

Athletes in Action

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“Your love, O Lord, reaches to the heavens, your faithfulness to the skies.” Psalm 36:5

Greetings from the soon-to-be-expanding Keefe family! As I write this, I am 8 days away from my due date with baby #6. Our last two babies have been a week late, so I guess I am ready for anything! We have chosen not to find out the sex of this baby, and I am so looking forward to the announcement in the delivery room of “it’s a...”. For Colby’s sake I hope this little one is a boy — he seems to think there is way too much drama around this house already with the number of girls we have in it :) So, the next time you hear from us, we will be giving you our sweet baby update. Until then, the plan is to continue to trust God for life change here at Michigan. Usually our summers with Athletes in Action take us out of town to staff various camps and projects in other places. However, because of the timing of our baby, we have been given an exemption from those other camps and projects and will be home the majority of the summer. We are actually really excited about this from a ministry standpoint as most of the Michigan student-athletes will be here taking class and training for their sport during the summer months. So, we are continuing with our weekly meeting on campus, as well as with bible studies and discipleship. We look forward to how God will use these next few months to expand His Kingdom in the lives of these precious students. Thank you so much for your partnership in all of this!

Multiplication!!

So the picture on the top right might just be one of my favorite ministry pictures of all time. I’m not sure if you can make it out in the picture, but each of these girls is holding up a number...1, 2, 3, 4...each number representing a generation of discipleship.

Our staff woman, Stephanie, is holding up a number 1 as for the past few years she has been discipling one of our student leaders, Maci (holding up number 2). Maci has so caught the vision for how God wants to use her to impact other people that back in the fall, she shared the gospel with her teammate, Steph, who prayed to receive Christ! Steph is holding up number 3 in this picture.

Then, having had her life so impacted by the Lord, Steph has been seeking out ways to share the good news of Christ with others. That’s where Kelly (holding up a number 4) comes into the story. Kelly started coming to our weekly meetings this spring and Steph took it upon herself to welcome Kelly and eventually invited her out for lunch. After sharing her testimony with Kelly, Steph decided to lay out God’s plan of salvation for Kelly, and that day Kelly invited Christ into her life! WOW!

This is truly a picture of Paul’s encouragement to Timothy to entrust what he has heard to faithful men/women, who will also be able to teach others (2 Tim. 2:2). To God be all the glory for this story which only He could orchestrate!



Ready to pop!

Expanding their influence

One of my other favorite stories from this semester comes from another couple of our student leaders who took it upon themselves to reach out to their teammates and start a bible study. Here is what Lexi, a junior on the volleyball team, had to say about their step of faith:

"This past semester God challenged me to become bolder in my faith and start using what I know and what He has taught me in my college years to impact my team. I teamed up with my best friend who is on the field hockey team here, Ainsley, to start a team bible study. We knew a lot of people on our teams have never heard about the bible or Christianity, so we advertised it as a chill place where people with questions or struggles could come and we could all grow and become closer, using God as the means of learning from our struggles. Before the bible study, there were a lot of myths about Christians. For example, we are all perfect, we judge others who make mistakes, God is disappointed in us for our sins, etc. We wanted to show that this was not the case at all.

Our first meeting was amazing! Two from the volleyball team and one girl from field hockey came. We talked about how in life, we can fail and let others down (coaches, parents, etc) because we are human. However, we can never let God down with our failures. A girl who doesn't believe in God was amazed by this news, as well as other girls in the group. Even if Ainsley and I don't convert every single girl on our team to become Christians, our goal is to help these girls understand that they have greater purpose and that they are valued by God no matter what they do on earth."

Throughout the semester more and more of Lexi and Ainsley's teammates came to check out their bible study. We are so proud of them for identifying themselves as Christian leaders on their teams — something that is not always the most popular thing to do!



Lexi and Ainsley...aren't they so cute?!?



Above: Us with Stephanie, a new staff woman that has been training at our campus for the past 2 years. This month we sent her out to continue her ministry with AIA at San Diego State. We will miss her dearly!

Below: Colby and the kiddos at last month's annual Mich football alumni game. So thankful we live close enough now that we can take part in events like these.



Please pray...

...for our ministry here this summer. Pray for our students to invite others to our weekly meetings, and for the gospel to go forth.

...for Kelly in her new faith. Pray she would experience growth this summer even as she goes home.

...for God to raise some additional funding we need for our ministry. Pray for wisdom for Colby as he trusts God to lead us to new partners.

...for the safe delivery of our baby (due May 23). Pray for our other kids, especially Mia (almost 2), that the transition to a new family member would go well.

As you read these stories of God's faithfulness, know that you are playing such a huge role in this ministry. Words cannot express our gratitude!!