

ABBY'S CAMPUS ADVENTURES

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Reaching Students at
University of Colorado
Boulder

Pictures from our Fall
Retreat last October!

Below: Our students
and staff patiently wait
for group pictures
before diving into
their dinner.



Support Update

I had been so excited to tell many of you that I was at roughly 15% last Christmas. However, rises in insurance dropped me down to 11% in the new year. I am thrilled to say I've gone to 23% in one month! Thank you everyone!



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(After Jesus cast out a demon) When the disciples had Jesus off to themselves, they asked, "Why couldn't we throw it out?"

"Because you're not yet taking God seriously," said Jesus. "The simple truth is that if you had a mere kernel of faith,...you would tell this mountain, 'Move!' and it would move. There is nothing you wouldn't be able to tackle."

—Matt 17:19-20 *The Message*

God has been showing me amazing lesson after amazing lesson as I've been working to raise my support to get on campus. Before I started, I had veteran support-raisers left and right telling me how this process would be the most difficult thing I've ever done. They were always quick to encourage me, though, that God will be working in me every step of the way, teaching me lessons I would rely upon once I'm ministering on campus. As one friend put it, "The amount you need to raise will stagger you. But the amazing thing is, the support will come in! God will open doors you never would have imagined, and He will provide what you need for the job He has given you."

I took those words to heart. The verse above said it all for me; if I took God seriously, if I accepted that He was the One telling me to go to campus, then I would also need to accept that He had already had people in mind who would provide my support. All I would have to do is head out there to find them!

Of course, it can't be that simple, can it? God showed me another verse:

God, the Master, The Holy of Israel, has this solemn counsel:

"Your salvation requires you to turn back to me and stop your silly efforts to save yourselves. Your strength will come from settling down in complete dependence on me—The very thing you've been unwilling to do."

—Isaiah 30:15-16a *The Message*

That verse really hit me over the head. *Sometimes* I trusted that God was working, while sometimes I worked as if my efforts were the only way I would reach campus. I wasn't really "settled down." I had to accept that I had to depend on God, whether I'm raising my support or asking God to open the heart and mind of another student, I have to trust Him, today, tomorrow and forever.

God's got another promise here:

But God's not finished. He's waiting around to be gracious to you. He's gathering strength to show mercy to you. God takes the time to do everything right—everything. Those who wait around for him are the lucky ones.

—Isaiah 30:18 *The Message*

Ways you can continue to help pray for my ministry:

- Pray for me, that I recover from a cold that's followed me for the last month, that I can stay patient and focused through this support-raising process, that God will open doors in the hearts and minds of those I approach, and that God will take me to campus soon
- Pray for Julie, freshman, enthusiastic about God but struggling to balance her responsibilities with school and work
- Pray for Jodie, that the Holy Spirit would awaken her need for Christ

May God bless you all and continue to rain His blessings over you!

In His love,

Abby Baumbach