

# COME ALONG WITH J WONG

AND REDEEM SPORT FOR THE GLORY OF GOD

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2014



## Do you remember your first job?

Think back to the first few months of your first job out of college. What would you have needed in order for you to better progress and succeed in that job? In October, we held a four day conference (NSID Conference) for all our new staff, interns, and part-time field staff to answer that very question. *How can we help you succeed in what God has called you to do with AIA?* One of the reasons I love AIA so much is that we emphasize staff care and staff growth. On the contrary, many organizations and businesses view people in a utilitarian way. In AIA, we hope our staff are thriving and growing in all facets of life. This means spiritually, mentally, emotionally, physically, and professionally. Through this conference we tackle both the professional side, but also the relational side. One of my greatest desires was to see the staff at this conference connect relationally. Overall, I think the conference was a success. Listen to one intern's evaluation, *It was awesome to just get to know the other new staff better and get closer with them. I have never done random evangelism before this. It gave me new ideas and refocused me on the national vision and my own campus vision by having multiplying disciples.*



## Yo Adrian... we did it!

There are around 1800 collegiate athletic departments throughout the country. AIA has a presence on about 300. We have a long way to go. This November, we made a small, but significant impact in that number. We had four *Grow & Go* conferences in Atlanta, Los Angeles, Chicago, and Philly (the one I went to). These conferences are geared towards launching new AIA movements in colleges and universities that have no athletic ministry, something I have never done. So on a bright and beautiful Wednesday morning, 25 of us spread out across Philly to step on six campuses. Four of us went to Chestnut Hill College in search of persons of peace (Luke 10:6). During the four hours we were there, we met two potential partners, ironically neither of them a part of the athletic department. But as we met with them we learned that both came from evangelical backgrounds and expressed interest and excitement in possibly starting AIA. The Lord answers! We will see what happens in the future, but I am hopeful we can be a spiritual resource to Chestnut Hill. But above all, I hope the presence of Jesus continues to grow on that campus. Please pray that the Lord uses our effort around the four cities and many campuses and that He will start AIA ministries there!



## My Soapbox

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

*He loves you because he loves you because he loves you because he loves you...*

Every Monday from 9-10am my team and I pray. We pray for our local campuses and the nation on one week and on the opposite week we pray for the world. This particular week was a very discouraging week for me for various reasons, but at the end of prayer, my friend, Taylor read this quote. It was exactly what I needed.

Throughout my journey as a Christian, I've had a hard time accepting Christ's love for me. A question I've often thought long and hard on is, "Why does God love us?" I'm not sure. I scan the Scriptures and cannot come to a solid consensus. My best answer would be that (1) He created us in His image and (2) He is love.

Regardless of the answer, the last few months I have experienced God's love for me a little deeper. Honestly, it is really hard to put into words. I'm not sure where you're at in your belief and experience of God's love, but if nothing else, I hope this soapbox will be a reminder that God loves you.

(top) These are some of our staff at the NSID Conference trying to tackle some of our biggest topics in AIA. One topic is how do we get to "every?" How can we reach every athletic department in the country? There are over 1800!

(bottom left) My group and me at Chestnut Hill in Philly! Chestnut Hill was an all female college until 2003 when they became co-ed!

(bottom right) My friends, officemates, and co-workers, Bethany and Owen, and I at the top of the "Rocky" steps at the Philadelphia Museum of Art. It's a good workout!

For more information, check out my website at [www.wongside.com/jeremy](http://www.wongside.com/jeremy)

**\*\*For those of you in Tucson, AZ I will be there for a few weeks for the Christmas holiday. I would love to visit if you have the chance. Please call/text/email me!**