



ATHENS COLLEGE *of* MINISTRY

DEVOTIONAL & MAY 2018 NEWSLETTER

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Dear ACMin Family & Friends,

Our college exists to equip the saints for the work of the Kingdom! We hope that you will take advantage of so many opportunities to be involved in God's work at ACMin as you become a part of our growing family!

With abundant blessings-

The ACMin Leadership Team

Obedience With Anticipation

Jesus and his disciples were attending a wedding feast at Cana, and when the hosts ran out of wine, Jesus' mother said to him, "They have no more wine." Jesus replied. "Woman, why do you involve me? My hour has not yet come." His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." (John 2:3-5)



In spite of what appears to be Jesus' resisting his mother's encouragement to attend to a presenting problem, why did Mary seemingly ignore Jesus' response and tell the servants to position themselves to act according to what Jesus would speak? What a beautiful picture Mary painted for us about living with the expectation that Jesus is well able to bring resolution to any situation with answers that only He can provide!

Knowing the True Source. Mary understood better than anyone alive that Jesus was the Son of God. She knew his origin, his character, his heart, his deity. As an Israelite, she was well aware of all the promises in the Old Testament about the Messiah. So inherent in her knowing Jesus was an expectation that He would DO incredible things because of who she knew Him to be. Do we live with the same expectant hope in the True Source of every good thing?

Understanding the power of God's words. When

Seeds of Faith



ACMin students, Board members, and friends enjoyed some home-cooked BBQ lunch on our campus

property May 8th. Incoming ACMin Board Chair, Jeff Snowden, shared about the importance of sowing into good soil from Mark 4:20.



Dr. Marcia Wilbur, ACMin President, recounted all the miracles by God's hand that have brought us to our beautiful campus, and encouraged the guests to join together to build the vision as a gift to our community.

Above, the BBQ attendees each left a "mustard seed" of faith at the foot of the cross, remembering that walking in obedience to what God has asked us to do is indeed a walk of faith!



THANK YOU Blake, Rick, Lee, Earl, David, Dave, and John for ALL that you did to get the place ready for our gathering. You are without question God's faithful servants!

Building for Eternity



We are trusting God that this will be our

Gabriel told Mary she would be pregnant with God's Son, she replied, "May it be unto me according to your word." She had first-hand experience that when God speaks, His dunamis, life-giving power cannot be denied; supernatural miracles are the result. Her cousin Elizabeth said when they greeted one another, "Blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the LORD." Elizabeth recognized the blessing of coming into agreement with what God speaks. Because the servants at the wedding filled the water jars as Jesus commanded, they too became first-hand witnesses of God's transformative power!

Living obedient to God's Word. In spite of the social consequences, Mary agreed with the angelic decree that she would become pregnant by the Holy Spirit. She knew that through cooperation with the divine, God gets glorified. Shepherds and Wise Men were living proof of how one woman's surrender could result in celestial glory. She thus encouraged the servants at the wedding to also live in obedience by doing as Jesus commanded. And so should we live in surrendered obedience to His words and His Word.

Living with Jesus on the inside! Mary was the first person to experience the "indwelling" presence of Christ--well before the Holy Spirit was given. While she could not have fully understood that Jesus was going to be crucified and rise from the dead, she had lived "pregnant with promise" since He was conceived. She had 30 years of stored-up expectations about this "Son of God" that she had birthed. When the shepherds came to worship Jesus at his birth, Luke 2:19 says that "Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart." When Jesus got left behind at the temple as a young boy and replied about needing to be in his Father's house, Luke says again in 2:51, "But his mother treasured all these things in her heart." Unlike any other mother on earth, she had a lifetime of carrying on the inside who she knew this man to really be--something more than a carpenter.

So, knowing the supernatural power of any word from God, knowing the true identity of her son, and having lived expecting to see the revelation of God's promise to Israel, Mary's direction to the servants to do as Jesus commanded paved a pathway for Jesus' first miracle. And she provided us with a beautiful example in the Scriptures where God delights in rising to the occasion when met with undaunted faith in Him---showing mercy at the place of need and undeniable glory for the One True God. Will you do as Jesus commands, allowing Him fill you to the brim with His living water so that you might be poured out wine for watching world to taste and see the Lord's goodness? Faithful obedience is a sure conduit for God's blessings!

Ministry Redefined

Here at ACMin, we don't exactly define ourselves as a

"groundbreaking" year, and asking each one of you to do all that you can to help supply the \$2M needed to occupy our beautiful, promised land!

Psalm 65:11 says, "You crown the year with bounty and your carts overflow with abundance." We are clinging to that promise for 2018!

Would you prayerfully consider making a significant difference with your gift to the [ACMin Capital Fund](#)? By working together, we can confidently create our special place in Athens with its retreat center, prayer garden, farm, kids camps, and so much more!

Let's exercise bold faith, experience the joy of generous giving, and co-labor with the LORD to serve and unite our community in Him!

Would you make today the day you commit to becoming a generous supporter of God's work through ACMin? [Click here](#) to set up a monthly recurring gift.

Contact Dr. Marcia Wilbur, mwilbur@acmin.org, to make a non-cash gift, [a named gift](#), or to name ACMin in your estate planning.

Every gift matters!

CONNECT!



seminary. You can most certainly study here to be well prepared for full-time vocational ministry.

