

Win, Build, SEND... Seeing fruit of our labor

“Life works when we are being completed, but completion cannot take place without building on the foundational things.” – “How People Grow”, Henry Cloud & John Townsend

What are you using to build your foundation? What kind of experiences will prepare you to be successful? Will the choices I make have an eternal impact? Those and other questions are part of how I (Ed) engage with people to help them process what God may be calling them to do.

Paul reminds us in Romans 12:4-8 that God has gifted us with different gifts; “For just as we have many members in one body and all the members do not have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually member’s one of another. Since we have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, *each of us is to exercise them accordingly...*”

“To exercise them accordingly...” Since I started working in my new role I have had the privilege of being involved in helping nine people make decisions to serve with us in some capacity, and have helped several



Skylar & his wife

others realize that God was calling them elsewhere. One of those who have decided to serve with us is Skylar. Skylar and his wife are a wonderful young couple who love the Lord and people. We are excited about Skylar and the energy he will bring toward carrying forward the amazing work Debbie has done.

We all have different parts/callings in God’s kingdom work. I am grateful for the part that the Lord has blessed me with; helping guide His followers into exercising their gifts accordingly. I

am also grateful for an amazing wife, a beautiful daughter, great friends and co-workers, and you our partners in this work for his glory.

For the past two years, I (Debbie) have been seeking someone to take my place as the next Challenge Course Director so that I can back off to a part-time role in order to stay home to raise Hannah. We are grateful that Cru allows moms to stay home to nurture their children.

In the past year, God has provided two answers to my prayers for new challenge course staff members. First, he brought Brandon who came to us from a camp where he helped run a challenge course. Brandon was hired in January to serve as our Associate Challenge Course Director. I have been pleased to train Brandon to take over some of my responsibilities. This has helped lighten my load.



Brandon

As Ed mentioned in his article, he played a role in helping find Skylar to take over my position as Challenge Course Director. We met with Skylar and his wife in December to invite them to join our AIA Challenge Course Staff Team. Over the next couple of months, God began to confirm His call for Skylar to join us.

Skylar is currently in the application process and plans to attend New Staff Training in the next few months. Then he will take time to raise his team of ministry partners. We are hoping that by this time next year, Skylar and Brandon will be positioned to run the challenge course.

At that time, I will remain involved in the ministry as a facilitator and in other responsibilities that I can do from home as I am available. But, my primary role will be to raise Hannah.

Praises

- ❖ Ed has had numerous great phone calls with multiple prospective AIA staff or interns
- ❖ God provided over 80 volunteers for the Super Bowl Breakfast in February
- ❖ Twelve people accepted Christ at the Super Bowl Breakfast & many others requested more information

Prayer Requests

- ❖ April will be a busy month for both of us as the challenge course starts back up and as Ed helps with a recruiting weekend (April 15-17) and an Intern training weekend (April 22-24).
- ❖ For safe travel for AIA staff who will be traveling to Xenia for our bi-annual AIA "Springboard" Meetings (April 18-21)
- ❖ That AIA Staff will be encouraged, equipped and inspired through meeting together for our AIA Springboard Meetings
- ❖ Quality ministry with Challenge Course Groups, Potential New Staff and Interns

Upcoming Events

Please pray for our ministry with these upcoming events:

- April 9: St Francis DeSales HS Boys Tennis Team on Low Course
- April 11: Challenge Course Facilitator Training (Debbie will lead this training)
- April 12: Cedarville Socialwork Class on Low Course
- April 12: Ohio Galaxies Soccer Club U-17 Boys on High Course
- April 14: Ohio Galaxies Soccer Club U-17 Boys on High Course
- April 16: Faircreek Church Rt 5/6 Youth on Low Course
- April 26: Ohio Galaxies Soccer Club U-17 Boys on High Course
- April 28: Ohio Galaxies Soccer Club U-17 Girls on High Course
- May 1: Butler United Soccer Club on Low Course
- May 5: Ohio Galaxies Soccer Club U-17 Girls on High Course

From The Heart (by Debbie)

In the past month, two of my friends and former co-workers have unexpectedly lost a spouse. My friend, Tracey, with whom I traveled on two AIA Basketball projects lost her husband to a massive heart attack, My friend, Craig, with whom I served at King's Domain Camp lost his wife from massive brain injuries she sustained after being hit by a car while they were out on a walk,

On top of those two deaths, Cru's Co-founder, Vonette Bright, passed away in February. My heart hurts for the spouses and children in each of these families who have been left behind. I think about them and pray for them often. Death has a way of really getting one's attention.

After watching Vonette's memorial service and attending the funeral for Tracey's husband, I couldn't help but reflect on my own life. I don't know about you, but when I hear about another person's remarkable faith and the positive impact that person's life had on others around them, it makes me wonder, "What kind of mark am I leaving?"

I wonder this not because I want others to say nice things about me. Rather, I want to be sure that my life is pointing people to Jesus. He is the one who deserves the glory. My hope is to reach heaven and hear my savior say, "Well done, my good and faithful servant." I want to be remembered as a woman who loved Jesus and loved others well too.

A verse that has been encouraging to me recently is Ephesians 2:3-4, "But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ-by grace you have been saved-" It is by grace that I have been saved and it is only by grace that I can be used by God to accomplish that which is important to me. To God be ALL THE GLORY!

Thank you for your faithful prayers, support and encouragement which inspires me to keep trusting God. Together, by faith, God is using us to touch lives for His Kingdom! Be sure to hug those you love and tell them how much you love them!



Hannah turned 1 on Feb 24. She loved her Very Hungry Caterpillar Party & cupcake