



MUSINGS IN MINISTRY

Campus Crusade for Christ

Building Spiritual Movements Everywhere

June 28, 2010

There are moments, spaces and places in time when I'm able to see God's hand clearly. This is one of those instants. God has met me in profound ways during this Stint year in Florida and as it has just come to an end, I have savored the memories of what He has done these last 11 months. In my last letter, I wrote about my approaching ten year anniversary with Campus Crusade for Christ and starting a new role – I am amazed by His sweetness in presenting such an opportunity to me. The type of influence we'll have in the lives of others is growing and I am so grateful. Isn't it astonishing that He chooses to link arms with us to build His Kingdom? I pray this reality never grows weary, tired or old even as the ongoing years of my life might find me experiencing some of those things personally.

One thing I've reflected on as the Stint came to a close was the truth that *I was* weary, tired and lacking passion when I arrived in Orlando last August. I knew the Lord had called me to set this year aside, investing in a different way and positioned to receive from believers who genuinely cared that I stayed in ministry for the long haul. The place we needed to begin was in my heart. At the time I remember thinking that I'd contribute at Campus Crusade's headquarters, accomplish some good things for the Kingdom and perhaps, God might help me regain my passion in service and love for Him. He has far exceeded my longing, yet weak expectations!

What changed? Last October I finally laid my heart on the table before the Lord. Surprised, even shocked, at the depth of pain I was holding inside, I disengaged from Him (though others reminded me that He wouldn't let go of me). I spent the next six weeks walking through my days with eyes-glazed-over, fully aware of my disappointment in and anger toward the Lord. During that time, friends prayed for me, didn't try to 'fix' me, listened to me and showered me with mercy. It was as if the Lord was doing this Himself. It might sound strange and counter-intuitive (it still seems that way to me), but God met me in spite of the walls I built, the lies I believed and the wounds I was still licking from the past *by exposing me to my pain* so I might experience *freedom*.

The understanding of His love in the midst of my brokenness has brought a new depth to my comprehension and experience of what the Apostle Paul prayed in Ephesians 3:16-19:

"I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, ¹⁷so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, ¹⁸may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, ¹⁹and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God."

I share all of this as a reminder of the remarkable and loving God we serve. He is the One we're telling others about—He's the One who changes our lives. I love that this inner work of transformation continues, that He doesn't cease molding and shaping us into the image of His Son, Jesus; and I love that He graciously and truthfully pursues us. Thank you for journeying with me as we know Jesus and make Him known. My prayer is that the people of our world would *know* the love of God in Christ Jesus and that their lives would be forever changed by Him. I cannot wait to see how He continues to move in and through us as we actively tell the world about Jesus.

I'm so glad that we're in this together—thank you for your generous partnership!!

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