

GrantMinistry.org

Reaching COLLEGE STUDENTS with Jeff and Karen



JULY 2018

Love,
Jeff + Karen



When you put your life in the hands of our loving God, it may not always be easy; but dance with Him throughout your day and see where He takes you! Sometimes it's a lot of fun!

GAMING AND THE GOSPEL

We mentioned last month how our family enjoys board games and how God has used this as a platform to build relationships with those who don't know Him. This month, that was taken to a new level!

At Dice Tower Con, a board game convention in town with over 3,000 people, Karen and I teamed up with our dear friend, Derrick, to host an event called "Faith in Gaming." The goal was to help Christians in this hobby see how God could use them in His great rescue mission with their friends. Tons of prayer went into this event and we had no idea what God would do...



PRaises

- * New relationships through multi-church gatherings
- * More Christians waking up to God's mission in their communities
- * Karen's health is growing stronger!
- * God continues to use our giftings and show us where He wants us



Hosting an evangelism seminar in the heart of a board game convention

We were thrilled with the turnout and the conversations! As one person put it, "I approached this discussion thinking 'how can faith be a *subject matter* in games?' But hearing everyone's perspectives opened me to seeing how games create a community, and how simply playing games (any games) can open up deeper conversation! That was something that didn't really occur to me before but I now see how it can be a great opportunity to build relationships!" Read our notes [here](#).

Please pray for these folks to live on mission through games, and maybe get their churches reaching out that way as well. Great articles on this [here](#).



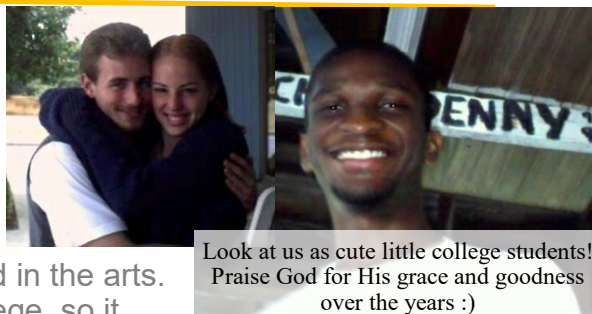
REQUESTS

- * Students on Summer Missions
- * Building our team
- * Fall Semester approaching
- * For us to continue growing in all that God has for us

LIFETIME TOGETHER

Above, I mentioned teaming up with a friend named Derrick

who runs Shattered Studios, an Art & Faith ministry combatting teen depression/suicide. Derrick is one of my closest friends, and I'm thrilled that he's moved nearby and we are able to serve the Lord together weekly on campus and in the arts.



Look at us as cute little college students! Praise God for His grace and goodness over the years :)

We go waaay back to sophomore year of college, so it seemed fitting to show you some "then and now" photos. Above you can see Karen, Derrick and I from back during our college and camp days (we reached inner-city kids for Christ through a camp in rural NJ).

Derrick and I also led a college drama & dance outreach team called Spirit Force (yes, I danced). He's brought that back to our students here at Full Sail, as well as a podcast and game design ministry. Please pray for Derrick!



Derrick's passion for film and drama ministry continues to bless students today here in Orlando

Esther 4:14b
Who knows if perhaps you were [brought here] for just such a time as this?

FAMILY CORNER

I've often told people that homeschooling our kids is like walking two really large, excited dogs—they are so eager to learn and they sniff out delightful educational opportunities in every direction! Both our kids have been getting into the science of genetics and dinosaurs (thanks to a Lego Jurassic World video they saw on Netflix). They've been designing board games as Arthur is modeling on the left. Arthur also just finished writing a 20-chapter novel and has been learning about book-binding. Katherine, watching on, decided to do her own book binding (see right).



Jeff and Karen prayer walking the most popular comic book store near campus... and then goofing around, too :)



WHAT GOD'S BEEN TEACHING US

We call it “chasing away the snake,” and it’s the most important thing that I do. Prayer has been an increasing practice in our family. That may sound obvious since all believers are commanded to “pray continually” (1 Thes 5:17) and invited to “cast all your anxiety on Him because he cares for you” (1 Peter 5:7). However, it has always been hard for me (Jeff) to take time away from what seems like practical activity that leads to a predictable, strategic result. Prayer has always seemed so intangible, but I am convinced that it is the most important thing we do in life. As a husband and father, I am learning more about my specific role in prayer for our family.

As we have fellowshiped with many pastors and leaders from churches all over the country, praying together has been important. But among them I have heard over and over again my personal responsibility to be the spiritual head of my house (Eph 5:23). I must own my responsibility to cover my family in prayer regularly.

We have an enemy attacking our family unit. He attacks individuals in that family and drives wedges between us. He works in big, obvious attacks and slow, patient drifting. With God’s help, I will not be idle or oblivious on my watch as Adam was. Through continuous prayer I will chase away the snake and draw us near to God (James 4:6-8). Please join me! Here’s a devotional for a Praying Husband.



View online at GrantMinistry.org