



THE PENTONS' PROGRESS

Your Monthly Newsletter For The Community Ministry of Central Ohio Fellowship of Christian Athletes

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September 2008

September was a month of lots of speaking and Main Event planning!

COG Men's Retreat

Earlier this month, Joel spoke at a two-day men's retreat in Marengo, OH and really saw God work powerfully. Friday night's talk went well. However, after listening to a number of personal testimonies and sermonettes Joel picked up on a theological sentiment that concerned him. That night Joel stayed up until 2:30am overhauling his entire second message. The next morning Joel shared on the importance of clearly articulating the Gospel to others. Although it is important to "walk the walk," we must also share the Gospel with words. If we are not clear with our words, people might think that becoming a Christian is all about doing good things. Joel feared he would insult the crowd with the reason for his topic change but the response to his talk was overwhelming! One attendee even made a video and wrote about it in his blog. Check it out at: <http://wretchedsinner.blogspot.com/> (9/12 entry)

received this email from a student later in the month,
"Hey. I just wanted to thank you for all of the encouragement you both have given me. Your story was great... I have been working on finding Christ for a little over a year now, and I think God put you both into my life that day to encourage me to keep moving on the path to finding him and living a life for him. So thank you both again. "
How awesome!



Joel leading our "Halo" evening event illustration

Hillsdale Evening Event

We had a great ministry experience in Hillsdale, OH on September 10th. The students were pumped for the evening event and we were able to see the fruits of our efforts in using "The Game Plan." If you remember, this plan was created by Joel and Ryan and focuses on how to hold an effective evening outreach event. One of the main stresses of "The Game Plan" is "People bring People." Well, we could see that in Hillsdale. The students brought the students and the results were amazing. Over 350 attended the event and over 15% made first time decisions! We

Main Event Planning

The Main Event is finally here! We are less than a month away now and have fully raised the budget! Praise the Lord! The Promotional materials are hitting the community and we wait in anticipation to see how well the Buckeyes will play and how many people will come. This month we will finalize the agenda for the event itself and help promote the event through press conferences and radio spots. Remember, the Main Event is Oct. 27th at 7pm at St. John Arena, If you are planning on coming please bring a non-believer! Please also pray that the players and coach Tressel would be spiritually and mentally prepared to speak the truth.

Until next month, God Bless.

-Bethany Penton

Please Pray For...

- Support Raising
- The Main Event, 2008
- Safe Travel

Message From Joel

Teammates,

Thank you for all your prayers. Please bear with us as we ask you to pray one more month for The Main Event. There are many aspects that are coming together beautifully and there are also some that need a lot of prayer.

Pray for our relationship with the University. We have been running into some problems with the legal department of OSU. We want Coach Tressel and the players to be able to use the platform God has given them to reach as many people as possible. At the same time, OSU doesn't want to give the appearance that they are sponsoring an event that is "religious" in nature.

Please also pray for the follow-up that will be taking place after the event. We are hoping to have 300 volunteers to make calls to the people who make commitments at the event. However, with only two weeks left before the event, we still need more than 200 people the sign up online as volunteers. Pray that God would raise these people up for the task ahead.

God Bless,

- Joel



