

# CONNECTION

chi alpha

VOLUME 8 ISSUE 4 SPRING 2016

## An aMAZEing Evening!

BY ERIC TREUIL

You might ask yourself why on earth would you hold a big event on campus. Isn't simple discipleship the key to reaching your campus? The truth of the matter is, simple Biblical discipleship is the ongoing key to reaching any campus, however, I believe there are some very good reasons to augment discipleship with a major outreach.

- Awareness. Are the average students on campus even aware your ministry exists? Just like in the area of giving (people give to what they know about), students get involved with the groups they know about. The big event helps your students to invite fellow students to small groups and other events. It helps put your group on the map.
- Unity. We all have to work together to pull this event off. It will take all students doing their part to make this happen and it will be a huge win for the ministry. You also have to work together in order to follow up on all the new contacts that were made. When the successful event is completed, we all look back and celebrate!
- Awareness. Yes, I know I said that already! However, it will help your students be aware of the spiritual condition of other students and educate them on the basic spiritual hunger of fellow students. In order to have a successful event, we must get beyond their current circle of friends. When that happens, we get a better picture of the overall spiritual condition of students on campus.

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Check out testimonies from The MAZE.

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Spiritual Empowerment is essential to Chi Alpha Campus Ministries. See why.



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## EDITORIAL BY E. SCOTT MARTIN

As I had shared at CMC, "Show me your vision and I will show you your future!"

While visiting the University of Hawaii campus with Tim Smith in March of 2014, I had the privilege to be a part of The MAZE event Cru was hosting and Tim was assisting with. As I watched the estimated 750 students pour into the auditorium I was moved and excited. I only knew that this was an illusionist show with a gospel message and I had immediately formed opinions of what the quality of the show and the gospel presentation would be.

I was completely astounded as The MAZE opened. They produced the highest level quality illusions that I had ever seen live and the production was stellar. Students were riveted to illusionist Jim Munroe and the program. When Jim told them he was about to share his Christian story, he gave the students the opportunity to depart and very few left.

As a university student evangelist who utilized his earthly talent of illusion to open the door for the gospel message, Jim Munroe is a pleasure to work with. He is down to earth, yet very professional; edgy, yet very Godly; he is captivating. That night in Hawaii when I heard his testimony and his articulation of the gospel I was deeply moved. Students stood to commit their lives to Jesus and to seek out more information about Him. I thought to myself, "Chi Alpha needs something like this," not necessarily thinking we would end up with "this."

What a privilege we have to partner with Jim Munroe and The MAZE in reconciling students to Christ! The number of students who have heard a potent message of God's transforming power has increased by thousands this academic year as Chi Alpha has sponsored The MAZE on seven campuses.

As National Chi Alpha, we count it a privilege to partner with our local Chi Alpha groups to bring The MAZE to campus. We are believing for multiple thousands of student to hear and respond to the gospel through this outreach.

Show me your vision and I will show you your future!

**E. SCOTT MARTIN** is the seventh national director of Chi Alpha Campus Ministries, U.S.A. He previously served as the Student Mission Director for 18 years. He has served with Chi Alpha since May 1986, where he pioneered Chi Alpha on The University of Arizona. He and his family along with two great teams of "give a year" Chi Alpha volunteers also pioneered Chi Alpha in Central Eurasia.



### CHI ALPHA CONNECTION

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# An aMAZEing Evening!

For The MAZE at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, we scheduled the largest auditorium on campus and filled it past capacity. It really wasn't that hard of a sell: Jim Munroe and his team spent a good portion of the day walking around campus doing street magic and talking up the show. We asked for permission to go into the cafeteria on campus and he did some incredible tricks including the breaking of a couple of forks. The President of the university was there to witness it and I assured him we would send over two forks for replacement.

The production and execution of The MAZE is outstanding and a huge win for any local group. We had just over nine-hundred attend, and when the night was over, there were one-hundred and eighty-seven people who responded to the invitation for salvation. We were able to have a part in their eternal destination through our awareness and unity in sponsoring this event.

Gabe had a young man who was a part of his small group a year ago walk away from his relationship with God. Gabe tried to reach out to him for more than a year without any results until Gabe convinced his friend to come to The MAZE. Because of the program, he rededicated his life to God and began meeting with Gabe on a weekly basis.

