



COACHES HONOR

Spring 2012

Coming Home

Just before Thanksgiving 2010, I stepped out of one of the CIA's private planes, for what I didn't realize was the last time. Although I had grown up in sports and ministry, all I had come to know was how to be a spy and live that life to the fullest. I did, however, usually consider other options when I was home. After all, seeing your family was a welcome change from being away in a hostile area where frequent explosions and overly dramatic experiences became normal. The life of an intelligence operator can wear on you, but I couldn't help but feel that my options in other industries were limited.



Not really thinking I had any other opportunities, I still felt as though I was a son needing to return to his father. I had been away from the Christian community so long that I didn't even remember what I was missing, what I was needing. Plus, this time home was different. My son Jake was one year old and was beginning to recognize when I wasn't home, which was a very real and painful feeling. It made me question how I could be the spiritual leader for my wife and son if I was never home and lived in a world that, albeit necessary, was not enriching my spiritual life. I just hoped that Christ had something different brewing and in fact He did.

But while he was still a long way off, his Father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. Luke 15:20

After the second biggest fine in the history of Florida high school athletics for recruiting violations, Mandarin Christian School (now **Christ's Church Academy**) was looking for some well-needed changes. I remember having the conversation with one of my dearest friends, COACHES HONOR's very own Jake Kimball, and thinking he was crazy for suggesting that I apply for the job as Athletic Director & Head Football Coach. While it sounded interesting and my athletic career had been a moderate success, I didn't think in a million years they would consider a spy who hadn't coached in a decade.

With encouragement from family & friends I applied, despite my own doubts. I knew I had a fallback with my job with the government, and all the while I downplayed the possibility of it working out. Truth be told, I limited what God could do and what He had in store for me and my family. I was quickly reminded of who was in charge as the school called on me, the wild card, the doubting son with no experience, and our life has changed in dramatic fashion ever since. While it hasn't always been smooth sailing, the Lord has our family right where we are supposed to be. I have treasured the opportunity to pour into young men on a daily basis and be involved in a ministry setting that allows me to grow in ways that I couldn't before.



While I never doubted for an instant that Christ was with me in my previous job, life felt significantly darker because I was not in an environment that had people sharing the Gospel and sharpening each other. COACHES HONOR sharpens and encourages me on a weekly basis and enriches my life so that I have more to give. So often in life we just give the community around us what they need and what we want them to see, but we don't focus on our own relationship with Christ. COACHES HONOR fills this void and takes time to pour not only into my life and spiritual well being, but the lives of coaches all over Jacksonville. I couldn't be more grateful for COACHES HONOR and how they live out the Gospel on a daily basis. **Drew Berquist**



Amy, baby Ellanee, Jake & Drew

“Sports have become a secular religion. Tens of millions of children play sports, and millions of coaches have the potential to change the lives of these children – and through them to touch their parents’ lives as well. Children can be diminished and discouraged by their sports experiences, or they can be strengthened, uplifted, even in some cases redeemed. Sports can be a life-changing experience if coaches understand why they are coaching and redefine their measurement of success.”

– Joe Ehrmann in Inside-Out Coaching



2012 COACHES HONOR Events



Women's Wild & Wonderful Weekend

April 27-29

Atlantic Beach, FL

\$115 per person

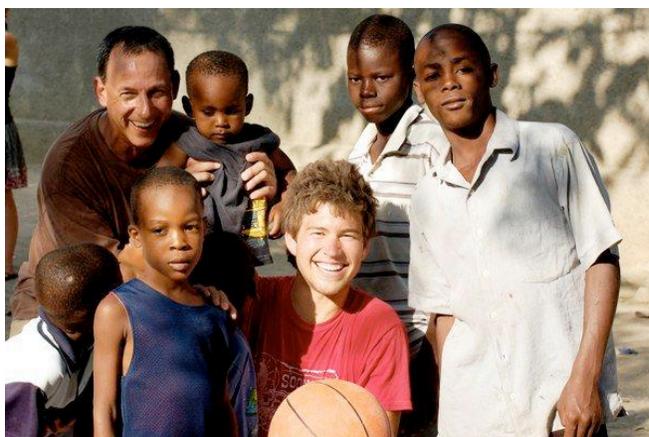
Speaker: Christine Dow

A time to have your heart refreshed by the amazing love of Jesus!

Haiti Mission Trip

May 9-16 @ Mission of Hope

Please be praying for our team, & if you would like more info or to help financially, contact Jake at jacobckimball@gmail.com



Marriage Retreat

June 8-10

St. Augustine, FL

\$325 per couple

Speaker: Jim Cofield

If you would like to help sponsor a coach and his/her spouse, it would be greatly appreciated.

Annual Golf Tournament

June 25 @ Marsh Landing

Thanks to our title sponsor:

Williams & Rowe
GENERAL CONTRACTORS

\$125 a player & Sponsorship Packages available
Contact: jasonsweet10@gmail.com

***To register, fill out enclosed form or go to www.coacheshonor.org**

