

Summer Praises

While Ed and I have been away from the Sports Complex and Challenge Course this summer, ministry has continued. I am excited to report on two stories I recently heard from some AIA staff who worked at the complex.

Scott Shepherd is an AIA staff member who serves full time at Clemson University. He recently wrote about his experience at our sports complex:

"This summer I had the privilege of working at the AIA Sports Complex. It is really amazing how many different teams and camps are using our property.



FCA Football Camp

One highlight was the FCA camp. I was the chaplain/camp speaker for an FCA team camp on the AIA property. It was a team camp with 3 football teams

and 1 soccer team from the Columbus and Cincinnati area. It was incredible. We had around 100 high school guys here and about 15 coaches. We really had a great time together that week.

The last night at our chapel time, I shared the gospel and about 40 guys responded by standing up and coming forward! The camp director wanted them to come forward



FCA Football Camp

and make that stand for Christ. They each prayed to receive Christ for the payment for their



Scott Shepherd leading an FCA camp chapel service



sins. Praise the Lord! We got their information and FCA is going to follow up these young men back at their respective schools."

Bryan Dobkins has been running the challenge course in my absence. He told me that the University of Dayton Men's soccer team came for an overnight retreat and participated in the high ropes course last month. After completing the course, Bryan shared the gospel with the team and eleven players indicated that they prayed to accept Christ into their lives.

That same week, the Ohio Dominican University tennis team came to use the low ropes course. When Bryan shared the gospel with this team, three players indicated that they had placed their faith in Christ.

Ed and I are really looking forward to when we finish our support-raising so that we can get back to help with groups like these! We are praising God for how He is moving to change the lives of these young people!



University of Dayton Men's Soccer

❖ *Something to Think About* (by Ed) ❖

As we remember the tenth anniversary of 9-11, I've been thinking about the word sacrifice. Have you ever thought about what it really means to sacrifice? For some, sacrifice may mean rushing into a burning building to save others as the firefighters and police did on that fateful day in 2001. For others it may mean throwing yourself on a grenade to protect your comrades like Medal of Honor recipient, Marine Corporal Jason Dunham did in Iraq in 2004. Maybe it is caring for aging parents that you don't really have the time or money to invest in helping, but you do it anyway. Perhaps it is keeping that beater car for a few more years because you have a sick child that needs medical care.

However you define sacrifice, one thing I think we can all agree on is that it is deeply personal. Sacrifice takes on a different flavor, a different sense of pain and loss, a different level of commitment for each of us. Sacrifice is not a one-time event, it is something that we will do over and over and over again as long as we live. But no matter how much we sacrifice we will never equal the sacrifice that Christ made for us. His sacrifice was once for all, for all.

So the next time you or I feel like we have given all there is to give, or we feel like the discipline of God is too much to bear (Heb. 12:3-11), remember this: "You have not yet resisted to the point of shedding blood in your striving against sin." (Heb. 12:4) For only Christ's shed blood can remove the stain of sin and redeem us from our unrighteousness.



Us With Vonette Bright
(CCC Co-founder)

Therefore as we live our lives and sacrifice, whether great or small, let us be willing to do as Paul says in Romans 12:1-2; "present our bodies as living and holy sacrifices..." in all that we do in all circumstances. Thank you for the sacrifices that you have made and continue to make to help us reach those who have not embraced Christ's sacrifice for them. "Just something to think about."

❖ *From The Heart* (by Debbie) ❖

Ed and I have been together basically 24-7 for the past 3 months and haven't killed each other yet. So, I think we are getting along great. We have had a few disagreements along the way, but I believe that resolving conflict has been great for our marriage. We are still excited about answering God's call to serve Him together.

Recently, in one of my quiet times, I was challenged by the story of a sick woman in Mark 5:24-34 who believed that if she just touched Jesus' robe, she would be healed. When Jesus spoke to her, he commended her for her faith. I want to have the kind of faith that "impresses" Jesus.

We are so grateful for each person who supports us through your prayers and financial gifts. Thank you for your sacrificial investment in the Lord's work! We appreciate you!

Ed & Debbie ☺

Upcoming Events

My co-worker, Bryan, is still running the challenge course while I am gone. Here is a rough schedule of what's coming up in the next couple of months. **Please keep each event in your prayers.**

Sept 17: Wittenburg Swimming on Low
Sept 20: Cedarville Multi Cultural Class on Low

Sept 23: St. Brigid Catholic School 8th graders on Low and High

Sept 24: UD ROTC on High

Oct 6-7: St. Christopher Catholic School 7th and 8th graders on Low and High

Oct 10-11: Incarnation Catholic School on High

Oct 12: Northeastern HS Basketball on Low

Oct 18: WPAFB Chaplains on Low

Oct 19- 20: Incarnation Catholic School on High

Thank God For...

- ❖ Safe travel back home to Ohio
- ❖ New partners God has already begun to provide to help fund our ministry
- ❖ New believers who received Christ at the Sports Complex this summer
- ❖ Wonderful time with friends and family in Oklahoma

Please pray for...

- ❖ Bryan Dobkins who is still running the challenge course while I am away
- ❖ Ongoing ministry at the sports complex and challenge course in Xenia
- ❖ Diligence for Ed as he completes another required course (New Testament Survey). He has to do this course on-line, which is not his preferred method of learning.
- ❖ Gods provision of many appointments to share with people about our ministry and that God will add many people to our team of partners
- ❖ Our continued spiritual growth in our walks with the Lord