

TALITHA KOUM

Making alumni feel seen, known and loved as we arise together.



FROM THE DESK OF KATHERINE EBY

Dear partners in this wonderful mission,

Over the summer, I shared about the fruit being borne at Michigan Tech in our discipleship program, which teaches students how to teach others to become lifelong followers of Jesus (that newsletter is attached if you missed the print edition in July.) I want to take the next couple months to walk you through what we teach students, alumni and parishioners, in the hopes that it will not only inspire you as to the impact your support makes, but also offer you material to pray with and implement in your own life.

September's topic: ["In the Dust of The Rabbi"](#)

We're going to start our walkthrough assuming I already have a reciprocal relationship with the new disciple; they might have been coming to a bible study for a while, or we're just good friends from church. I recognize they want to go deeper, so I ask them if and how they want to make Jesus the center of their life. If they say they do, and want help making that happen, I start talking with them about what it means to "walk in the dust of the Rabbi."

Have any of you been watching *The Chosen*? (It's a free TV series about the ministry of Jesus through the eyes of his apostles; would highly recommend!) What you see portrayed is the apostles following Jesus around Israel, learning from him, protecting him, setting up camp for him. In a recent episode we watched, the apostles noted how often Jesus goes off alone to pray, and they ask him to teach them to pray. He teaches them the Our Father. This scene is based on Luke 11:1-4, and shows that the apostles didn't want to just hear Jesus' teachings, they wanted to pray like him, and eat like him, and heal others like him.

In ancient Jewish tradition, this was called "being in the dust of your rabbi." Disciples of a Jewish rabbi would walk so closely behind their rabbi, modeling everything he did so attentively, that they would get covered in the dust kicked up by his sandals. This is how we are called to follow Jesus, modeling everything he does so closely that we become indistinguishable from him. **How closely does your lived Christian journey look like Christ's? Where could he be calling you to be even more covered in his dust?**

Take some time to pray with these questions. If you're looking for more, I adapted this from the FOCUS Discipleship Article by the same name, hyperlinked above. Next month's topic: Prayer.

A quick note: everything has changed! And by that, I mean my last name, email and mailing address. Oh and the job (working with alumni, not college students). And I'm married. So I guess everything. But if you do need to contact me, you can find my new information in the footer. Or reply to this email and I'll be in touch! I love hearing from you!

In Christ,
Katherine

APOSTOLATE UPDATE

Mission looks a little different now that I'm not a campus missionary. There are two ways I live out my discipleship: at work, and in my new parish.

At work, I spend much of my day in meetings with my teammates, creating social media graphics, designing marketing material for our annual SEEK conference, and any other tasks related to communications that my team needs done. I haven't quite figured out the connection between working a desk job for a missionary organization and actually feeling like a missionary, but I'm sure it will come in time. The Alumni Team is in the middle of calling over 1,800 of our missionary alumni to invite them to participate in the National Eucharistic Revival as parish point people, revitalizing love for Jesus in the Eucharist across our country.

In our new parish, St. Agnes & St. Cecelia, Cody and I have volunteered to teach high school Confirmation class. We have 11 teenagers with whom we're excited to share the Gospel and teach how to be disciples of Jesus for the rest of their life! We're still trying to meet people, which is difficult because everyone seems to leave the minute the closing song ends. I have to keep reminding myself it's not that awkward to say, "Hello! My name's Katherine and we're new here. What's your name?" even if it feels like it is!



HELPING SERVE "GHANA NIGHT"
DINNER WITH OUR NEW PASTOR,
FR. DANIEL FOSU

PRAYER REQUESTS

~For the 11 teens Cody and I will be teaching Confirmation to this year

~For my new teammates on the Alumni Team, that we would be just as inspired and encouraged by our alumni as they are by us (we've got over 70,000 staff and student alumni!)

~For our new friends Anthony and Natalie and their son Justin, who are first-time visitors to the parish, looking to learn more about Catholicism

~For all the alumni participating in the Eucharistic Revival Challenge, that many hearts would return to adore Jesus

INTRODUCING THE FOCUS ALUMNI TEAM!



BR: Dr. Ted Sri, Emily, Sam, Tyler, James, Anthony, Stephany
FR: Abby, Courtney, Andrea, me, Chrisy



In Christ,

Katherine Eby
Katherine (Stevenson) Eby

Found in Mark 5:35-43, *talitha koum* means "little girl, arise!" We are called to be the little girl—to be redeemed through Jesus' love for us, and arise to live life as His disciples. It tops every newsletter as a reminder to see, know and love those around me, helping them arise to spread love of God in their homes, schools, and workplaces.