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Spring 2018 Theme Scripture and Teaching: Real People of Real Faith – James

What a great, spiritually challenging year MSU 2017-2018 has been. We set the stage in the Fall with a great biographical study of several Real People of Real Faith and we ended the school year with a focused look at the letter of James, the “half-brother” of Jesus. If I could sum up his letter in a few words, Real People of Real Faith ... Really Love in humility and with action! It was great to see the students work this out each week with our 2x2 challenge - going out in pairs to do intentional acts of kindness from showing hospitality and respect all over campus to being present while bringing presents to an MSU administration office. From such activities we grew together, not just in faith but in reality. By this I mean, we realized that what James wrote actually happened! His words of encouragement and admonition helped fuel the early church into life and those real people of real faith really changed the Roman Empire. The students realized, if that can happen then, then the same can happen now ... and it is happening!

What else is happening? Well, students are still joining MCF even in the last few weeks of the semester. We have had several new students come into the Fellowship and get right involved. Here is one of several neat stories: I had the privilege to speak in a Nonprofit Leadership Studies class about leadership training. After sharing why and how we go about training our students to be Leading Servants at MCF, Holly Dooms ('21), majoring in Ag Business, came up to me and started asking a million



questions. After finding out she went to a Chrysalis conference in Southern IL with a cousin of Sarah's, she calls MCF home now. I'm looking forward to not only Holly, but several other students sharing life within MCF in the fall and beyond.

Summer is upon us now and a new rhythm of life for a bit. Join me in praying for each student to continue to seek after God and to come back to MCF with really great stories of faith filled moments as they humbly love and serve wherever and whatever these months away from the Fellowship bring. Pray for our time at the National Student Conference at Milligan College this year (Go Buffs!!). Pray for our alumni, friends, family, and this ministry, as we continue to grow and change and **get ready to celebrate our 50th Anniversary this Fall - 2018 Homecoming!!!!!!!!**

-Mike Kerrick, Campus Minister



“Who is wise and understanding among you? Let them show it by their good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom... *the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere. Peacemakers who sow in peace reap a harvest of righteousness.*” -James 3:13, 17-18

Transitions

Graduate:

College, the first step to independence, a time to meet new people, try new things, further your education, and a whole lot of fun. I never thought going into college would be a big step in my faith. God's plans were a lot different than my plans. MCF was one of the first campus ministries I visited and something about it kept me wanting to go back.

As I went through my years in college and became more involved in MCF and joined Servant team, my perspective on many things shifted and God opened my eyes to what it truly means to be a Christian; to be a follower of Christ. I no longer viewed college as a time to get a degree and move into the work field, but a time to be part of a ministry that challenged me to grow in my faith and spread the good news to other students. Now, as a graduate from college with a degree in Elementary Education, I look forward to entering my career to love like Christ loves, to serve others as Christ serves, and whatever I do, to do it in Jesus's Name.

I don't have to fear what the future holds for me, because I know God will guide me where I need to be as he brought me to Murray and took me to a ministry that helped me flourish in my faith. It saddens me to leave Murray, to leave the friends I have gained, and the community I have become a part of. I have faith that God will guide me to a new community, but MCF will always be a part of my life



Breanna, receiving her name blessing and prayer, at MCF's Lake Day senior celebration.

as I continue to pray for this campus ministry and support MCF as an alumna.

**-Breanna Clark
(Elementary Education, Class of 2018)**

Administrative Assistant:

We have recently hired a new Administrative Assistant for the ministry! As much as we are sad to see Amanda go, we are excited to welcome Teresa Manning to the MCF family!

Amanda Pennington ('08) has served MCF for years and recently accepted a full-time position as the PIC Planner and Color Match Processor at 3A Composites in Benton, Kentucky. MCF has been blessed with Amanda's attention to detail, communication skills, and willingness to serve above and beyond the call of her job title. We are sad to lose her in this position, but we know that she will be an asset to 3A.