But we're equally passionate about welcoming high school

graduates interested in earning an Associate's Degree and completing their general education credits in a safe environment that honors and fortifies their Christian worldview!

ACMin is the best local value for launching your college program. Learn who God says you are before you define yourself by your career! Get prepared to succeed at life, not just at a job, and in the process, get equipped to serve the LORD in ministry wherever He places you - in a lab, a bank, a school or an office.

If you believe in Jesus, you are automatically drafted onto His team! Let us help you develop your game plan for a lifetime of leadership success in any career area with a sure foundation in Christ!

-[Admissions Information](#)

-[Financial Aid](#)

-[Fall semester course schedule](#)

The fall semester application deadline is July 1st. To apply or ask questions please contact us at 706-769-1472 or acmininfo@acmin.org. We would love to meet you and walk with you on your journey!

Full Scholarship Opportunity



Are you a recent college grad wondering what to do next? ACMin is offering a limited number of full scholarships for master's level students interested in

a 20-hour per week work-study.

Earn a master's degree without debt and gain powerful leadership experience while you study! It's a win-win! Interested candidates should contact Dr. Marcia Wilbur for additional information: mwilbur@acmin.org.

Transformed! Conference Available Online

With sincerest appreciation to Grace

Transformed!
CONFERENCE

Fellowship for the use of their beautiful space and to the ministry team from A.C.T.S. for blessing us all with their encouragement, what a great day we had at this year's



[Click here](#) to CONNECT to great ministry opportunities in our area like:

- Night of Healing Prayer: Thursday, May 17th 7:00 - 8:30 PM @ St. James UMC

- Clergy Training on Behavioral Health: May 24th 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM @ The Classic Center

- SWORD (a ministry for single, widowed, or divorced women) Tea Party: Saturday, May 26th 2:00 - 4:00 PM @ Grace

Remember to see the [Community Jobs Board](#) for local ministry positions

Contact ACMin to post your ministry's job needs and community events!

conference!

Participants explored their identity in Christ and how to exercise their power and authority in the courts of heaven with the goal of becoming "kingdom ambassadors."

[Click here](#) for online access to the conference presentation, handouts, and the teaching via audio files!



Staff Spotlight



Earl didn't think he was coming to Athens to go back to school. But now that he's here, "it's like I'm in school with Jesus every day and there's no break from it!" Not that Earl Borron wants a break from

this life-altering instruction, it's just a statement of fact. As early as Earl can remember he'd been taught about Jesus and he'd believed that only He was sufficient to pay for his sins. God knew that Earl needed to move from being taught about Him to being taught by Him. [For complete article.](#)

National Day of Prayer - May 3rd

What a wonderful time of fellowship with the LORD and our local community of believers we had at the 2018 Athens Area National Day of Prayer Breakfast!



The Athens NDoP Committee would like to thank Dr. Fritz Schaefer for his message, Dr. Greg Broughton for leading tremendous times of worship, and Pastors Charlie Maddox, Carlos Sibley, and Ricardo Smith for leading us in fervent prayer. May we all continue to make every effort to build unity in Christ and to pray without ceasing. Enjoy these [event photos!](#) Many thanks as well to all of the [event sponsors](#) who made this prayer gathering possible and to God for access to His heart through prayer 24/7!

Wholeness Care Project - Calling Prayer Ministers to Action



As ACMin makes preparations to launch its Wholeness Care Project, we're making every effort to help those Prayer Ministers who will serve as key players in

the project be prepared to take their Prayer Ministry to a whole new level! We expect that the project will reach a large number of unbelievers as well as those seeking

answers for issues related to their physical healing.

This July, ACMin is offering a one-week intensive course, [Effective Prayer Ministry Tools](#), where we will consider and apply effective ways to present Prayer Ministry to individuals who do not yet know Jesus, and we will address how to incorporate individuals' whole beings -- body, soul, and spirit, into the Prayer Ministry experience.

[Register today](#) to learn how to be optimally effective at ministering Christ to the hurting!

[Click here](#) for complete details about ACMin's Wholeness Care Project.

ACMin Impact - Apprenticeships



ATLANTA
DREAM
CENTER

ACMin students serve with ministries throughout the area and abroad as they accomplish their student apprenticeship

experiences. This is an opportunity to get real-life ministry experience while serving sacrificially in a church or ministry. One of our students, Jonathan Tarbutton, is presently serving through the [Atlanta Dream Center](#), with [Out of Darkness Ministry](#) rescuing women from sex-trafficking. These organizations are being used to radically change people's lives and Jonathan is right in the mix. He, alongside the ministry, is bringing the Gospel of Jesus Christ in deed and word, risking his personal safety, being uncomfortable, heartbroken and battling personal fears, to show the love of Christ to those desperately in need. This one example compellingly reveals the unique investment these apprenticeships have on others' lives.

Jesus' disciples learned from His teaching as well as from "doing" ministry wherever they were sent. Our Faith-in-Action Apprenticeship experiences are intended to accomplish the same--to provide real ministry application to complement their classroom learning. ACMin students are making a difference as they hone their ministry skills!

Athens College of Ministry | 706-769-1472 | acmininfo@acmin.org | www.acmin.org
P.O. Box 7953
Athens, GA 30604