God calls the unqualified…

• Desire to help others
• 2003/2004 Mission Trips
  – Witnessed the effects of abuse and strongholds of the Native Alaskan population

Whether we are high above the sky or in the deepest ocean, nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord.

~Romans 8:39
…God qualifies the called

- Open doors
- Sacrifice
- Trust
- Faith

For such a time as this.
~Esther 4:14
Finally Back in Alaska!

Be glad for all God is planning for you.
~Romans 12:12

And how can they hear about him unless someone tells them?
~Romans 10:14
Life in Hoonah

- Population: 800
- One gas pump
- One grocery store
- One taxi cab
- One post office
- One ATM
- One school counselor
Home Sweet Home in Hoonah
The Tlingit Native Alaskans

Raven or Eagle, which are you?
Tlingit Culture

- Matriarchal Society
- Unwritten History
- Superstitious Culture
- Live Off the Land
- Alaskan Native Brotherhood
- Hoonah Indian Association
…I will be staying here (in Hoonah), for there is a wide-open door for a great work here, and many people are responding. But there are many who oppose me.

~1 Corinthians 16:8
Role as a School Counselor:

- Individual Counseling
- Group Counseling
- Parent/Student Conferences
- Classroom Circles
- Community Wellness Consortium
  - Suicide Prevention: Gun safety initiative
Other Important Roles in Hoonah:

- Captain of the “Bonnie J”
- Tlingit Dancer
- Park Ranger
- Animal Control
- Distributor of Bait and Ammunition
Social Work Skills Needed

- Empathy
- Cultural Sensitivity
- Respect
- Creativity
- Energy
- Reflective Listening
- Compassion
- Patience
- Self-Care
Common Themes in the Counseling Office

- Culture of poverty
- Neglect: educational, emotional, physical
- Sexual abuse (i.e. molestation, rape, incest)
- Parental and student Alcohol/Drug Abuse
- Emotional numbness
- Suicidal and other self-harming thoughts and behaviors
- Students with Individualized Educational Plans (IEPs)
- Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS)
- Behavioral issues in the school and community
- Post-traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)
- Serious grief and loss avoidance
- Under-diagnosed and untreated mental health disorders
Challenges to Life in Hoonah

- Weather
- Darkness
- Negativity
- Isolation
- Lack of Transportation
- Extreme Racism
- Cultural Barriers
- Alcohol/Drug Abuse
- High Suicide Rate
- No Clinical Supervision
Incredible Wildlife
The Cost of Obedience

The cost of a slice of pizza in Hoonah… $5.00
The cost of a box of cereal… $9.95
The cost of a one way ferry ride to Juneau… $33.00
The cost of a one way Wings flight from Hoonah to Juneau… $66.00
The cost of being called for such a time as this… priceless

For everything else in life there’s Master Card ;)

What does God’s Word tell us?

If your gift is to encourage others, do it!

If you have money, share it generously.

If God has given you leadership ability, take the responsibility seriously.

And if you have a gift for showing kindness to others, do it gladly.

Don’t just pretend that you love others.

Really love them.

~Romans 12:8
Any Questions?

Gunalchéesh (thank you) for allowing me to share with your Introduction to Social Work class!