



COLLEGE OUTREACH

WITH JEFF & KAREN GRANT



JUNE 2014

Happy Summer! We pray this is a time of restoration and fun, even as you see God use you. Watch the story on [our site](#) to be encouraged about what God can do.

Love,

Jeff + Karen

WINNING MATTERS

In Brazil, the world is fixed for a few weeks on these dedicated athletes. For the past several years, though, [Athletes in Action](#) (our sports ministry) has been preparing for this moment, recruiting staff members and players as well as raising up churches looking to mobilize an effort that would expand the ministry in that country long after the World Cup is over.



We estimate that over **300 million** people will see the video that they produced, [The Prize](#), that has soccer greats talking about their faith in Christ. Athletes from Brazil, Cameroon, Germany, Zambia and the US share their testimonies about how God sustains them through the pressures demanded of them, empowers them to do anything, and remains the foundation of their lives. If you know a sports fan, connecting them to this video might connect them to Jesus Himself!

One testimony given is from Ricardo “Kaká” Izecson. After being called the best player in the world at age 18, an injury almost took him out forever. He says, “I learned to live each day, always waiting, knowing that God has the daily bread and having faith that things can change at any moment... Faith is knowing God is in control, even when things aren’t going as we want.”



They also prepared a sports-based Bible study that you can [download free here](#). Pray for Kaká and the thousands of students we will share the gospel with through their sports team this year!

STAY-AT-HOME MISSION TRIP

This summer, God is using Jeff to make a big difference in the lives of students all across the US! He is coaching “missional living” groups in NJ, PA, TX, CA and AZ as they participate in an online mission trip called [Mission Summer](#).



During one session, they taught students how to tell stories about how God changed their lives. One student, Samantha, shared this:



I was abused for 16 years, I cut myself to release the pain. I was bullied through middle and high school. I always struggled with people walking out of my life, being valuable, etc.

Going to a [Cru winter conference](#) is when it hit me, I did not have to be perfect. I realized that trust was the biggest issue and I just had to trust the Lord and let Him lead. I have hope back in my life and I am thankful to everyone that supports me. The Lord changed my life and He can change yours too, you just have to be willing to let Him. [more](#)

PRaises

- * Got to share with MANY open-minded students this month!
- * Great visits from family and friends
- * 4 churches talking about serving together
- * Breakthrough in Karen’s health!

REQUESTS

- * God’s words as we train our youth group in evangelism
- * Everything to come together for an official launch at Full Sail University
- * For opportunities to speak at churches in NJ this Aug/Sept

Matt 10:32-33

Everyone who acknowledges me publicly here on earth, I will also acknowledge before my Father in heaven. But everyone who denies me here on earth, I will also deny before my Father in heaven.

FAMILY UPDATE

We have both been praying that God would use our move to Orlando to allow us to minister to family and friends as a place of rest and rejuvenation when they visit. That was really put to the test this month, which has been a marathon of visitors. It started with Karen's mom,

Grammy, who stayed for 2.5 weeks! We had missed her so much since we last saw her in early October, and we were all blessed by how well such a long visit went, looking forward to seeing each other again (much sooner this time we hope).

Next, our good friends CG and Liz from PA came for a quick visit. We had fun and they grilled us with really good questions about parenting in preparation for their new baby! We're pretty sure we didn't steer them irreparably wrong :)

Finally, we had an extended visit with beloved friends, Sean and Maria, who served with us in the NJ college ministry. They are in the midst of some major life decisions, and we were so glad to be able to minister to them and pray with them as they navigated their many possible futures.

Arthur and Katherine have such big hearts to pray for and minister to people around them, after they've finished bouncing off the walls trying to impress the new people that is :). We have loved having so many people here to love.

Karen has begun to see a chiropractor, who almost immediately helped relieve lingering symptoms from the concussion sustained in April. We are excited to see energy and overall physical health increasing. Our kids are also thrilled to see God answering their prayers for Mommy to get better. We love their hearts and instinct to pray. A few weeks ago, Arthur prayed for me to "grow and keep growing into a warrior of God." He prayed that I would "have good days, not mind the bad days, and forget the bad days in the past." Praise God for these wonderful little people that we get to share life with!



Everyone remarks how well they get along!



Katherine with Grammy



Arthur turned 6 on May 28

WHAT GOD'S BEEN TEACHING US

A few weeks ago, our pastor was reminding us how important it is for us to be sharing our faith. "Of course, Lord," I (Karen) prayed. "I want to share with people, but You know I don't really go anywhere except the grocery store and doctors' offices. Please give me opportunities and bring me people who want to hear about you!"

God answered and, in the past three weeks, I've had five spiritual conversations with people at doctors' offices and the grocery store. In addition, I met a lady at the grocery store who then came to our church (because of Vacation Bible School) and I got her contact information to keep in touch with her. Of the five conversations, four included the Gospel and my personal testimony (once was the "short, short version" because the man needed to get back to work!). The other was encouragement about prayer and God's plan.

How did I know the door was open for those conversations? People literally asked me direct questions, including: "Have you always been a Christian?" and "Have you and Jeff always gone to church together? That must really help your marriage!" and "What is it your husband does?" Then the Holy Spirit gave me words to share about God's amazing love and faithfulness. They said they appreciated talking with me, and several said they'd love to talk more some time.

What does God want to tell you? That's between you and Him. Do you need to pray for opportunities to share? Do you need to pray for confidence to see yourself as His ambassador? Do you simply need to remember that you are loved fiercely by a Father who pursues people? These are always on God's heart (Matt 28:19; 2 Cor 5:20; Psalm 139).



JEFF.GRANT@CRU.ORG - KAREN.GRANT@CRU.ORG

908-892-6844

www.GrantMinistry.org