



January 26, 2017

Looking Ahead to Super Bowl Breakfast 2017

One of the highlights of my year each year is the opportunity I have to assist with the Athletes in Action Super Bowl Breakfast. I'd like to give you a glimpse of what it is like to help with this event.

In case you don't already know, the Super Bowl Breakfast is an NFL-Sanctioned event hosted by Athletes in Action on Saturday, February 4, 2017 as an evangelistic outreach to executives in the city of Houston. The highlight of this event will be the presentation of the 2017 Bart Starr Award



which is given annually to one NFL player elected by his peers for outstanding character and leadership in the home, on the field and in the community.

The winner of the 2017 Bart Starr Award is Matthew Slater of the New England Patriots. Matthew's dad, Jackie Slater, received the 1996 Bart Starr Award. So, this will be our first year to have father and son recipients.

Interviews or stories from other NFL players and coaches will also be included as part of the program. One feature will be a panel of past Bart Starr Award winners, who will be interviewed. This kind of panel took place at last year's Breakfast. It ended up being very entertaining to hear them tell stories and poke fun at one another.

Let me give you a run-down of what our days will be like.

On Sunday, Ed will leave driving a van to Houston with supplies that will be needed. Through the week, he will also do some driving around



Houston to pick up various items or people as well as serve in other behind-the-scenes capacities that are important to making this event a success.

Like I have in the past, my role will be to coordinate all the volunteers. It has been exciting (and a little overwhelming) for me to watch how God has provided the people we need to volunteer.

Hannah and I will fly to Houston on Tuesday and have a day to get settled in before my parents arrive on Thursday to help care for Hannah over the weekend.

Thursday morning I will do a hotel walk-through along with another AIA staff member who is our VIP Escort/Security Coordinator. In this walk-through, we will be guided by a hotel staff member who will help us learn the behind-the-scenes routes to escort VIPs between various rooms we are using.

On Thursday night, our AIA staff have a dinner meeting to discuss all the final details and make sure everyone is on the same page.

On Friday, most of our staff will spend the day either running errands to pick up last minute items or at the Marriott Marquis doing final preparations.

Friday night from 7:00-9:00 p.m. I will coordinate a team of volunteers to put centerpieces

and other items on the tables to prepare for Saturday morning.

Saturday morning, the first wave of volunteers (70 people) will arrive at 5:00 a.m. Our second wave of volunteers (20 people) will arrive at 7:30. With both groups, I will do an orientation and make sure they know what their role entails.

By 7:00 a.m. Breakfast attendees usually begin to arrive. We expect a sold-out event of 1700 people. Our volunteers will serve as greeters, ticket takers and ushers. It takes awhile to seat that many people.

The Breakfast will be from 8:00-10:00 a.m. The program often begins with lots of humor and entertaining videos or interviews. CBS Announcer, James Brown, will be the emcee this year. At the end of the program, he will share the gospel.

After the Breakfast, volunteers will collect and sort comment cards and begin cleaning up any supplies we were using. While that is happening, there will be a VIP Reception for the event sponsors.

By around noon, we should be finished with everything and head to lunch.

I hope this has helped you gain an overview of the Super Bowl Breakfast. I enjoy seeing how God speaks through those on the program and works in people's heart. Now that you know more about what happens through the week, I trust the Holy Spirit will prompt you of items for which you can be praying. Thanks for praying for this event and for us!



Praises

- ❖ God is Good!
- ❖ God provided all the volunteers we need for the Super Bowl Breakfast!

Prayer Requests

- ❖ Safe & easy travel for Ed as he drives (Jan 29-30 & Feb 5-6) and Debbie & Hannah as they fly (Jan 31 & Feb 5) to & from Houston for the Super Bowl Breakfast (SBB). Especially that Hannah will be a good passenger.
- ❖ That the Super Bowl Breakfast will be sold out and that the room will be filled with not-yet-believers whose heart God has prepared to hear the Gospel.
- ❖ Wisdom & unity of thought for all the speakers on the program for the SBB.
- ❖ Many people to make new or renewed commitments to the Lord at the SBB.
- ❖ Continue to pray for fruitful support-raising for Skylar, the guy who is joining AIA staff to be the next challenge course director.



Someone was not cooperating with our attempts to get a good Christmas photo. Silly girl!

From The Heart (by Debbie)

Happy New Year! I know we are already almost through the first month, but this is our first prayer letter for this year. We hope your new year is off to a good start!

Honestly, the past two weeks have been a little stressful for me with trying to balance caring for Hannah, running our household, and accomplishing all I need to do to communicate with our volunteers and prepare for coordinating them well. However, in the midst of the chaos, I have sensed God's peace and presence. I am grateful for all the ways He blesses and provides for every need we have!

Thank you so much for your faithful support and prayers! We are humbled and grateful for your partnership with us in advancing the Gospel!