



COLBY AND SARAH KEEFER
4695 SYCAMORE DR. YPSILANTI, MI 48197

COLBY—(937) 902-1767
COLBY.KEEFER@ATHLETESINACTION.ORG

SARAH— (937) 681-6533
SARAH.KEEFER@ATHLETESINACTION.ORG

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“Moses said, ‘Please show me your glory.’ And he said ‘I will make all my goodness pass before you’... The Lord passed before him and proclaimed, ‘The Lord, the Lord, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness...’” Exodus 33: 18-19a & Exodus 34:6

Hello again! Over the course of this past school year, I have been slowly reading and digesting what has come to be an unsuspectingly significant book in my life. It’s called *Gentle and Lowly* by Dane Ortland, and God has used it to peel back layers of false beliefs I unknowingly held about Him and replace them with incredible truths from His Word. The book contains twenty three chapters that give the reader a glimpse into what the Bible has to say about the heart of God. And what I found there has literally been a balm to my soul. I am beginning to see that for years I have had a misconception of God and have been putting human characteristics onto Him. For example, if I get frustrated and disappointed about my failures and actions or the failures and actions of others, certainly God must feel the same way, right? Isn’t He holy and just and majestic and mighty? Well, yes He most certainly is those things. But when we see Him describe His heart in the Scriptures, the core of who He is, what we see might surprise us. In the above passage, when Moses asked God to show him His glory, God says His *goodness* will pass before Moses...not necessarily the word I might have guessed He would have said. Additionally, when Jesus describes His heart in Matthew 11, He describes it as *gentle and lowly*. This is the heart of our God — a heart of overwhelming mercy and gentleness toward His children. Not a God that is continually disappointed and upset, like I am drawn to subconsciously believe. Doesn’t truth like this cause you to want to draw all the more near to Him? The Puritan Thomas Goodwin put it like this, “That which keeps men off is, that they know not Christ’s mind and heart...The truth is He is more glad of us than we can be of Him...O therefore come in unto Him. If you knew His heart, you would.” I am finding that throughout the course of this year, as I understand more of His heart, I have been drawn all the more to our loving and gracious Father. And that has catapulted my relationship with Him to a new level of intimacy. This brief paragraph of mine in no way does justice to Ortland’s work in his book, thus I highly recommend *Gentle and Lowly* as a read for you and those you love. Thanks for indulging me a bit of space to share some of the things God has been doing in my heart. May He receive all the glory for how He continually and lovingly draws us all to Himself!



Look what happened here recently! We welcomed these two four-legged cuties into our home and are absolutely smitten!



Jairus (our baby!) turned 8 this month! We love the young man he is becoming.



Dylan and Colby



Roland and Jackson

The months of May and June at the University of Michigan are called spring term, and it's during that time that you can almost tangibly feel a sigh of relief from the students. The grind of the fall and winter semesters has come to a close, warmer temperatures have hit Ann Arbor, and the students just seem more relaxed and refreshed. And it is in that spirit that we are meeting outdoor, IN-PERSON, weekly with the students to just have fun and play games. Laughter and conversation have been music to my ears as we all play Spikeball, Can Jam, football and volleyball together.

One of the craziest things about these times have been the fact that we are meeting some of these students in-person for the first time! Dylan, pictured above, was part of an 8 week faith foundations group that I led via zoom from February to March. Seeing Dylan walk up to our outdoor gathering last week brought big smiles to both of our faces as it almost felt like we were meeting for the first time. How crazy has this zoom year been???

Along with our social gatherings, we have continued to meet weekly over zoom with students to include those who are not yet able to meet in-person due to team training restrictions. Discipleship has been our topic and it has been great to hit different aspects of the Jesus' Great Commission in Matthew 28:18-20. We are trusting God to develop hearts that are passionate for Him and desire to take the gospel to those around them!

Please pray...

...for God to use our times of social gathering and teaching on zoom to draw students to Himself and to each other.

...for the local AIA Ultimate Training Camp we are running on June 18-20th. Pray many students would sign up and that God would reveal Himself to them and teach them how to compete in a way that honors Him.

...for Lauren and her new husband, Daniel, as they start their new life together.

...for God to raise up new student leaders over the summer.

...for Mikayla's continued recovery from her ACL surgery.

Pray her leg continues to get stronger. Pray also that God would use this time to make her faith stronger!

...for unity in our marriage and parenting.



It was such an honor and a blessing to be able to travel to Texas this month to attend the wedding of sweet Lauren, one of student leaders of three years!

We hope you know how very grateful we are for your partnership! May God bless you in the giving of your prayers and finances!