

JANUARY 2014

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CAROLINA CONNECTION

CRU AT UNC-CHAPEL HILL



Pray for the Smiths

- Pray for our busy Spring semester. Josh is out of town 6 out of 9 weekends Jan / Feb / Mar.
- Pray for students as they have follow up conversations from Porn Nation. Pray for authenticity and healing for those struggling with this issue on campus.
- Pray for our family—for us to parent Harrison well and for him to grow strong/keep gaining weight. And for sacrificial service in our marriage.
- Pray for spiritual multiplication in our Bible Studies on campus and for new student leaders to be raised up.
- Pray for Erin’s Bible Study and discipleship with Senior girls. Pray they would be “sent well” to have life long ministries in whatever the Lord calls them to after college.

Thank you for praying and giving toward our ministry. We received over \$8000 in response to our End of Year Letter in Dec/Jan. We are amazed how God continues to provide for us.

MMKR 2014 Ideal vs Real

January 24-26 a group of 35 guys got together for our annual men’s retreat- ManMaker (MMKR). This is a highlight for many guys to get an opportunity to connect, be honest and be challenged to take steps to follow Jesus.

The first evening of the retreat, we considered what messages culture says ideal masculinity looks like. Then we dialogued about how focussing so much on the ideal rather than the reality hinders our walk with Christ. Day to day many of the guys shared this is where they are at: hyper-critical, lazy, self absorbed, insecure, incapable, embarrassed, ashamed, co-dependent, unsure, afraid. We processed the gospel over the weekend and challenged guys to consider the God of the Bible loves them right now exactly where they are at but that as we grow and walk with him he will shape us into the men he wants us to be.

Along with a day of service work, a BBQ buffet and basketball in 14 degree weather this time was a success. Please pray for these guys on our campus to continue to grow in authentic community and deep walks with Jesus!



Porn Nation

About 5 years ago we brought in a speaker, Michael Leahy, to address the issue of pornography and its hold on this generation. Last week we were excited to have him back, this time joined by his wife Christine. The Leahys shared their own stories of sexual addiction and the grip pornography had on their lives, as well as in our culture at large. After sharing the devastation this sin can (and did) cause, they talked about how Christ brought restoration and healing into their lives. They closed the time with a Q&A where students asked questions such as, “Is it really that harmful to watch pornography occasionally?” Another student asked what a practical step would be to begin to deal with such an addiction. About 700 students attended, some involved with Cru and some non believers who came with friends. Pray for us as a staff team and for our student leaders as we have follow up conversations with those who attended.



(Visit bravehearts.net for more info and resources on the Leahys’ ministry)