Ashley, a young lady in a sorority, invited nearly a dozen of her sorority sisters to attend. One of the girls, Mackenzie,

felt burdened and convicted to rededicate her life to Jesus. She felt like The MAZE helped her realize there is a real God purpose to life! She started attending our weekly worship meetings and then signed up for the Leadership Training Class.

There were nearly two-dozen Muslim students who came to The MAZE. One young man was very impacted by the program and began attending a Life Group on a weekly basis. He hasn't made a decision for Jesus yet, but it's only a matter of time before he does.

To say the least, it was an absolutely aMAZEing evening that will bear fruit for eternity!



**Eric Treuil, was born and raised in New Orleans, Louisiana and it was at Nichols State University "Harvard on the Bayou" that he had a radical conversation experience while earning a Bachelor of Arts in Theatre. Along with his wife (Anabelle) of 30 years and their three children they have served with Chi Alpha at the University of Louisiana (home of the Ragin' Cajuns) for 29 years!**

# The MAZE Chi Alpha Campus Tour

On July 14, 2015 at the Chi Alpha Campus Missions Conference in Phoenix, AZ, Chi Alpha Campus Ministries, U.S.A., launched the greatest student outreach project in the history of the ministry with the announcement of The MAZE Chi Alpha Campus Tour. The tour features world renowned illusionist, Jim Munroe, and his high energy performance, called The MAZE. The MAZE Campus Tour is a unique opportunity to reach those who feel lost, alone or skeptical of Jesus' love. It is a mystery performance piece that has traveled the world, The MAZE has bewildered audiences for the past decade with its unique and innovative approach to entertainment.

Thanks to the generosity of our supporters, The Maze Campus Tour has already touched the lives of over five-thousand and five-hundred students and over seven-hundred students have responded to have further discussion about faith in Christ! Thank you Kingdom Family Investments, The Sharp Family, Cornerstone Christian Church, Arizona Pain Foundation, Vision Aviation, The Allen Family, The Carlson Family, The Hirsch Family, The Cromer Family, The Byron Family, The Smith Family, The Loiacono Family, and The Rodericks Family.



We had what we believe to be the largest outreach event in the history of the University of Wyoming. The director of the auditorium is a believer and told me the day of the event if we got six-hundred to eight-hundred people to attend, he would be impressed. I quickly responded that I wouldn't be impressed unless we packed the lower level of the auditorium, which holds one-thousand and two-hundred people, and opened up the balcony. A few minutes after the doors opened, he came back to tell me he just opened up the balcony. He was never wrong about events at the auditorium, but said he was happy to eat crow on his earlier statements. He had worked for the university for a long time and had never seen a free event, let alone a magician, and Christian sponsored, in this auditorium (with no close parking), pull off this kind of attendance. Of that large crowd, one-hundred twenty-five people signed response cards, indicating they wanted to have further discussion about Christ.

- Derick Buescher,  
University of Wyoming Campus Director



UCLA hosted The MAZE during their zero week before classes started. The venue was packed, standing room only, with more than five hundred people. Many of the students who came out were freshmen. That night, forty-two students made a decision to give or rededicate their lives to Christ.

- Winston Bui,  
UCLA Campus Director



The MAZE was great! More than three-hundred and fifty students attended the show at Stanford University. Fifteen people prayed to receive Christ and thirty people indicated that they wanted to have further discussion about faith in Christ.

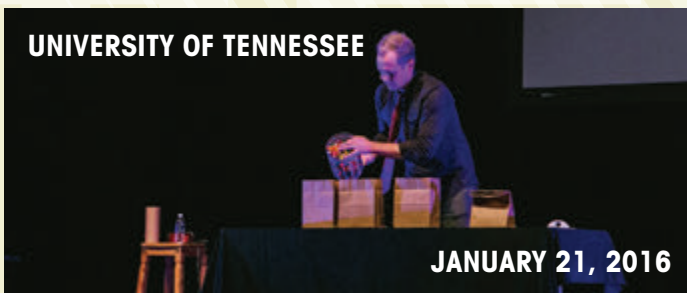
- Glen Davis,  
Stanford University Campus Director





At first I hated The MAZE because magic. Really...magic!? I was so humbled. Every student in that room (including myself) were amazed, entertained, and touched with Jim Munroe's gift but also his radical testimony of being healed of cancer. He then gave the four-hundred and seventy students in attendance the opportunity to leave as he was going to share about Christianity. Every student remained. He presented the gospel in a clear and convicting manner. It was incredible. It was an undeniable presentation of the gospel. Sixty students turned their hearts towards Christ that night.

