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Reaching **COLLEGE STUDENTS** with Jeff and Karen



FEBRUARY 2018

Love,
Jeff + Karen

A DAY IN THE LIFE

After breakfast and devotions with the family, I rush out the door, starting my day with a call to one of our missionaries from Cru City. He is going to help me encourage my

friends at EA Sports to grow their corporate Bible study and be a light to fellow game designers. It's a strange world at EA, a corporate building full of computer geeks designing football and basketball games. My friend Josh (right) graduated from Full Sail University, spent a year working on a cartoon series for our Jesus Film ministry, and has been rising through the ranks at one of the biggest video game companies in the world. What a chance for the light and love of Jesus to impact those who design the games that entertain so many children and adults!



PRAISES

- * Opportunities to train staff teams and expand their ministries
- * Students boldly preaching in a hard environment
- * Karen's health is growing stronger



Sitting down at an office space in Cru headquarters, my next encounter was online with a teammate in Chicago. He is helping give leadership to a nation-wide mission we are undertaking together with InterVarsity (IV). The plan is to prayer walk every campus in the nation by the end of 2020, asking the Lord to help us reach the 3,000 schools we haven't yet. My friend's job is to develop the prayer guide and my job is to help churches join in. I'm excited!

Next, my family picked me up and we headed off to a nearby campus where 10 leaders and professors (representing 7 ministries!) gathered to seek the Lord for the campus and plan our upcoming, on-campus Easter outreach. How powerful to praying together in a conference room just downstairs from the President of the college! My joy about so many different ministries working in unity was matched by my joy about the diversity (culture, age, gender, church background, etc) in the room. With a student body as diverse as this one, we are especially blessed to work alongside strong men and women from other cultural backgrounds! And on a personal note, we are thrilled that our kids get to hang out with these awesome people who love Jesus and want to seek Him.

After hitting the homeschool supply store on the way home, we were pretty exhausted, but I'm glad I didn't miss the chance to have my final encounter of the day with the director of Faith Drawn Studios. A talented young artist, storyteller and web designer, Michael opened up his heart that evening over the phone. It was incredible to hear his story, and be able



Arul, a missionary with IV, has been an incredible blessing to the students and we have been able to participate in each other's events and lift each other up in prayer for years now.

REQUESTS

- * Prioritizing our opportunities
- * Our daughter's mysterious cough/throat-clearing
- * Building our team
- * Spring Break missions
- * Family to grow in love and maturity

Luke 12:32

So don't be
afraid, little flock.
For it gives your
Father great
happiness
to give you the
Kingdom.

to engage with what it means to have a holy God that loves broken people.

We felt drawn to look deeply into who God is, a topic Cru founder Bill Bright spent his last years focused on. You can see Dr. Bright's work and deepen your own relationship with God at DiscoverGod.com. It's an exciting life serving the Lord!

FAITH-DRAWN
STUDIOS





Homeschool field trip to the Kennedy Space Center



Baking Pretzels on Katherine's birthday

WHAT GOD'S BEEN TEACHING US

Over the munchings and crunchings of cereal, it is my (Jeff's) delight to start each day reading the word of God to our children. After doing therapy exercises to work on Arthur's eyes and/or feet each day, we get to unpack a small passage of Scripture. We scavenger hunt through the verses looking for what God is like, what we are like, and what God is doing or saying to us. He was certainly

speaking to us the morning I would set out to do all those things (see front page).

We read from Luke 12:22-34, where Jesus reminds us not to worry about our needs, as if it's up to us or as if God doesn't care. It certainly applies to our physical needs, an appropriate message for me as I consider an upcoming time of support raising. But I think we can forget how it applies to our ministry work as well.

Heading out to all those opportunities, I needed to be reminded that it isn't me who will reach people for Christ. It isn't me who will, by my sheer awesomeness or hard work, bring about transformation that is worthwhile. I'm another sheep, prancing alongside the One who guides me from still water to green pasture to valley of shadows and back. On my own shoulders, ministry would be a terrible burden that would make me proud or ashamed and burnt out at the same time. With a right view of the Shepherd, however, I get to spend day after day just dancing with the King!

