



Thrive Adventures: Investing in communities to know Christ and live like Him

The Harvester

Dan & Heather Litchfield

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Girls and Body Image

“I don’t need to care what others think of me; God doesn’t think I’m weird.”

This past month we hosted girls from East Auburn Baptist’s youth group—fifteen of them were 7-8th graders. They came for a retreat focused on body image and self-esteem. Throughout the weekend activities we emphasized believing what God says is true rather than relying on what the culture says, and on caring for, rather than comparing oneself to, others. We ended with activities that reinforced our need for each other, encouraging the girls to speak loving care and truth into each other’s lives.

Many of these kids have broken homes and devastating relationships with their own mothers. “I’m realizing I’m normal... I am not a loner like my mom says I am,” said one student. Another girl, whose estranged mom was suicidal, had a similar realization: “Other people are feeling what I’m feeling. I’m normal.” These girls are so young and beautiful and trying to find their way in a sin-filled world. Please pray that these seeds of hope and the love of Christ would bind them together be their truth and strength.



Exercising courage!

Thank you

Your prayers and support are the backbone of this ministry. We pray for you every Monday as friends and as a vital part of Thrive. Please join us on a future Thrive adventure!!
Happy Thanksgiving.

Questions & Answers

Our vision is that we will see a culture renewed by the grace and truth of the Gospel. At a recent staff meeting, Dan asked the question to our team, "What is our highest level of contribution?" We were quick to respond that the best way we contribute is by helping people practice Biblical truth through experience, and by encouraging groups to walk in the light and love each other with grace and truth. We believe that this is the role God has given us to play in the Body of Christ to edify the church and to help each person, no matter where their starting point, to take the next step of faith.

Still, we have questions and impediments to push through: "How will we best reach out to non-believers, and how do we build rapport with struggling churches so that we can join them in helping to revive the church? How do we get the word out about who we are and what we offer, and where can we find housing for groups in the winter?" Please pray for wisdom and for our attentiveness to God's leading in these areas.



Elders & Pastors

This fall, the elders and pastors of Fayette Baptist Church launched their kayaks off the shores of Acadia National Park to fight a mock spiritual battle. From there they ascended the mountains to exercise leadership and foresight.

Together we discussed the direction of the church and addressed the differences between a group of individuals and an individual group. "This has been amazing," said one pastor.

Another pastor recently told us that their whole church has been applying the grace and truth elements we've taught. This group has asked to do a follow up retreat this coming summer to keep them moving forward. We are so honored to be part of the health of this church.



A recent hike that emphasized the majesty of God

Community

We continue to pursue ways that we can build relationships in the community. One way that we have found to do that is through teaching classes at our local homeschool co-op. Dan has been leading a weekly Boys discipleship class for 13 teen boys and I have 14 teen girls in my Attributes of God class. I also teach three other classes there, reaching all 60 kids at various points through the day each Thursday. It has been a joy to be part of the growth of these youth who will, by God's grace, become spiritual leaders.