



Good News of Great Joy...



God writes the best stories, and we have been so blessed witnessing the one He is writing in Maema's life, so we wanted to share it with you too! Over the last couple years, it's been really fun to journey with Maema as he's grown in his faith, trusting God in big ways in his own life and for the blessing of many teammates. He has been diving deep in uprooting lies that have been trying to keep him stuck and replacing these lies with Scriptural truths of what God says about him that bring freedom. He has kept focal points (pic on right) in his locker this season that help him fight lies & get rooted in his Identity in Christ. He has been leaning on these when he is tempted to let circumstances or other things define him. As he is growing and being transformed, its having a ripple effect on the men around him. He is using his platform as a leader on the team to invite other guys to come and see that the Lord is good and journey together in living rooted in the truth. They have started what they call "5 at the 50" (a short team devotional time before practice) and "Real Talk" (a time for connecting and doing life authentically and accountably in community). Please pray for Maema! He has finished his Badger career and is trusting God for the next chapter in his story.

Five lies of identity (from Henri Nouwen):

- 1) I am what I have.
- 2) I am what I do.
- 3) I am what other people say or think of me.
- 4) I am nothing more than my worst moment.
- 5) I am nothing less than my best moment.

Another incredible story God has been creating is the opportunity to serve the Wisconsin football coaches. More than 20 of the coaches & staff have been meeting together each week to grow spiritually! Throughout the season, they have been exploring the topics of surrendering by faith, living a Holy Spirit empowered life, having peace & joy amidst adversity, and hearing God speak through prayer and Scripture. The guys coming are at all different places in the faith growth process. Some have shared that they look forward to this as a special highlight of their week, while others have said that they really appreciate and respect it, and even while faith development hasn't previously been a big priority for them, they see this time as really valuable and have been enjoying it too. We are so encouraged seeing God at work and we are trusting Him to meet each individual where they are at! Please pray for the seeds of the Gospel to take root and for Kyle as he continues to lead in these opportunities that God has opened up with the football team.

Full of THANKS for you and your generous impact on us and those we serve!

"And my God will supply all your needs according to the riches in glory in Christ Jesus. Now to our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen"

This promise from Philippians 4:19, 20 is so powerful and it comes alive for our family in many ways through YOU, our generous and faithful partners in the mission! We are so grateful for you as God's instruments in our lives and ministry to athletes and coaches. Thank you for blessing us in the special ways that you encourage and provide. We are so thankful for every gift shared with us and eternal impact of your partnership. We are filled with appreciation for you and the generous ways you care for and equip us. The stories we get to share of seeing God at work are possible because you are in our corner and empowering us.

As we come to the close of 2023, if you are considering giving a year-end donation we are so grateful! Your gift will help us continue to serve athletes and coaches as well as send Jayne on our summer ministry opportunity to Central Asia in June. As with any gift, (and to make sure you get a 2023 tax deduction) please make your check payable to Athletes in Action with our staff account number (0581139) written in the memo line. It would be most helpful if you could mail it to us (address bottom of page) by Dec 31 so we can get it to Cru by the end of the year.

Another easy way to make a contribution is by bank transfer or credit card. To do this, please go to our secure Campus Crusade for Christ giving page at www.give.cru.org/0581139 and follow the instructions.



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Sending Christmas greetings and thanks
to you from Team Wenig
Kyle, Jayne,
AJ, Leisel, George, and Simon