

Acadia Women's Expedition

A ten-day outdoor adventure emphasizing
"The Attributes of God"



Prayer Requests:

Student leaders from UConn will be coming July 11-13 to learn about grace and truth and how to apply it evangelistically. Please pray that our hiking and rappelling programs will help the students adopt and apply the Word to their lives and their witness to others.

July 30-August 11 Dan will be helping to lead a Lifelines Expedition for Valor, Cru's military ministry (ROTC students and those from the Naval Academy.) Pray for insight as he and the team plan for this event, and for God to capture the hearts of those who come, that they would find their identity in Christ.

Praise God for His work in the women who came on the Acadia Women's Expedition! Pray that "He who began a good work will see it through to completion."

"Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts..."

-Romans 5:2-5

Not in my Power, but in Thine.

They were the best of times, they were the worst of times... (grin.) Our women's expedition was filled with both laughter and tears – both of which brought unity, healing, and a dependence on God. One of the students had been told by her family prior to the trip that she would never make it and never be able to keep up. She shouldn't go because she would just be the weak link. In faith, she chose to come anyway. After a grueling day of biking we were up early on day two facing a hike up Cadillac Mountain. This student had never been hiking and was cold and

exhausted. In tears she confessed that she feared her parents were right. As we wrapped around her in prayer and a group hug, she took courage... and made her way to the top. That day became a true mountain top experience. Her mantra went from "I am not good enough" to "I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength!" What an inspiration to us all as she rock climbed all the way to the top days later and then courageously reached out to strangers during our service project at the end of the week. May she continue to find strength in Him.



“A charming friendship is in the making”

-actually, this fortune cookie was spot on!

Lovely and lonely

I was amazed at the similarities in the stories these women shared around the campfire each night. Bright, athletic, attractive and young; yet, these students shared a common theme: deep loneliness. Some had been abandoned by parent; others had been betrayed by friends; some just were scared to let others truly know them. God had undoubtedly drawn them together for a reason, and that

became all the more clear as they bared their hearts over the course of ten days and practiced loving and trusting one another, and the Lord, in new and deeper ways.

During a hike we led a program about God’s grace. Each student wrote some personal sins on rocks at the base of the mountain and then added them to their backpack for the hike up. Ugh! Eventually we stopped and asked them to share what was on their rocks. Pride, drunkenness, self-

hatred, masturbation, unforgiveness, judgment... the program became a time of confession. Then as everyone sobbed, we staff took their rocks one by one. “Colleen, I take this rock of self hatred away from you...” and with all my heart I wanted to do so. We carried their burdens the rest of the way. What love the Savior has for us. How much more aware we all were that God has removed our sins completely and reconciled us to Himself - that we should be called children of God.



Bend, Oregon

This June, Dan spent three days in Oregon helping the Lifelines team there with some team dynamics, facilitating communication and reconciliation. As the Development Director, this is a part of Dan’s job that he loves. We have amazing staff and great leaders, but the majority of

missionaries who leave the field do so because of difficult team relationships. One of our goals as Lifelines is to help intervene and create an environment for team growth not only within our own ministry, but throughout Cru. We want staff teams to truly function as the loving family of Christ, refueling one another to do the work God has called them to.