



July 2017

Dear Friends,

Josh Lindblom is a major league pitcher. The product of Lafayette Harrison high school pitched one year for the University of Tennessee before transferring to Purdue near his home. In 2008, he was drafted in the second round by the Los Angeles Dodgers, and made his major league debut three years later in May of 2011.

I first met Josh in the winter of 2011. We sat for an interview for Face to Face in the home of his in-laws very close to his old high school in West Lafayette. I remember being impressed at the time by his giving nature. Though he had less than one year of major league experience, he and his wife Aurielle had already established a foundation to give back to people in need.

A lot has happened with the Lindbloms since then. Josh was traded to the Philadelphia Phillies in 2012, then went to the Texas Rangers and the Oakland Athletics. In 2014, Josh made the decision to take his career overseas to the Lotte Giants, a Korean team. It was a good move for the Lindbloms. In 2015 and 2016, Josh enjoyed success on the field, and he and his family enjoyed the culture and especially the food of south Korea.

But last summer, the Lindbloms faced a crisis. Aurielle was pregnant, and their unborn daughter was found to have a heart defect. Aurielle came home, and Josh finished the season. He returned just as the baby was being born and being prepared for open heart surgery. Recently, Josh and I reconnected in the dugout of the Indianapolis Indians for an interview, and he described the scene. "It was like a ticking time bomb knowing that the second I landed back in the states I was walking into (Riley hospital) knowing that our daughter was having open heart surgery."

Thankfully, the surgery was a success and his daughter, Monroe, continues to grow and get stronger. God's presence has been evident all the way through. I mentioned that Josh and I were together in the Indians dugout. When Josh came home, he was without a team. He only had one offer. It came from the Pittsburgh Pirates, and after spring training, he was assigned to their minor league club which is...Indianapolis.

That was proof enough of God's presence, but then after the interview, the ministry continued. While Josh and I were talking, it started to rain. A young groundskeeper came along in the dugout and started to clean up the water. After the interview, he approached me and said, "Who were you interviewing?"

I told him and he said, "I overheard you talking about Christ, and I am a Christian at a new start-up church in downtown Indy. I meet with about ten single guys each week and we are looking for Christian athletes."

I gave him my card and told him about some resources we had available. When I told Josh, he said he wanted to meet with the young man. Ministry is everywhere, and that is why I continue to be excited about Face to Face. We have moved our radio signal in Columbus to the Bridge 90.3 FM. The show airs on Saturdays at Noon, a prime time. We are still on the website at facetofaceradio.com.

I hope you are excited by this story and others. There are many more to be told. Please continue to pray for us and give generously as you can. We live by the words found in the book of Hebrews 13:15.

"Therefore by Him, let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name."

Sincerely in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom Rust". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly stylized font.

Tom Rust
Founder/Director