

December 9, 2017

Dear Friends,

I wish you could have been there. I, Tony, turned around in my chair to ask Sara and Amanda if they had a moment to talk. They smiled big, and looked at each other as if to say, “I wonder what this is all about.” Lauren, our intern, wheeled her chair around to listen as well. As I began the “Spiritual Life Interview,” I quickly learned that I was talking to a couple of sharp, articulate and ambitious young ladies.



Amanda was of particular interest. She had been researching different religions, on a search for truth, but seemed to have no interest in Jesus. She shared that when she was young, her best friend told her that she could not be her friend anymore unless she became a Christian. Her pain was deep and that was all she could think of any time Christianity came up.

When I asked Amanda what her opinion of Jesus was, she shook her head and said, “I don’t want to feel guilty. I didn’t ask Him to die for me.” That seemed like an odd response. I wanted to know more, so I ventured, “Do you think a person should ever feel guilty?” That question opened up a fruitful discussion of Jesus, the one who came not to bring guilt, but to remove it.

When we began our discussion, Amanda could not see how a man dying 2000 years ago had any relevance to her life today. This is the condition of many, many young people. It makes no sense to them. It has never been explained to them. And our education system, steeped in humanism and evolutionary thought, has undermined the relevance of Christ.

The importance of Christ’s sacrifice only makes sense in the context of a Creator of all things and in the context of a historical Adam. Christ restores everything Adam lost for us: Relationship with God, Eternal Life, Paradise. As Paul wrote in Romans 5:18, “Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men.”

I wish you had been there to see the expression on Amanda’s face when she heard the truth about Jesus for the first time!

Thoughtful Christianity – Transforming Lives on Campus Today, Changing Culture Tomorrow

This is the new vision statement of Ratio Christi. This “Thoughtful Christianity” is exactly what our young people need today. They need thoughtful answers to their questions, expressed in thoughtful ways with gentleness and respect. They need answers which explain the relevance of Christ in their lives today. And this cannot be done without defending God as Creator, and Adam as a man of history. This is what motivates us to mobilize highly trained Christian Apologists through Ratio Christi. It is so exciting to play a part in sending these new ministers out!

Imagine what will happen through these ministers as the rationality and the goodness of God works its way through our universities:

- * Jesus Christ recognized for who He is, the one who conquered death, the one who brings life!
- * People everywhere realizing that our Creator knows what is best for us, and striving to follow all He has shown us.
- * Arts and entertainment entering a new era, one that worships God and proclaims His love in beautiful ways.
- * Our culture completely transformed. The good, the beautiful and the true exulted. The evil and perverse trampled.

What a glorious vision He has given us!!

Thanksgiving and Gratitude

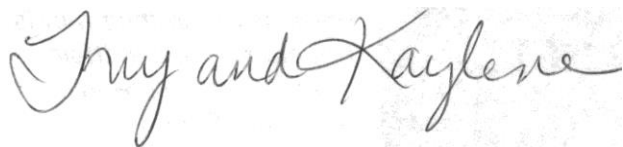
As we consider how God has allowed us to devote our lives to spreading the good news of Jesus Christ, we are so grateful! It is such a blessing to do His work. We are so thankful for you and others who have encouraged us with your interest and sustained us with your gifts and prayers. God bless you!

Over the years, we have seen His faithfulness to help us cultivate partnerships with individuals, families, churches and other organizations to meet the needs of our family, students and ministry. We know that, at this time of year, many, like us, are considering both their end of year giving and to whom or what they will be contributing next year.

This year our special year end project is the Ratio Christi Leadership Orientation, a campus minister mobilization effort we are organizing. This event will train new Ratio Christi missionaries in basic campus ministry skills, multiplying our work on campus! Since this training will be in Orlando in February, we plan to take our entire family and also have some much-needed down time. We'll also have the opportunity to connect with friends and mentors from our time with Cru there.

If you haven't already done so, would you prayerfully consider partnering with us this year? We'd appreciate you taking our needs before the Lord and asking Him what He'd have you do. Thank you!

With gratitude and joy,



P.S.: If you wish to make an online donation, please visit tonyfeiger.ratiochristi.org then "Make a Donation," and "Next".