

The Harvester

Creating life-giving experiences so people will know Christ and live like Him



Fishing for Fruit

Eagles swooping low over the ice, cutting through a crystal blue sky, kids and dads milling around the fire talking and waiting for their flags to pop up... Thrive was hosting a Dad's day out ice fishing with the kids, focusing on being purposeful parents. Already the Dads had partnered off with their kids answering spiritual questions intended to guide them into deeper conversation. After drilling their own holes, they gathered up to discuss ways to create meaningful moments, and together addressed how to pursue relationship. "We really appreciate today; you got me thinking about a goal list for my family," said one father. What a gift for a dad to give his kids: time and spiritual direction.



Non-Profit!

We praise God that as of February 25th Thrive is an official non-profit!!! Now we can take tax-deductible contributions made directly to Thrive Adventures and we are exempt from federal income tax. We believe this will benefit the ministry for long-term growth.

Forgiveness: Does it matter?

How do you forgive someone who hasn't apologized? When you are unwilling to forgive someone else, what are you really saying about them or about yourself?

These were some of our discussion questions with the youth at our church last month when we hosted a Thrive program. The kids had just played a game of "Extreme Sorry!"—an activity we made up where the kids were the

pawns playing against each other on a massive game board. They could bump each other, build walls, and go forward or backward depending on cards drawn and the scheming of their team. It produced the intended result: the need to forgive those who were "undeserving." Although the game was lighthearted, real wounds are not. Kids talked about pain and practiced forgiving those who have hurt them, just as Christ has forgiven us.

Effects of the Corona Virus

Dear friends, we pray for your health and well-being during this turbulent time. Though the school closings have not overly affected our homeschooling, we have had four Thrive events cancelled or postponed so far for the month of March. I do not know how our April trips will be affected. I have joked that we would have job security because there are always people

to minister to, but I had not counted on being in isolation! So, we are writing training manuals, packaging retreats for future months, and trusting God as we seek His direction and wait to see what is next. We thank God for His Sovereignty and we trust in His goodness, and we pray that this will lead many to faith, bringing life from death.

"Be watchful, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong. Let all you do be done in love."

-1 Corinthians 16:13, 14

May we together be a testimony to the world of the love and hope of Christ.

Please pray with us

March 15-21

Please pray that we will make wise use of technology in ministering during this period of social distancing. Pray that we will care well for our older neighbors who do not know the Lord.

March 22-28

Pray for Dan as he speaks at Hope Baptist Church and for my scheduled speaking engagement at First Baptist in Meredith, NH: that we would offer life and encouragement, glorifying God and rightly handling His Word. Please pray for our Thrive staff around the country to be saturated with and motivated by His Word.

March 29-April 4

Pray for discernment in knowing when and how to open our home to groups, and for guidance as we create our new staff training manual. Pray that God would add full time staff and volunteers to our three Thrive teams. We praise God for the intern who is joining our Asheville team and for the new house He has provided for our New Mexico teammates, the Simpsons.

April 5-April 11

We praise God for the resurrection and pray that this virus would bring people to their knees before Christ in submission, reliance, and worship. Pray for steadfastness.

April 12-18

Please pray for our teams, which will be meeting in Asheville for our national conference: a time of prayer, play, and planning. Pray that we will enliven one another and see God's direction for the coming year of ministry and beyond. Pray for faith and fruit.

April 19-25

Pray for healing and open doors to minister to groups, and for opportunities to serve individuals on the island. Pray that we would proclaim His gospel boldly.