



THE RHOADS ROCK



Campus Crusade for Christ at Gallaudet

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CSU & SUPPORT RAISING

This summer had been the most challenging adventure for the Rhoads family. God has once again shown that He can make all things possible according to Romans 8:28, no matter what. It takes faith to live each day whether you like it or not.

From our last letter, we were scheduled to be at Colorado State University (CSU) in Fort Collins for our biannual staff conference with Campus Crusade for Christ. So we planned our trip around the conference in order to continue our support raising efforts. We had a deadline to complete our support goal.

Praise God that we were able to set up several appointments for the trip. Some of them were not expected. We met new people at churches and through our supporters. We were able to share our ministry. When we started our trip in July, we needed \$1049 per month (87%). By August, we were at 90%. We continued to raise support until the first week of September. We raised \$806 out of \$1049 and it is at 97% of our monthly support goal. God is awesome! Please pray that we can complete the goal this fall semester.

The trip across the USA, even the farthest to Tucson, Arizona, went well. We traveled almost 6000 miles. We enjoyed some sightseeing along the way and got a lot of encouragement from those whom we stayed at their home. Our kids loved the traveling and they enjoyed making new friends.

When we returned home, our youngest son, Seth asked, "Dad, when are we going to stay at someone's house again?" I told him that we are home to get ready for the fall. But he insisted that we should go and stay at someone's house. Obviously Seth enjoyed those traveling times.

The staff conference at CSU went well and it was very encouraging for us. For example, Bill & Sarah Wainscott and family will join our staff team at

Gallaudet next year. They just completed their new staff training this summer. We spent some time together at the conference. We met a young lady named Lisa Hover from Ohio. She will be an intern with Campus Crusade through the high school ministry called "**Student Venture**". For the first time, Student Venture are giving Lisa the opportunity to reach the deaf students who are mainstreaming in high school with another mission organization called "**Deaf Teen Quest**". It is good to know we are no longer alone, reaching the Deaf for Jesus with Campus Crusade. Please pray for the Wainscott family and Lisa Hover to raise the funds they need and begin their assignment soon. Our long -10 years- wait for a staff team finally ended.

From the bottom of our hearts, thank you for helping us raise the needed funds to attend the staff conference in Colorado and to cover our traveling expenses this summer. We were able to get new prayer cards. Please find one enclosed with this letter. **Thank you!!**

STARTING FALL SEMESTER

This fall we are starting a new theme called:

"Live By Faith, Not By Sight".

It is based on **Hebrews 11:1 & 6**. I have been praying for our students who are currently involved with C³. I realize that we need to emphasize the very foundation of our faith. It is not just something to be grasped but to instill those values and beliefs of faith into the very nature of our life in Christ Jesus our Lord. It is based on the **Follow Up** series involving Five Steps into the Foundation of the Faith, they are:

- #1 - Your New Life in Christ
- #2 - Your New Life in God's Love
- #3 - Your New Life in the Spirit
- #4 - Growing in Your New Life
- #5 - Your New Life in Relationships

Living by faith is an ongoing process and it is a day-to-day basis. Not just a one-time thing. It is not something we can declare, "*Since I have faith, I'm OK.*" Having faith and **living** the faith are 2 very different things.

During our first 6 weeks (August 29th to October 7th) are critical in reaching out to the new students. We want to help them find a place to belong within our movement. We had our Freshmen Cookout on Monday, Labor Day. We met over 150 out of 348 and we gave out over 100 Freshman Survival Kits. More than 30 freshmen expressed interest to know more about our movement. We also had 2 big activities: **Duck Bowling** and **Corn Maze**. At least 20 students attended both events. They seemed to enjoy the fellowship.

At our first **Thursday Night Live** meeting, we saw about 15 new faces and they seem eager to get involved. Eight new students joined the Freshman/New Student Bible Study group. For this size of our campus ministry, that number (8 to 15) is good. Thank you, Lord for those opportunities.

Please pray for those students to attend our weekly meetings regularly. Their freedom at Gallaudet is pretty new. Pray that with God's help, they can use their freedom wisely.

PRAY FOR UPCOMING EVENTS

We are always looking for opportunities to grow and to expand our ministry. We want to be sensitive to the Spirit leading but at the same time, not to spread ourselves too thin. Here is the list that we would like to ask you to pray for specifically. Thank you!

1. **CCC Fall Retreat 2005** on October 7 to 9. We will have **our first deaf speaker** featured with the hearing main speaker this year.
2. **DC Festival** in downtown DC on October 8 & 9. We are not able to get involved due to our commitment as co-hosts for the Fall Retreat. Pray that a large number of deaf people will attend and learn about God's love for the first time.
3. After the Fall Retreat, **new Bible Study groups** will be set up. Pray that both new and old students will get involved to deepen their walk with God.
4. I have been praying to launch a **Deaf Teen Christian Club** at Model Secondary School for the Deaf (MSSD) where I graduated in 1984. It is on Gallaudet campus. Recently I met a few people who want to see deaf high school students to know God personally and I saw how the Lord is leading me in this

direction. I'm now attempting a meeting with a faculty member at MSSD. Pray for God's wisdom and guidance to see this become a reality soon.

5. I'm working on **THREE partnerships** with the local churches around the DC Metro. Pray that together, we can provide opportunities and resources for C³Gallaudet.
6. **Katrina Relief Project** during the Thanksgiving break. We plan to join with several hearing campus ministries with Campus Crusade to volunteer our time and help the people in Louisiana. Pray the details will fall into place soon.
7. **DC Christmas Conference 2005** in Crystal City, VA. Pray that a number of students from Gallaudet will grow and become an integral part of the conference for the future. Last year we had 6 students and they benefited a great deal. Pray that we see 10 students attend this year.
8. **The Deaf Big Break 2006** at West Palm Beach, Florida is being planned for Gallaudet Spring Break. Pray that details will work out and brochures will be sent out soon across the USA for deaf college students.
9. **The FIRST Deaf Summer Project** is now in the process. Campus Crusade is partnering with International Mission Board (IMB) and Wycliffe to pool together their resources. The goal is to reach a certain population that does not have a language or any means to read and write. The **Deaf population** is the **third Unreached People Group**. I will have the opportunity to work with IMB's deaf missionaries to do evangelism and discipleship in Eastern Europe this coming summer of 2006. Pray for the planning.

We thank God for you, every time we think of you. Your prayers, your support and your love for the Deaf population are greatly appreciated. We feel honored to serve God in this unique ministry on your behalf.

All our Love in the Savior,
THE RHOADS FAMILY