

As Kyle and I walk into the auditorium and take our seats in the back, I notice two things. One, being three minutes late to morning class is not going to cut it. Two, there are plenty of familiar faces that I have not seen in years. It was the first day of four weeks of class, and I'm already thinking about all the fun people I need to catch up with. If you can't tell by now, I'm an extravert and love being around fun and life-giving people. But that's not always the case.

One of the biggest reminders I was given this summer is that my job of relating to and loving people is often a tiring but very rewarding task. It's one that takes much of my time and energy, and the rewards are mostly known in the life to come. It's absolutely a labor of love. To be honest, there are some days I get frustrated and lose sight of the greater goal. But then there are days where God vividly reminds me that His task of bringing the gospel to all nations is accomplished in His power, not mine. I get so caught up in the mission of God that I miss God himself.

My biggest prayer this summer was that I would be captured by God's love in engaging my mind first, then my heart. The four weeks of classes helped me develop some emotional and spiritual margin in life. Being in a beautiful location, with great people, while studying and worshipping God was exactly what I needed. Allow me to share highlights from each class.

Old Testament Survey

With a good professor, many of the small details in the OT came to life in new ways! Even things like the Mediterranean climate and cultural contexts make a big difference when they show God's heart and relationship with his people.

Systematic Theology

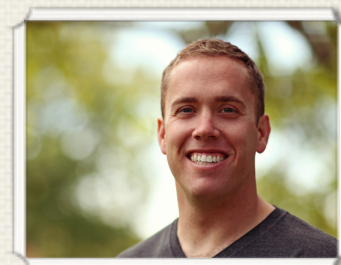
This class gave us the opportunity to consider how God uses His spoken word, the Bible, in conjunction with the Holy Spirit to accomplish His mission. I loved learning more about the Spirit.

Biblical Interpretation & Communication

So much work went into these classes. For the first two weeks all we did was study and analyze one passage of Scripture. I picked the story of David's and Mephibosheth in 2 Samuel 9. After much time reading and reflecting, it was clear that the story is an image of the way God shows undeserved kindness to us.

The second half was developing an effective message for our respective ministry audiences, which for me is athletes.

July 29th, 2013



MATT WILLIAMS SERVING
WITH CRU & AIA

I daily spend myself for God's kingdom by winning students to Christ, building them in their faith, and sending them as kingdom laborers.

"PRAYER IS THE GREATER WORK."

- my time in S.Carolina would be fruitful and energizing
- vision for how to launch the athlete movement this fall
- team unity as we have many new interns this fall
- long term wisdom and vision for where God has me five, ten years from now

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*Keep reading on
the back side
to hear fun
personal news!*



Giving every student the opportunity to hear the good news of Jesus Christ.

SNAPSHOTS FROM COLORADO



Hiking with Jenny on a beautiful CO day



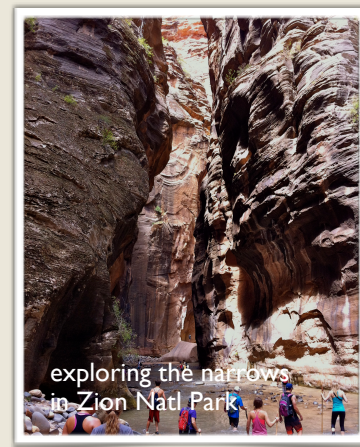
outside Moby arena, our meeting location



Vonette Bright praying for us



class on the CSU campus



exploring the narrows in Zion Natl Park

Best Colorado Moments

- Meeting and pursuing Jenny
- Being refreshed and challenged by God's Word
- Seeing God's creation during the road trip out and back
- Summiting my first 14k ft. mountain (aka "14er")
- Meeting and worshipping with 5,000 other Cru missionaries and staff
- Catching up with old friends who are on campuses around the world
- Remembering that I love my job! It's such a privilege. Thanks for partnering with me in this ministry.

Meet my girlfriend, Jenny!

Jenny and I first met out on the rec field and I quickly asked if she could join the ultimate frisbee team that I was leading for the Cru intramural league. The first thing I noticed was she brought so much life and energy to our team. So about halfway into the summer we talked and I asked her on a first date. We both enjoyed each other, found common traits, and fun differences. My favorite trait is that she overflows with love for others that comes from the Lord. After two weeks of pursuing her, we both agreed a long distance relationship was worth it.

We're not excited about long distance - especially when the school year starts and we both get busy - but we are trying our best to make it work! **Please pray for wisdom in how to lead well, and creative ideas for the long distance pursuit.** In fact, if you have any great ideas yourself, please pass them my way. Thanks for rejoicing with me. :)