



MAX'S BREAKAWAY



"Build your life on a firm foundation." Matthew 7:24-27

Dear Friends and Family,

Growing up I always wanted to live a life like my dad. I thought he lived the coolest life. To my surprise he said, "Max, you will have a life stuffed so full you will make my life look boring; God has just begun with you." Here are some things going on in my life.

Many people have asked me, "Now that you're no longer doing summer hockey camps with HMI, what are you doing in the summer with ministry?" I was concerned about that question myself as my chapel season ended in April, but the answers quickly presented themselves. I was able for the first time in six years to sleep in my own bed for a whole summer with the exception of going back to Cluj, Romania. I was also on the road a lot less, not traveling from camp to camp. Despite all this, my summer agenda was quite busy. It was a great blessing to be home and live an almost normal life after years of traveling to distant hockey camps. It was great not having to battle bed bugs, cockroaches, geckos and other bugs crawling over me while I slept (last summer with YWAM). I didn't consider Hawaii paradise.

My ministry is expanding into areas I had **never** considered. As I learn to surrender control to the leading of God's purpose and plans for what He would have me do, I continue to run into Hockey players in many different facets of life. This summer I had the privilege of sharing twice at Lino Lakes Prison with 200 men in the IFI (Interchange Freedom Initiative) Prison Fellowship, founded by Chuck Colson. The first inmate I met at Lino Lakes was a for-

mer hockey player, who had just given his life to Jesus and was on the Prayer team, praying for other inmates; I was so blessed by him.

One of the questions that plagues every ministry is "what's next?" How do we keep new converts to Christ involved? What is the follow up? Now that I am not traveling all summer to camps, I have had the time to talk to former chapel attendees and I have found that many of them have not gotten plugged into a church or any other Bible-based fellowship. So in June, after talking to one of my former chapel leaders, the first Alumni chapel group was started with Augsburg College. I met with a number of chapel guys spanning the past 5 years of chapels. It was like homecoming; we picked up right where we left off. We have been studying the book of Jonah. The plan is to do this with the other schools I am working with; the effect being, that some will become Alumni chapel leaders and carry on the work. The fact that they also need to commit to a bible teaching church will also be stressed. So you can see I have potentially doubled my workload if God honors this plan.

Players are being impacted in such a way that now I have been asked by player's families to come and pray with them when they are going through some adversity. The doors continue to open. People are in desperate need for truth. The world continues to push its version of the truth but as Christians we know there is only **ONE TRUTH** and that is JESUS and JESUS alone. That's a battle I continue to fight as I walk into the MIAC Schools.



MAX ERICKSON



Small Group

Bible Devotionals



YWAM - BASEBALL CAMP

The truth about The Word of God is being exchanged for many lies to appease the masses of people that come from all over the world. We have a problem and we need to deal with this problem with the truth of God's unchanging and unending Word of Truth. I once heard a quote, **"If you don't stand for something, you will fall for anything."** God's Word is for all people everywhere of every nation, color and creed.

In July, I went back to Romania to do a follow-up Sports Ministry Baseball Camp, with the YWAM Cluj Base. It was a very fruitful time in which I was asked to lead the bible devotional every day and come up with daily themes and an overall theme for the week. The theme for the week was **"How to get home."** We used baseball concepts to teach the simple message of how we can all make it home to heaven, and that's through Jesus Christ.

You are vital to the continued growth of this ministry. I thank you and ask you for your continued support. In these uncertain days, I am looking for monthly consistent supporters. I have learned the principle that we can never out give God, especially when we give joyfully out of what he has given us. He is our provider and I know how he has taken care of me and I know he will continue to take care of you. **THANK YOU** for your partnership.

HERE IS A SNAPSHOT OF MY MINISTRY:

1. MIAC Chaplain for 5 MIAC Schools - meet every week Oct-April.
2. Prison fellowship a few times a year, when time permits.
3. Alumni Chapel Programs have started (Augsburg College).
4. Attending MIAC games every weekend during the Hockey Season.

5. Running the Facebook devotional page - 186 players on this page.
6. Individual Discipleship with players, coaches, Alumni and now families of players.
7. Partnering with Dave Boeltl from Overcomers Ministry - Outreach/Youth Hockey Camps to First Nation's people in Northern Ontario during January.
8. Play hockey Sunday night in Cottage Grove and was allowed to start a bible study with the guys before we skate.
9. I have also taken side jobs working for my dad's customers in his workshop to supplement income when I don't have something scheduled. I believe that as a missionary it's sometimes necessary to be a Tentmaker like Paul, especially when you are praying for God's provision. I am learning that God's provision comes in many ways and sometimes as missionaries we need to do physical work for it. The two side jobs I took this summer were working on two vintage INDY Race Cars. One was the "Belanger Special" which raced in 1951 and the other was the "Samson Special." Those projects paid for my whole trip to Romania; I made sure I didn't use any donated funds to pay for my trip there. God has been faithful as always. I thank you for being partners in this ministry. **May you be inspired and encouraged to push on in Jesus' name, Amen!!!**

In His Grip, Max Erickson



Belanger Special INDY Race Car



Spring 2013 - 4th Annual Year End Chapel



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