

Matt Williams - Campus Crusade for Christ

Building Spiritual Movements Everywhere

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After driving almost three hours, we pull into the parking lot of the Ventura Beach Marriott ready for an amazing weekend at Fall Retreat. I'm quite anxious to see how the weekend will go. So many thoughts and questions race through my head: "What will be different from my other times at Fall Retreat as a student? How will the students respond to the messages? How will God meet us here?" Soon hundreds of boisterous and authentic college students arrive by the car loads ready for a weekend away from the busyness of school to simply be still before the Lord and worship our great God and King, Jesus.



worship at Fall Retreat

You can feel the energy in the room as the worship band strikes up and we approach the throne of grace with confidence by the shed blood of Christ. Can you imagine singing the words, "Jesus paid it all, and all to him I owe. Sin had left a crimson stain, he washed it white as snow," with over 500 passionate followers of Christ? Yeah, it gives me chill bumps again just thinking about it! The whole weekend was an overwhelming experience of knowing Christ and knowing each other. We saw God move in students' lives in mightier ways than expected. Over the weekend ten students surrendered their lives to Christ, many students made significant decisions to serve God overseas next year, and many others were inspired to start sharing their faith with their classmates and friends. **Praise God that he is transforming our lives from the inside out, beginning with our hearts and minds, to be more like Jesus.**

How are you doing, Matt?

Thanks for asking! I was blessed during Fall Retreat with a group of men who weren't afraid to share the deep parts of their lives and allow other men to feel their hurt. It was a huge step in my life because in the past year I have been struggling to start processing some things from my past, mainly the death of my father at the young age of nine. As a result, I've started meeting with a counselor from a local church to enter back into the grieving process that was never completed. **Would you pray that God comforts me in this difficult journey of resurfacing all the thoughts and emotions from losing my father?** I yearn for God to redeem the wounds of my past so that I may become the man he created me to be.



discussion groups at Fall Retreat

As always, I have so many other thoughts to share with you that just can't be contained within one prayer letter. The latest lesson that Jesus is teaching me is how he can use me in even greater ways when I come to him as a broken vessel. **Pray that I will "present my body as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God."** You can read more on my website (web address below). Blessings!

- pray that my heart would overflow from loving the Lord into the men I am working with
- ask God to continue raising up missionaries from Cal Poly who will serve Jesus all over the world
- continued student ownership of the movement
- clear vision for my long-term future; wisdom in finding a wife
- physical, mental, and spiritual rest during the holidays

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