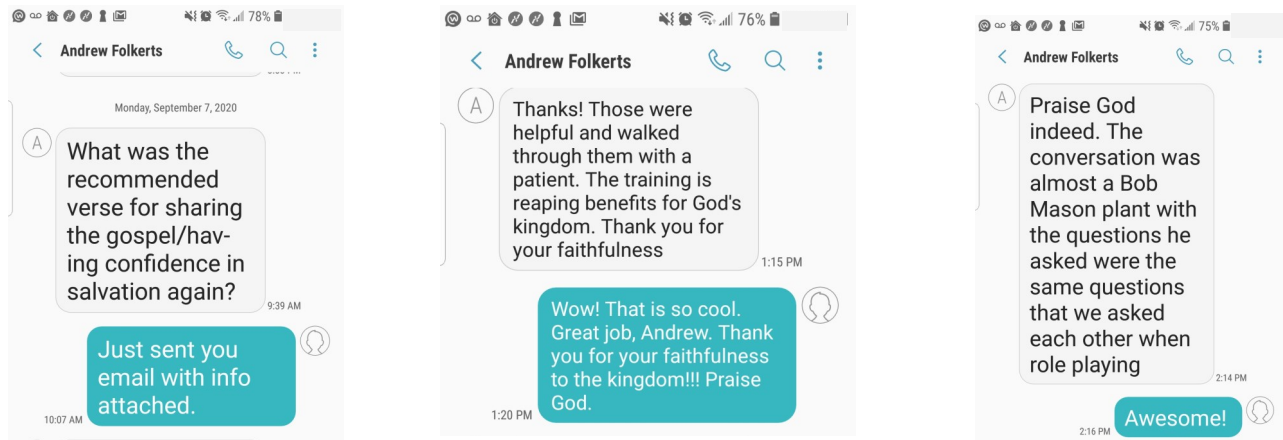
Many medical students would have only been interested in learning the knowledge and skills needed to care for someone with this yet to be determined condition. But Andrew is equipped to go a step further. During those strenuous first two years of med school, Andrew prioritized attending our weekly spiritual care practicums. He also joined us on our 2019 Dominican Republic medical mission trip.



Andrew probes to determine if Juan has accompanying spiritual needs. Juan attended church in the past and has trusted Christ as savior. But he is very young in his faith. He tells Andrew he wants to pray, but doesn't know how. Using the Lord's Prayer as a guide, they pray daily.

Soon the team determines Juan has cancer—a surprising diagnosis for someone his age. Given their close relationship, Andrew is the one who tells Juan the sad news. Juan takes the diagnosis well.

"Andrew, I have friends who know they are saved. How do you know that?", asks Juan during one visit. Andrew's mind flashes back to when we discussed that very question during a spiritual practicum. He begins texting Bob...



This morning over breakfast, Andrew recalled his time with Juan (who was scheduled for treatment). "That day I felt I rediscovered why I wanted to be a physician and how fulfilling that can be as I serve my patients and God at the same time. **That is worth the cost.**"

In recent weeks you've had a part in helping Juan know that he is a son of God ("No one ever told me what you told me about God," he told Andrew). You also helped Andrew discover his purpose for the kingdom. Thank you for caring for those confronting life-challenging illnesses and shaping a new generation of Christian healthcare professionals.

*Bob & Diana*



### Currently Scheduled Upcoming Events

Oct 26-Nov 7—Diana & Bob lead Spiritual Care Rotation at School of Medicine

Nov 6-7-Bob speaks at virtual Global Missions Health Conference

Jan 9-10-Bob speaks at virtual Remedy Conference

A caring community passionate about connecting people to Jesus Christ