Teresa Manning says: Hello! I am beyond excited to be here and I look forward to God using me mightily in this role! I am a native of Calloway County, having graduated from Calloway County High School and MSU and am happily married to an amazing husband. In addition, we have two wonderful daughters. Our eldest daughter graduated from MSU last year. We planned her wedding and married her off in October. Our youngest just finished her second year at MSU. Previously, I taught at Christian Fellowship School in Draffenville, Kentucky, where God used me to teach as well as learn from high school, middle school and elementary school students. I love people and want to meet everyone that is involved with MCF. If you are reading this, please reach out and say hello! I want to be in God's

will and not in His way and am open to all that He has for me here at MCF! I look forward to the opportunity to serve here. Jesus is LORD!!!



(L to R) Anthony, Arista, Eric, Allison, and Teresa.

Winter Retreat

This year, we had three students attend Winter Retreat at Camp Illiana- Nathan Hensley, Tiffany Hoops, and KirstyAnn Cole. It was a peaceful, rainy weekend of learning and reflection, relationship building, and games. Conversations revolved around being the feet of Jesus on our campus and in life, as the theme of the weekend was “Living Out Your Everyday Faith Every Day.”



Arizona Mission Trip

MCF has a long-standing tradition of taking a mission trip to Winslow, Arizona every two years. This year, Mike, Brianna, and five students- Tyler Casey, Colin Marshia, Haley Garrett, Nathan Hensley, and KirstyAnn Cole made the trip to serve alongside this ministry.

This team served by:

- Demolishing an old National Guard Armory for use as the new school building,
- Moving things from the old school building into storage for the move to the new building, when completed,
- Hosting a field day for students- got students outside and active with games, activities, and a relay race!
- Serving “The Least of These” by bringing bagged lunches to local homeless, praying with them, and hosting a luncheon to serve them later in the week.

Arizona Mission Trip Student Perspective:

As a small recap of the trip, the three things that really stood out to me throughout the week were the following:

1) The selflessness of others- be it the mission work or smaller acts like offering to pray with someone. The impacts made may never be fully known, but being there, crying with these people through their pain, and bringing the hope that can only be found in Jesus, was immensely beautiful and powerful.

2) Following that, the second point goes to the time I was able to just goof off with the children of Red Sands and to create a bond with these kids in such a short time. This also brought about the hardest part of the entire trip: learning of the homelife of some of the students and their struggles. Hearing this absolutely broke my heart, but as Mike reminded us, there is hope. It's not a hopeless situation. Red Sands is proof that Jesus is moving in that area.

3) The third point goes to “The Least of These” Luncheon. At this event, I met a man named Virgil. He told me about his life struggles and how with every choice, there were two choices. As he told me his struggles, he said that he wanted to do what was good, but the sinful side kept tempting him over and over again. I immediately thought of Romans when Paul talks about the spiritual war that rages within us (Romans 7:15-21). I had asked if I could show him a verse and pulled up Romans 8:38-39 and reminded him that even though we mess up and go against God's will, no matter how messed up we get, God will never leave us or stop loving us.

I was truly blessed to have been able to witness God at work this week in Arizona. I'm thankful for the experience, the friendships, and the love shown throughout the week.

-Colin Marshia, '19 Education



Basement Update

The Saga of MCF's Basement

Old-timers at MCF—students during the 1970's—will have good recollections of activities in the basement at MCF. Especially, before the auditorium in the rear was constructed, the basement was a prime meeting room; and later students enjoyed the pool table and prayer rooms that were in place there. But water problems



have plagued that space since the



1980's, and even when it didn't have standing water, the basement turned into an unhealthy Mold Zone. Some funds were raised through GAP appeals to work on the problems, and we have seen some recent progress. Most of the old moldy paneling has been removed, which also allowed us to see where the water

is coming in. It has been determined that much was coming in through the joints between the basement walls and floor, and some around windows, through cracks, and under the basement door when that drain becomes clogged. This spring we hired a contractor to dig along the northwest corner and wall, and to seal the exposed wall. He also replaced that window, routed gutter water away from the building, and installed an outside sump pump. The result has been a dramatic improvement in the dryness of the west basement wall area. The issue isn't completely resolved, though, as the east wall continues to let water in, and needs the same treatment. There is some leakage around the chimney or front wall, too. We may attempt some minor, additional repairs on our own, but another significant fundraising effort will be needed to properly reseal these areas as well.



