



Close-up On Campus



2752 Warren Road • Indiana, PA 15701 • 814-460-5470 • david.coffey@cru.org • ashley.frankenfield@cru.org

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OUR BRAND NEW ADDRESS!

When Faith Meets Pain

“Ashley! I’m really worried about her!” This was the concerned plea from upcoming senior, Jasmine, for a troubled freshman she’d been reaching out to.

Abbey struggled with severe eating disorders and deep emotional scars. She deprived herself of so many needed nutrients for so long that her body was slowly shutting down. When Jasmine met her they became quick friends; despite Abbey’s breakdowns and stubbornness. She tried connecting Abbey to a professional counselor. Growth was slow – even now unresolved, but Jasmine was dauntless. As the year continued though Jasmine wrestled. Why would God let such terrible things happen? Is He really good?

‘Could I really trust a God like this?’ she wondered.

These were honest questions that many of us ask demanding answers or relief. And yet God promises in this life there will be heartache. Sometimes the greatest motivation to care or the deepest understanding of sacrifice or the clearest call to surrender comes in pain. C.S. Lewis wrote that pain is God’s megaphone. As Jasmine leaned into the pain and trusted the Lord, He didn’t dissolve the struggle, but He did begin to empower her to live ‘with His energy powerfully working through her’ (Col 1:29), and her dependence on Him deepened.

While from the outside one might



Jasmine (top) is mentored by Ashley (bottom)

pass over Jasmine, she has modeled this persistent care toward many of our freshmen girls and easily won the heart of our movement.

This summer, Jasmine felt called to invest in her family and friends back home, despite a serious lack of support and encouragement. While there, she discovered Mission Summer, a recent Cru program specifically designed for students like Jasmine. Essentially it provides structure, community and a gospel focus to a busy summer at home (youtube.com/CruMissionSummer). It’s been an emotionally demanding year for her, and this summer may be as well. Would you join us in praying that God would strengthen Jasmine and help her to continue relying on His power?

The God Who Cares

The song came so quickly. After hearing a relative had been diagnosed with cancer, David threw his heart into his guitar. As he wrote he strove to unite the child-like faith of his youth to the experiential tragedy of

that moment. Though written years ago, it seemed to apply well here. You can listen to the song at the link below. We pray it encourages you.

soundcloud.com/coffeysongs/god-who-cares-5

Bible Thought:

“..it is good for the heart to be strengthened by grace..”
Hebrews 13:9

Book Recommendation:

Enjoying God
by Alan Scholes

Please Pray

- For Sal & Jocelyn, 2 recent IUP grads interning with us in the Fall, God would raise up their support
- Jasmine would walk richly and deeply with Christ this summer despite a rough family environment
- God would provide leadership/growth opportunities for David’s bible study guys as they serve in their churches
- For even more gospel conversations with our next door neighbors

Praise God!

- For all that He taught us at the New Staff Training conference in Orlando
- For revitalizing our passion to connect lost people to Christ

Thank you again for your prayers and hearts for Christ!

Until all hear, (Col 4:3-4)

David & Ashley
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