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“For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, and then to the Twelve. After that He appeared to more than five hundred.” 1 Cor. 15:3-6

Happy soon-to-be Easter! This week all of our groups on campus are looking at scriptures concerning the resurrection. One of the questions on the hand-out asks, “Why might the resurrection of Jesus be the most important event in all of history?” As I read that question in preparation for leading my group, I was somewhat taken aback by it. Not that I don’t believe that the resurrection is the most important event in all of history, but rarely do I think of it in those terms. However, as I think of kingdoms that have risen and fallen, leaders who have marked our world, natural disasters that have impacted the masses, and so many other events throughout time, there really is none that compares to the resurrection of Jesus Christ. His resurrection has ramifications in the eternal realm that no other event can touch. Death has been defeated and the promise of eternal life has been secured! I get excited thinking about students pondering these things in the many discipleship groups that will be led this week on our campuses. For the followers of Christ who will be sitting in those circles, I imagine it being a week of renewed, confident trust in their powerful Savior. For those attending who are not yet Christians, I am trusting in the power of God’s Word and His Spirit to draw them in a saving relationship with Himself. We hope you know that your partnership is allowing these students to ponder these eternal truths this week. Thank you! Let’s trust God together to open the minds and hearts of these precious students!

Opportunity for impact

This past week a group of EMU and UM student athletes were invited to attend a local church’s youth group. Being one of the larger congregations in our area, 150+ middle and high school students were in attendance to hear what these college athletes had to say.

After participating in an intense March Madness dunk contest, the youth settled into their seats to listen to our students as they were interviewed up on stage by their youth pastor.

Questions such as “how do you balance faith and giving time to God with a busy schedule?”, “what are some challenges you have faced in your faith since leaving high school?” and “how do you show your faith at your sport/school?” were just a few of the topics our students tackled.

Afterwards each college student was assigned to a small group of kids where they could talk further and get to know them a bit. We were SO proud of the way our students shared with boldness and authenticity! Simply because they are college athletes, God has given them a unique platform in society and it was hugely encouraging to see them use it for His glory!





We tried a new thing this month — worship night! And it was amazing!! Our students have been asking us for years to have music at our large group gatherings, and lacking any musical ability ourselves, Colby and I have always said no :) However, when the students asked yet again last semester for music, we contacted a local church about hosting us and they graciously said yes. The result was over 80 college athletes from our campuses coming together for a night song, testimony, and (of course!) pizza! The room was filled with praise and energy and we were so grateful to be a part of it!



A highlight of the evening for me was hearing Kelsey, one of our student leaders on Michigan's field hockey team, share a testimony from up front. God has brought Kelsey through some very dark times with her mental health, rescuing her from suicidal ideations and self-harm. Worship night was the first time she shared publicly about her story...and it was powerful! The best part about it was seeing two whole rows of her field hockey teammates in attendance to support her, most of whom are not Christians. Many of them have known she has had struggles, but very few knew to what extent those struggles have taken her. To see her give glory to God while also experiencing a room full of Christians singing praises to Him had to have impacted those young ladies. Please join us in praying God will grow the seeds that were planted that night in their hearts.



EMU football representing at the worship night!



Along with our regular weekly discipleship groups, these past few months new opportunities have been created for students to grow in their faith. Pictured above with Colby are 3 EMU lacrosse players who participate weekly in a "senior transition group" he leads. Talking through life after college from a biblical lens has been super helpful to these ladies!

Please pray...

...for Kelsey's field hockey teammates. Pray their hearts would be open to hearing more about who our God is and His deep love for them.

...for God's Word to go forth through the different groups meeting at UM and EMU. Pray lives would be challenged and changed for God's glory.

...for us as we attend our AIA staff conference in OH April 13-16th. Pray for us to be refreshed, encouraged and equipped.

...for Abel, the daughter of our AIA staff here to be healed of her cancer. Pray for strength for her and Brennen and Nicky as they walk the difficult road of her treatment.

...for wisdom and unity as we lead.

We've been doing lots of traveling with our kids' sports. This trip was extra special



as it took us to AIA headquarters in OH to play in the new John Wooden fieldhouse. Seeing AIA staff friends filled my cup!