

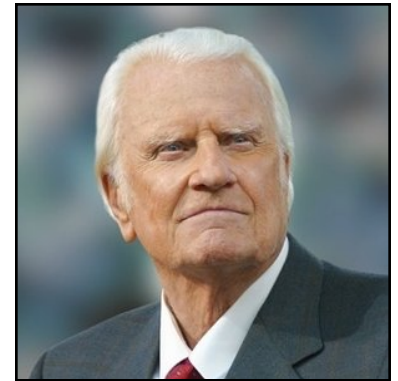


# Reach Up...Reach Out!

Dear Friends,

February 28, 2017

It's great to take a moment and share all the exciting events happening in our ministry work. This last week (pictured on the far left), we helped host a breakfast for 200 athletes and coaches in the Middle Tennessee area who are wanting to build their faith and reach out to their schools. Humorously, there was not enough food for the adults because so many extra kids showed up. I guess it is always true for students... *"If you feed them, they will come!"* One of the coaches who I invited, who coached my son's football team last year, is now committing to find new ways to reach out with the gospel at his school.



Last month, we helped host 9 men's NCAA volleyball teams and this was a first ever NCAA men's tournament in Nashville. One team which came was the University of Hawaii (pictured above with my kids). Between matches, I had fantastic conversations that led to me sharing my faith and encouraging many visiting coaches and athletes. There are even three NCAA teams in Tennessee for me to reach out to with the gospel.

The third picture above shows my creative experiment in reaching out using social media. These devotions called the *"slam of the day"* is where I share a scripture and then dunk a basketball or slam a volleyball. Amazingly, it has opened doors with many people around the world and also opened up opportunities with students I've mentored. By God's grace, my 47 year old legs still have some springs left!

As I reflect on the inspirational life of Billy Graham, I am reminded of his thoughts on faith, sports and coaches. He said, ***"A coach will impact more people in one year than the average person will in an entire lifetime."*** In light of this encouragement, I plan to find new and better ways to reach out specifically to coaches and athletes around the world. I know God has called me to this special people group.

As missionaries, there are endless opportunities to reach out to others with the love of God. As always, it is our greatest pleasure to continue to partner with you. We look forward to catching up soon to hear about how God is moving in your life.

With much love and gratitude,

*You are a huge encouragement!!*

*Dave and Mandy*



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