

## Melissa's Update

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What's your why? At our recent statewide board retreat, we were challenged with this question by a short video called "Know Your Why" by Michael Jr. (Take 4 minutes, scan the code, and watch the video!) At the end, Michael Jr. makes this point, "when you know your why, your what becomes more impactful because you're walking towards or in your purpose."

What initially comes to my mind when I think about life's purpose is the Westminster Catechism, "to glorify God and to enjoy him forever." To glorify God, then, becomes my why, but I find my mind and heart having a hard time quantifying this. I find myself knowing this to be the answer but overwhelmed by the magnitude, I push it to the dark corners of my mind rather than allow it to illuminate and fuel all that I do. I want to avoid the mental exercise of unpacking what this means for me and turn my thoughts to something easier, but I'm challenged to take the dive and go deeper. How has God designed me, what has He gifted me with, what has He allowed me to experience that gives reason and intentionality to what I do?

As I've been pondering this question, I've landed here... My why is to lovingly connect people with their Savior. This can apply to someone who doesn't yet know the Lord, but it also applies to all my fellow brothers and sisters in Christ. It can look like sharing the gospel, sending a Bible verse, praying with someone, studying God's Word together, encouraging someone to serve or give of their financial means to further the Kingdom. Lovingly connecting people with Jesus speaks clearly to my mind and heart and gives me fuel and focus, so that my what can be more impactful.

I don't know about you, but I don't want to look back on my life and think "what was I really doing?" Since I first put myself through this mental wringer, I now ask you, what is your why?



24 CAMPUSES

500 COACHES

6,753 STUDENTS

## Upcoming Events

SEPTEMBER 26  
STATE GOLF SCRAMBLE  
WILD HORSE  
GOTHENBURG

SEPTEMBER 28  
FIELDS OF FAITH  
BEARCAT STADIUM  
SCOTTSBLUFF

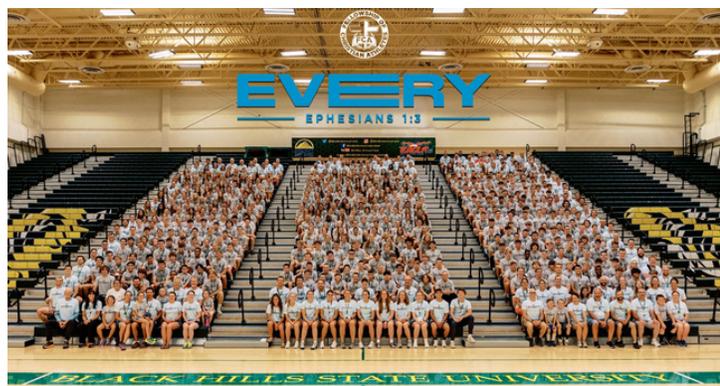
NOVEMBER 12-13  
WEEKEND OF CHAMPIONS  
SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL  
GRAND ISLAND



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and search for your local staff.



Leadership Camp



Black Hills Camp

## Ministry Update

June was jam packed with FCA Camps! You can't quantify the work the Lord did in the hearts of coaches and athletes through these camps, but for a little perspective, we had 51 students from the Panhandle attend a summer camp. Of those, we know of ten who accepted Jesus as their Savior for the first time, and many made recommitments to follow the Lord. In addition to covering transportation costs, our area scholarship fund helped cover \$6,600 in camp costs for these students. Praise God!

Another Golf Scramble is in the books! We're so thankful to all our hole and event sponsors and the 18 teams that came out to play! It was a hot day, but it was also a day the gospel was shared and fellowship was enjoyed. Scottsbluff graduate and current member of the Sweet Briar College golf team, Haley Holzworth, joined us to share about her FCA and golf journey.



Golf Scramble

Matt and I made a quick trip to Lincoln to connect with coaches from across the state at the Coaches Marriage Weekend. We met some amazing coaches and their spouses and were challenged and energized in our own marriage. I'm thankful FCA sees and values the spouses of coaches, and I'm hopeful we can recruit several coaches from the Panhandle to attend next year.

To help support our amazing huddle leaders and help them get the year kicked off well, we hosted two Ministry Leader Kickoff Trainings, one in Scottsbluff and one in Chadron. We had 15 huddles represented, several new faces, many ideas shared, and lots of conversation and excitement about the upcoming year. In addition, we were able to provide a selection of free books and resource materials that these leaders can utilize during their huddle meetings. Praise God!



Coaches Weekend Huddle

A wonderful team and I have been busy planning and are so excited to be hosting Fields of Faith! This event is for all ages, and I strongly encourage you to come! More details are on our Facebook page - NE Panhandle FCA. Come be encouraged in your faith. Come see a little of what FCA is doing. Come take a stand with students from across the Panhandle that Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life!