

The Roe's Patch

July 24, 2014



Dear Partner,

Maddie is a UW-Madison student who came to the North Myrtle Beach Summer Project with us. She's the highlight of my (Bonnie's) summer. Not long ago Maddie was, in her own words, being used up by this world. Read on to see what she says about her life now.

I did not grow up in a church or have any faith base whatsoever. I have experienced every form of abuse between both of my parents and ended up living with different friends' families since eighth grade. My mother is an alcoholic who was diagnosed with Bipolar Disorder and my father is a man that I do not have a relationship with anymore. I didn't know or believe in God at all. My senior year of high school I started exploring Christianity more and began learning about Jesus and what He did for us. When I started school at UW-Madison I quickly reverted back to living for myself and the world. The summer after my freshman year I had one of the hardest times of my life and felt I had lost everything. In my brokenness, I started going to Cru with a girl I had a class with. I then went to TCX, a Cru conference, and it was there that I fully understood the gospel and gave my life to Christ. Since then I am in constant amazement of God's provision and love. The community and support Cru has brought me has been so incredible, which is how I ended up on this project.



Now I'm on summer project at North Myrtle Beach and this project has changed my life. So far we have seen 250 people place their trust in Christ, and I personally have seen almost 30! It is one of the most amazing experiences in life to see someone just completely open up, break down, and trust Christ with their life. God completely broke my heart for the lost, especially those that have no way of hearing about God or the gospel. I believe God is calling me to be a permanent missionary for the rest of my life. I will continue to do international projects while finishing school and then pursue missionary work.

This project has been the most life-changing experience. It has allowed me to work through many issues from my past, clearing the way for a deeper walk with Christ. It has allowed me to learn to share the gospel, which we are called to do as believers. It's been amazing to experience and witness the power of prayer as well as how powerful God is. I called my mom one night from here, intending to share the gospel. As stated above, my mom is a hard alcoholic and this has had detrimental effects on her life and her relationships. While I was sharing with her she expressed to me that although she didn't believe in God, she'd prayed a few days prior and asked Him to take away her addiction to drinking. The next day she was hospitalized with permanent pancreas damage from the alcohol and hasn't had a sip of alcohol since then, and it's been two weeks and counting! At the end of the conversation she also prayed to receive Christ into her life as well! It's been so amazing to see God move in people's lives here. The concept that this life is not my own, but Christ's, has completely solidified.

Thank you so much for making our work possible!

Scott & Bonnie Roe