-Bill Call

Endowment Update

Market Value as of 03/31/2018	\$25,441.74
Donor Contributions YTD Through 03/31/2018	\$ 500.00
Available to Grant as of 03/31/2018	\$ 706.00

As you can see, the MCF Endowment is still growing and yielding positive numbers available to use for securing future ministry activity that may take the form of scholarships, assisting in annual expenses or special projects or growing the endowment even more. Continue to give thanks to God and offerings toward the next 50 years of life at MCF!!!

M C Family News!

Marriages

Emily Shipley ('13) to Derek Reidford on 10/07/2017
Christen Johnson ('16) to Matthew Napp on 05/24/2018

Lauren Gibson ('12) to Celtson Toote on 06/04/2018
Emily Henry ('14) to Jeremy Levitt on 06/24/2018

Babies

Leela Catherine Young 3/27/2018 [Jeff Young and Ashlee (Futrell) Young ('13)]
Daniel James Robert Walls 4/23/2018 [Aaron ('02) and Leigh Walls]
Eva Rose Goodman 5/17/2018 [Clay and Mary (Langford) Goodman ('14)]

New Job

Amanda Pennington ('08) has recently accepted a full-time position as the PIC Planner and Color Match Processor at 3A Composites in Benton, Kentucky.

Please email us at feloship@gmail.com if you have a life update you would like to share. We like to know what you're up to! Also, if you want to be part of the **Alumni Relations Committee**, please contact: Devan Caton (devancaton@outlook.com) or Amanda Pennington (anpenn7@gmail.com).

All Alumni are encouraged to be a part of the **Facebook Group: "Murray Christian Fellowship Alumni"** as a great way to keep in touch and to hear about upcoming events!

HOME COMING 2018: MCF 50 YEARS OF SERVICE AT MSU

2018 marks MCF's 50th Anniversary as a campus ministry to the students at Murray State, and we want to celebrate in a BIG way this year!!!

Please mark your calendars and join us at **11 AM on Saturday, October 27th, 2018** for Homecoming! We will have a carnival complete with games, food, prizes, and fun for all ages out on the front lawn (weather permitting; otherwise inside).

In order to make this happen, we would LOVE some HELP!!! You can help in the following ways:

1. **Prepay now** by sending your **\$10/person** fee, by check, to MCF with "2018 homecoming" on the memo line. This will help some of the early up-front costs of putting on this bigger-than-normal event that we hope is going to be fantastic both this year and years to come (all games* will be designed to be taken onto campus again and again to start conversations with students!)

2. **Donate a game / food / booth items** (by covering the cost, or by supplying the items yourself). This should be between \$10-\$50 per booth*, and we expect to have at least 10! (Entrance fee is waived for those who make a donation!) Some examples are: PALLETS or 2x4's*, BIG games*, Carnival-themed decorations; Card tables (we'll just borrow these).

3. **We need your RSVP!!** to feloship@gmail.com or anpenn7@gmail.com

With an event this big, we want to be sure to have enough for everyone, so let us know who is coming! And remember, all alumni, former students, current students, friends, and family of MCF are welcome - Don't think you had to graduate to be invited. We want to see EVERYONE come back and have a great time together! We've designed this year's event to be 100% kid-friendly too, so the parents won't feel like they have to be separated from their kids or need special childcare. We want the kids to have fun too and remember MCF as a place they want to come back to year after year!

***If you would like more information on the games we'll have, the details, and further ways you can help, please contact Amanda Pennington at anpenn7@gmail.com (include your name!) She's spearheading this event, but needs plenty of hands, so also feel free to come early! We'll be here all day!!!**

WE'LL SEE YOU SOON!!!