



Grace & CLEATS

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 5

OCTOBER 2011

PLEASE PRAY...

- that I would resolve to grow in my knowledge and affection for Jesus Christ and Him crucified every day
- for diligence in completing my MDiv by March 2012.
- for God to use this ministry to reconcile people to Himself through Jesus
- for wisdom/discernment to properly restructure the ministry for 2012
- for God to raise up leaders with a heart to serve in this ministry
- that my life toward, and before, Jenni and the boys would exude grace and model Christ-likeness
- for God's financial provision.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Oct 30: Preaching on Matt 5:9-12
- Nov 10: SRM Team Mtg
- Wed: Open Gym Volleyball
- Thurs & Sat: Open Gym Basketball

Pressing on Toward the GOOOOAL!

There is a slight chance that you enjoyed the pun in the title, but more thank likely you are either embarrassed for me or you didn't get it. Regardless of your camp, let me explain why I linked soccer with Philippians 3:14 where Paul says, "I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus". This prize which Paul strains toward with every fiber of his being is Christ Himself – to know Him fully and fellowship with Him perfectly. The context of chapter 3 bears this out as Paul exhorts his brothers to NOT put their confidence in the flesh (accomplishments, position, possessions, good works, etc) but in Christ.

Pointing people toward this great prize is the goal of the Sports & Recreation Ministry. On the one hand we are intentional about equipping participants to excel on the athletic field and even to pursue winning. On the other hand, we are just as intentional about teaching them to consider winning as a loss compared to the

surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus as Lord. This is the essence of what it means to live and compete for the glory of God.

I pray we were successful in accomplishing that goal with the Youth Soccer League that ended on October 15th. We have so much for which to praise God. We had 136 kids of which only 30% (42) were from Crossroads. We had 103 families represented of which only 30% (31) were from Crossroads. We had 30 outstanding coaches and numerous volunteers that helped with set up/tear down, concessions, and field maintenance. The fields and equipment held up well. The weather was great all season. And the feedback has been positive with kids (and their parents) enjoying the league and improving as the season progressed.

I am encouraged by all of this. I am excited to think about the ways in which God may continue to grow this ministry. At the same time, I must continually remind myself (and others) that, although



the things mentioned above are encouraging and exciting, we (as a ministry and a church) cannot put our confidence there. We cannot put our confidence in numbers or past successes or compliments or potential. We must put our confidence in Christ alone, in the power and faithfulness of God to work in a transformational way through the proclamation and demonstration of the Gospel.

That is our goal – to point people to Jesus that they might pursue him as their prize. Will you pray that this goal will be accomplished and that God would bring about abundant fruit?





The Boys:
Carson (5), Coby (7),
Caleb (9), Cohen (1)

Fall Break

October 15th - the end of the Soccer Season - effectively began somewhat of a "down time" for the ministry. Essentially I get to focus more time on those things that get completely neglected March through October.

Many of those things are ministry related. I spend a lot of time reflecting on the past year of ministry and planning for the next, I get to catch up on administrative items (which means I can see the top of my desk again). And I have more time for teaching opportunities

like preaching on October 30th.

This is also a critical time to get caught up on my seminary course work. This is especially true this year as I hope to be finished by the end of March. Please pray that God would give me to strength to persevere here and work hard toward that goal.

All of this is great, but, honestly, I am most excited about having weekends available to be at home and spend with the family, to not have something going on

almost every night of the week, and to just have time to enjoy each other. Also, for the first time in 5 years, I will not be preaching over Christmas Break. This may seem like a small thing, but with the summer being so busy, I don't get many extended times with the boys when they are not in school.

I love this ministry, but I would lying if I said I don't look forward to a little slower schedule. I am praying that God would use it to refresh me and my family for the coming year.

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SUPPORT UPDATE:

2011 PROJECTED SHORTFALL
(\$3,500)

Please make **tax-deductible**
contributions to:

Crossroads Community Church

14885 Southeastern Pkwy
Fishers, IN 46037

Memo: SRM - Staff Support

"...rather, train yourself to be godly. For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come."

- 1 Timothy 4:7b-8

Time Sensitive Prayer Requests

I know I always share prayer requests on the front page of these newsletters, but those are often more of a general nature - requests that will likely always be true and needed. As I enter the season mentioned above for the next few months, there are some specific requests I ask you to join me in praying through.

1. **2012 Support Raising** - As you can see at the left, we are just a little short for 2011, but we praise our faithful God for what was our best year for consistent support. Would you join us in praying the same for 2012?
2. **Completion of MDiv** - I have established an aggressive plan to polish off my last 4 classes by the end of March allowing me to pursue ordination by as early as November 2012. This would be a huge load lifted from our family. Would you pray for diligence and perseverance?
3. **Ministry Structure** - As mentioned last month, I plan to role out a completely revamped ministry structure this Winter that will prepare the ministry for sustainable future growth and free me up to focus on vision (or ministry development), leadership development, and teaching. Will you join me in praying for this process as well as the raising up of qualified men and women to join our ministry leadership team?

Thank You!

As I prepare to send out our annual support letter, I just want to take the time to thank you for being such a vital part of this ministry through your prayer and financial support. It blows me away to think that God prepared you before the

creation of the world to partner in this ministry with me and my family. Thank you for being faithful to that call. You have been a blessing to our family, to our community, and far beyond. Trust me when I say that your involvement in this ministry has

impacted people around this country and even the world with the Gospel. Thank you!

Grace
David



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