- **Marc Afshar,**  
**University of California-Davis Campus Director**



The MAZE was the start of a new life for Zach. He filled out a card at the end of The MAZE saying he prayed to receive Christ as his Savior. He made friends in Chi Alpha over the weekend and the following Monday, he and I met together. For thirty minutes, Zach shared his painful experiences of depression and anxiety, which began in middle school. He spoke of two attempts to commit suicide during his first semester of college, and was desperate for hope. But then he heard about The MAZE. Zach was so touched with the message Jim Monroe shared and knew he was out of control. It was evident that Zach wanted to really invite Jesus into his life because he lost friends to suicide twice and medicine wasn't helping either. We prayed together and Zach asked Jesus to be His Lord. Zach is slowly growing and walking through the mine field of medication and depression, but now he has hope!

- **Chuck Lester,**  
**University of Tennessee Campus Director**



Students who attended The MAZE at North Carolina State University numbered nine-hundred and eighty. Of those students, fifty-nine people prayed to accept Christ and five-hundred fifty-three students filled out a response card saying they wanted to have further discussion about Christ. Immediately after the show one of our freshmen students, Kenny, said that his friend needed to talk with me "right now." Long story short, this young man was at the end of his rope and was moved deeply by the gospel message he'd heard. So, right there in the middle of the student center, while students around us are studying calculus and chemistry, Kenny and I led this young man to Jesus!"

- **Brian Hargett,**  
**North Carolina State University Campus Director**



Hours prior to The MAZE, our Life Group leaders went through the dorms knocking on doors to invite fellow students to attend. One Life Group leader, Madi, said, "I was really tired and didn't feel like doing it, but out of obedience knocked!" One young lady who she invited happened to sit next to her at the event. When it was all over, the young lady made a decision to live for Jesus. She leaned over to Madi and said, "Thanks so much for inviting me. This is just what I needed!" She is now plugged into Madi's Life Group.

- **Eric Treuil,**  
**University of Louisiana at Lafayette Campus Director**



Specifically, when we speak of being Spirit empowered, we are committing ourselves to the ongoing teaching and operation of the gifts of the Spirit as outlined in 1 Corinthians 12, Ephesians 4, and Romans 12. We are also committing ourselves to live out a consistent demonstration of the fruit of the Spirit, as outlined in Galatians 5. Both the gifts and fruit of the Spirit are not optional in Chi Alpha Campus Ministries. They are essential priorities for transformation at the local, district, area, and national levels of ministry.

As the cultural environment on campus continues to shift away from God, we lean inward to a deeper dependence upon the Spiritual Empowerment that only comes from God. We will maintain an earnest and prayerful commitment to seeing students baptized in the Holy Spirit, trained in the proper use of the gifts, and empowered for reconciliation and transformative ministry on campus and beyond.

Excerpt taken from paper adopted by *The Guiding Coalition*.

# GROWTH THROUGH SPIRITUAL EMPOWERMENT

BY DICK SCHROEDER

For months, Michael struggled with a nagging doubt that tormented his mind and diminished his fellowship with Jesus. In desperation, he decided to visit a trusted friend in a city hundreds of miles away thinking prayer together perhaps could help. During the trip the Lord said, "I'm using this doubt to take you to another level."

Michael arrived in the destination city and suddenly desired a cup of coffee. As he stood in line waiting to order at the coffee shop, a stranger, evidently a believer, began telling him about his miraculous recovery from cancer. Minutes later, the man's wife returned from the restroom. She looked Michael in the eye and quoted what God said two hours before, "God wants you to know that even though you are struggling with doubt, He is using it to take you to another level."

Stunned, Michael knew that Jesus met him in a supernatural way. No one in this city knew anything about his doubt-struggle. His doubt collapsed with this display of God's power.

