



Reach Up Reach Out!

Dear Friends,

February 1, 2019

It is a privilege to take a moment and let you know the exciting opportunities the Lord has given us the last couple months.

About a month ago, we began a new weekly clinic to teach some of the young athletes in the community who love volleyball. Each week we focus on building their relationship with God through the sport of volleyball. The results have been wonderful with players driving over an hour to come take part and there are even college coaches who come to help coach and build their faith in Christ.



Two weeks ago an amazing event happened. The USC Men's Volleyball Team played in an exhibition match right here in Nashville, TN. The head coach reached out to me and asked if I could come to the match and take time to speak to the players. It was one of the best "sets" I have ever been given and I took every opportunity to encourage the players on building team unity and encouraging each other through the difficulties. My approach is to begin a relationship with the team and pray for God to continue to open doors so I can share my faith as well. I received this text immediately following from head coach Jeff Nygaard, who played at UCLA when I was playing.

Sun, Jan 20, 7:49 PM

The best alumni interaction with team ever. That is how USC MVB should be represented Dave. Well done and thank you for sharing with us.

Thanks Coach and keep up the great work. As I said to the team, I am so grateful for the opportunity to join in with you all. It means more than words can express.

Delivered

Also, I wanted to share with you some comments about those we train. Lauren (pictured right #32) wrote a card to me recently which said, "Thank you for teaching us how to play for the Lord and pour out our hearts on the court for Him!" (Her full letter is enclosed on the following page)

Also, Sierra (#14) recently sent an unexpected text, "Hey Coach Dave, I just wanted to thank you for what you taught me this last season about God being joyful about us as we play whether we make a mistake or not, how He's constantly rejoicing over our efforts."

Mandy and I want to let you know OUR efforts are making an impact. Thank you for your precious partnership.



Your grateful teammates,

You are a huge encouragement!!

Dave and Mandy



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Here is a card I received from Lauren that I thought would encourage you. Our team goal was always to play for the joy of the Lord. I thank God for the opportunity to coach her.

Coach Dave,

Thank you so much for everything you have done for me and for this team! Words can't even begin to express how much we appreciate you!

Thank you for the countless hours in the gym, for staying late or coming early to individually help us, for the sonic gift cards, for the mini Bible studies before each practice, etc. Thank you for teaching us how to play for the Lord and how to pour out our hearts on the court for Him! I will miss you and this team so much next year, but you'll definitely see me at some practices before I leave.

Thank you for everything
and for the best senior
season I could've asked for,

Lauren C.