

COME ALONG WITH J WONG

BUILDING SPIRITUAL MOVEMENTS THROUGH THE PLATFORM OF SPORT

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2014



On Deck

Rachel, a softball player from Sinclair Community College, sat alone after our UD weekly meeting had finished. I approached her with small talk in mind, but as we conversed, I knew the Lord wanted me to steer it towards the spiritual. As we were talking about the night's message, I simply asked her, "Has anyone shared the gospel with you?" "No," she said with a look of both ignorance and innocence. Immediately alarms were blaring in my head, *someone needs to share with her*. I shared my sense of urgency with some of our student leaders. It was set. Either I was gonna take a female student leader with me to share the gospel with Rachel the following day or two of our student leaders, Jeanna and Allie, would share with her on Friday afternoon.

At Bat

It turned out I wasn't going to be able to meet with Rachel that next day, so all my hope was placed on Friday. But for some reason, I was nervous that Friday would be too late. *She needs to hear the gospel now*, rang in my head. I've always been one to have the mentality that any of us could be gone from this Earth at any moment.

Walk-off

Friday was here. I walked into headquarters looking at my watch. *Okay, Jeanna and Allie are gonna meet with Rachel in a few hours*. Things were good in the world. As I stepped into my office, my friend and co-worker, Taylor rushed up to me with excitement. "Bro, you should've stopped by Roosters for March Madness. Good games, but even better yet, we had a deep spiritual conversation with some softball girls from Sinclair." *I wonder if he's talking about Rachel*. "Who were the girls?" I asked. "One was that girl, Rachel, who's been coming to your UD meetings and two of her teammates," Taylor responded. My heart smiled knowing she heard the gospel and now Jeanna and Allie could follow up.

As the days followed, I've gotten the chance to reflect on God's perfect alignment. He knew exactly what Rachel needed. The gospel was shared and stony hearts were beginning to melt.



My Soapbox

(This is a short sharing of how God has impacted me in a profound way.)

Recently, I watched a two-hour debate between a Christian and atheist on the topic *Does God Exist?* Since becoming a follower of Christ apologetics have always piqued my interest. Defending the faith is a critical part of Christianity, but after watching the debate I had a very strange, eerie feeling. I'd say it was a combination of hopelessness, heartbreak, angst, and doubt. From my observation, the atheist had a very unique stance. It was summed up by one statement, "maybe, maybe not."

Does God exist? Maybe, maybe not.

Is there any purpose to life? Maybe, maybe not.

Do you love your wife? Maybe, maybe not.

So creation is just an accident? Maybe, maybe not.

I believe he contradicted himself many times, but it's hard to reach a person when this sense of belief is his/her foundation. How do you reason with someone like this?

I'm just not sure if watching these debates are good for my soul. But my prayer is that the Lord will continue to strengthen my faith in Him. One thing that really helps curb my doubts is recounting my own testimony. There is **absolutely** no way I'd be where I am today, believe what I believe, keep righteous values, and have a good, godly character without Christ.

As my faith is strengthened by the Lord, I pray for this atheist. I pray that the Lord would touch his heart and he would come to know the Lord. But first, I pray that he hasn't hardened his heart too much to even be touched by God.

(top) Cross campus ministry! Demarkus, a Central State University basketball player, came to our UD weekly meeting. He came because one of our student leaders reached out to him when they met during a fall retreat.

(bottom) It's flippin' cold in Xenia! I've never experienced this before, but overnight there was snow and then sleet. The sleet left a layer of ice on top of the snow. This is a big chunk from my car. Crazyness!

For more information, check out my website at www.wongside.com/jeremy

Also, many times I like to send links and emails to my ministry partners showing more of my ministry with AIA. If you have an email address and would like to receive these notifications, please email me at jeremy.wong@athletesinaction.org