Chi Alpha Campus Ministries believes in the essential operation of the power of God to extend His Kingdom. Eagerly desire spiritual gifts, as Paul admonishes, by expecting Jesus to minister through you supernaturally. When corresponding with someone by text or email, or in a conversation, ask Jesus for a word of encouragement for him or her; teach your disciples to do the same. Create contexts during meetings, services, and small groups for people to hear from God and step out in a supernatural gift. For example, in January I met with twenty Chi Alpha leaders from Tennessee. After some teaching and small group interaction during the day, the evening was devoted to praying over each individual in four stations around the room. We prayed quietly in tongues for three minutes, listened in silence for what the Holy Spirit wanted to communicate, and, by faith, prayed it over each individual. We reflected together on what the Lord had spoken prophetically to each of us. One leader said, "The words given to me matched ones I had been given

in the past and reactivated long-dormant promises."

Here are some resources to catalyze spiritual empowerment for yourself and those you lead. *Tools for Mentoring* is a discipleship e-book that offers a complete interactive Bible study on the Holy Spirit for one on ones or small groups. It includes steps to receive the baptism in the Holy Spirit and how to use all nine supernatural gifts. You can purchase the book in its entirety or individual modules of it on Amazon.com and [toolsformentoring.com](http://toolsformentoring.com).

The "You Got the Holy Spirit" website instructs newly-filled believers how to walk in the Spirit. Regularly, readers send me emails detailing how the Lord is using them to powerfully extend His Kingdom. You can find the audio version on the Chi Alpha app.

Finally, I am available to visit your campus or church to cultivate spiritual empowerment, and can do so for Chi Alpha ministries at my own expense. Some topics are: How to pray with students for the baptism with the Holy Spirit, walk in





## Spiritual Empowerment

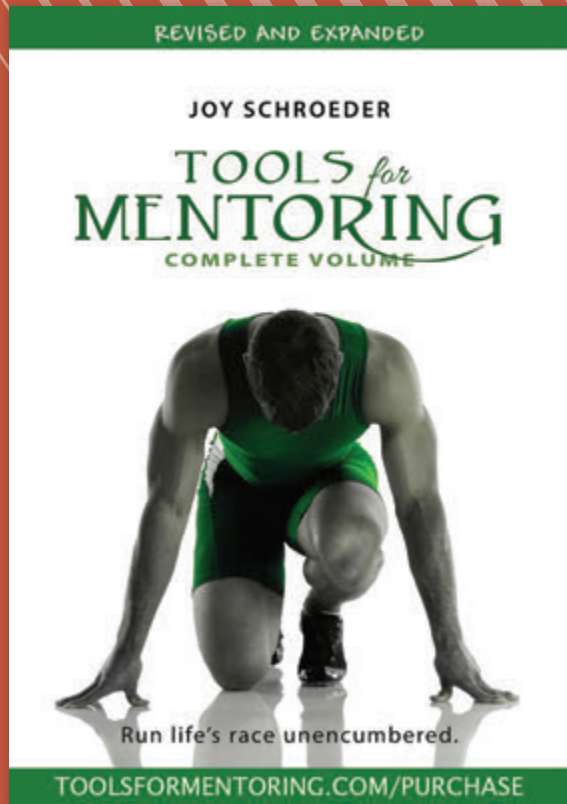
We give attention to the Spirit's guidance in our day-to-day ministry and year-to-year planning, so we may fulfill the mission to which God has called us.

the supernatural naturally, create contexts for using the spiritual gifts, or help those who struggle. Contact me at 406-579-9591 or UCFDick@aol.com.

In Michael's story at the beginning of the article, notice how the couple at the coffee shop was attentive to the Holy Spirit on an ordinary day. The husband initiated a conversation with Michael, including his Jesus story. The wife, unaware of her husband's conversation, heard the Holy Spirit drop inspired thoughts into her mind. By faith, she spoke them to this stranger who was talking with her husband. The power encounter forever changed Michael. Jesus has strategic power encounters prepared for you to walk in. Be listening expectantly.



**DICK SCHROEDER** is a Leadership Development Specialist for Chi Alpha Campus Ministries, U.S.A. He travels to Chi Alpha ministries and conferences, as well as internationally, teaching on spiritual empowerment, Father Heart of God, and leadership topics.



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