



Forgiveness: Creating Nations –Birthing Marriage

Feb.-Mar. 2011



Dear Loved Ones,

Forgiveness can create a nation as we read from Joseph's story in Genesis 45 where he forgives his brothers who become the fathers of the

12 tribes of Israel...I want to share with you a story that you are indirectly involved in which Jesus breathed forgiveness once again, created life and an incredible story not for a nation but for one couple.

Gabe Grinder is a relieve pitcher at South-eastern College. Gabe and I got connected after he played for our Athletes in Action team in New York. Chris Rainwater our GM of that team gave me his name for Sportline ("SportLine exists to help student athletes as they trust God to have an impact in their athletic departments and on their campuses"). As a Sportline Rep. Gabe and I met weekly to challenge the Athletes on his baseball team and his athletic department to reach out to the teams they played against. Here is the rest of the story told by Gabe.

Which you can watch at <http://taylorhargrove.wordpress.com/sportline-campuses-and-testimonies/>

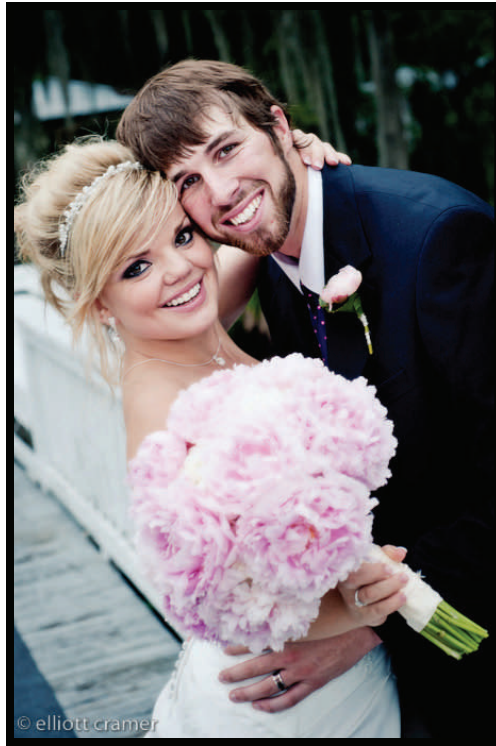
"What Taylor and I thought would happen, God ended up taking us on a totally different direction. It ended up being Taylor mentoring me and us looking deeper into the word, opening up my prayer life, etc. One particular event that really changed my life was about

two years ago. My girlfriend and I had broken up and it was an ugly situation. That day in chapel and then on my phone call with Taylor I had a huge pit in my stomach; I knew I had to forgive her but I didn't want to. As the Spirit

led us to scriptures on forgiveness I knew I had to forgive her. Well, (with a big smile on his face) that girl that I forgave two years ago ended up being my wife, Teresa! I can't thank AIA, Sportline, Taylor and more importantly God enough for giving me the strength to forgive." Matt. 6:14-15 "For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses."

While I was in Florida in Jan. and Feb. I got to take Gabe and Teresa out to eat

and meet her for the first time. I had prayed earlier that week, "Lord show me the fruit of my labor". I had a small part in their life but I want to challenge you today to show up and



give people their daily bread. Had Gabe not been challenged with the truth of God's word that we are to forgive, who knows how things would have turned out. Jesus changes lives because he is a God of restoring relationships. What relationships need to be reconciled or birthed in your life because the Spirit is tugging on your heart to forgive?

As we look to the one on the tree who forgives us we can only forgive if we truly understand what a gift we have been given. Thank you for your prayers and financial partnership in the Kingdom of God with me as we look to Jesus the "Author and Finisher of our faith." He writes such good stories and Gabe and Teresa's is just one of many that are a result of this team. Jesus we praise you that we can participate and watch you write beautiful loves stories. Release a tsunami wave of forgiveness in our hearts in Jesus name and grant us faith to see your Kingdom come because of it. Gypsum, CO Saints bottom left & right



I AM THANKFUL FOR...

- Freedom from judgment • Greater capacity to love & forgive because I know how much I have been forgiven. • All the friends and families I have got to catch up with. • Getting to speak on the goodness and mercy of Jesus Christ to Aurora Alliance Youth Group. • Sharing with the Saints at Cornerstone Community Church.

- Sharing about Athletes in Action with an Ethiopian Youth Group and challenging them to use their gifts and talents for his kingdom. • Briefly sharing my personal hope for the cross and with AAC Church body.

- Seeing families, friends and coaches from the local High School and college

- baseball community. • My recent weekend in the mountains with the Saints in Gypsum, Colorado: ranching, snowmobiling, preaching, eating, playing games, praying and listening to people's hearts. That is real ministry and I am thankful.



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