HeartChangers
Partners in Ministry Making a Difference

CMDA

JULY 2024

Oh and Awe

"Oh…," was my response when the freshly graduated resident came up to me and said, "It's me, Connie!" Despite my ignorance, her last name was Oh, so it may have seemed that I recalled our email conversation, but I did not (which I confessed). She reminded me of the connection we made, and I vaguely remembered at the moment, but then more clearly later when I looked up the emails I exchanged with her and others about five months ago. She proceeded to tell me of the great group of residents in Los Angeles, California she had connected with, including one residency, which was filled with Christians. She even looped in some post-grad year one (PGY-1) residents who are starting their residency the week I type this.

It's always great to meet with people I email, but this was especially powerful because of the context of our meeting. I was at Global Medical Missions Alliance (GMMA), a great conference in Irvine, California with more than 700 attendees, most of whom were undergrad students. Hearing CMDA CEO Dr. Mike Chupp, Samaritan's Purse Vice President Ken Isaacs, author and speaker Francis Chan and several other missionaries was amazing. Connecting with people I'd previously met was a real joy, too, as relationships deepen and laughter is had. Meeting Connie was as much of a highlight as hearing any of those speakers. And they were a-ma-zing speakers.

I've said it before, and I'll say it again: I'm a second baseman (i.e. networker). I never know how God is going to use me or the ministry of CMDA, but it seems weekly I hear stories of how God is working in these "coincidental" ways. His hand is constantly moving pieces to bless us, use us and remind us of just how powerful, yet personal He is. We know they aren't coincidences, as Mike shared with me the day before meeting Connie, "You can't make this stuff up!"

You may never know the impact you have with a simple text, email or other connection you make today. You may even forget you ever made it, but God uses us in the tiniest of ways that are part of kingdom work that manifests significantly in others' lives. I celebrate the moments like I had with Connie, but instead of my initial response, "Oh…," I'm in ***awe***. It's not a "neat story," but a moment where I say, "Wow! Praise the Lord and to Him be glory today and forevermore." So humbling.

I hope you are just as in awe and don't just respond with an, "Oh," like I did. As you pray, give and support the ministry I get to do through CMDA, you are helping make things like this happen. Thank you for being a part of what happens in Connie's world, the other handful of residents she is now connected with and numerous other healthcare professionals throughout the West.

From oh to awe,

Wes

Thank you very much for your faithful support of this CMDA ministry.

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