

STUDENT PERSPECTIVE: ETHAN SULLIVAN



Ethan Sullivan '19, is a chemistry major who runs on Cedarville's cross country and track teams. Ethan views chapel as an essential part of his day and recognizes the incredible impact it has on the lives of students. "Chapel is not only one of my favorite parts of every day at Cedarville," he shared, "but by diving into God's Word, lifting my voice to Him, and engaging my heart, chapel has allowed me to bask in my relationship with the Lord. Chapel, with its speakers and scripture reading, has truly revived my faith and reaffirmed in my life that God's grace is enough. Jesus nailed my sin to the cross."

Ethan hopes to serve God throughout the rest of his life. "While pursuing a profession in the medical field, I want those who work around me and the patients that I will serve to know that God does perform miracles. For the rest of my life, I desire to live out that God's grace can save us, regardless of our own desires," he said. Because of the gifts from generous donors, students like Ethan can continue to grow closer to Christ through chapel.

HOME: Springfield, Ohio

YEAR: Freshman

LOCATION: Brock Hall

MAJOR: Chemistry

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES: Cross country, indoor and outdoor track

Campaign for the Jeremiah Chapel

Chapel has been the heartbeat of Cedarville throughout the years, and it continues to impact lives. Your gift to the Campaign for the Jeremiah Chapel will allow this life-changing ministry to continue.

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FALL 2015

UPDATE

An inside look at your Cedarville investment



A
**Gospel
START**

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CEDARVILLE UNIVERSITY

A Gospel START

By Trixie Massey
Communication and Donor
Acquisition Coordinator

Each year, Cedarville University begins the year with a Fall Bible Conference, setting the tone for the academic year. This year's speaker was Clayton King, founder of Clayton King Ministries and Teaching Pastor at NewSpring Church in Anderson, South Carolina. His theme for the conference's six messages can be summarized as, "If I'm not dead, God's not done." King emphasized how important trials and weaknesses are in the life of a Christian and encouraged students to embrace these challenges in order to grow closer to Christ. King's Gospel-driven messages inspired students to respond to God's call in their lives — in fact, more than 100 students made the decision to pursue a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and 93 more committed to a call to missions.

FALL BIBLE CONFERENCE

With the student body, faculty, and staff joined together to kick off the new academic year, King opened with a message titled "Don't Waste Your Weakness." He explained that God uses pain and suffering to encourage spiritual growth and maturity in the Christian life. He encouraged students to be humble in their brokenness and to see their struggles as a blessing.

King shared his own story of pain and loss: He lost nine family members in 12 years and preached at each of their funeral services, including his own father's funeral on Father's Day. King shared how in the middle of his pain, he had the opportunity to put Christ on display.

King spoke from 2 Corinthians 11:16–33, where Paul's character is questioned and attacked by false teachers. Paul boasts in his weaknesses, placing Christ firmly above his own selfish desires. King challenged the students with four things they can do in their lives: simplify life, clarify a calling, purify motives, and testify to God's grace. He encouraged students to view weakness as a powerful tool instead of a crutch.

For Tuesday morning's chapel service, King gave a message titled "Strong Enough to Save," speaking on the power of God to convict and convert sinners. King's message on Tuesday evening, titled "The Pain, the Process, and the Point," focused on how the process of refining in a Christian's life is the fulfillment of Christ's promise. Paul's weaknesses caused the painful process of redemption in him. According to King, "The primary purpose of pain is

humility." He explained how removing pride is painful, and submitting to God is difficult, but Christians will ultimately find happiness through their trials. King shared with the student body how his mother fell critically ill while he was traveling in Canada. Before he could return, his mother died, which caused great pain in King's life. Her death triggered a struggle with depression and anxiety in his life. King only overcame these struggles after he fully surrendered to Christ. The student body was greatly impacted by King's story; after that evening's message, more than 100 students committed their lives to Christ.

On Wednesday morning, he spoke from 2 Corinthians 12. King explained that pain in our lives can create a powerful testimony. Painful experiences can teach a Christian to focus on what is important. King shared about his own father's struggle with health problems. Ultimately, King's father passed away, leaving him alone and broken and experiencing an emotion he had never felt before. In fact, King remarked, it was near inexplicable, and he broke down in front of his father's deathbed. However, he realized that his father was in heaven. On his knees, in his weakness, King said that he felt closer to God than he ever

had before because God had redeemed death. King preached at his father's funeral and could worship God in his sorrow.

In Wednesday evening's service, King looked at the life and ministry of Stephen in Acts 6. He told the students that God can redeem their greatest regrets and use them as a call to ministry. King also reminded students that a life of Christ-following is a life of conflict and pain. Stephen's stoning brought glory to God when, as he was dying, Stephen asked God to forgive those who were stoning him. King told students that even if they did not know what they were doing with their lives, they could still be used by God. King stated, "God uses you in obscurity before he uses you publically." He explained that every Christian is called to ministry and our insecurities should not hinder ministry. King invited students to respond if they felt

called to full-time ministry by asking them to publically join others at the front of the chapel. Ninety-three students responded to the call. King concluded the service by praying over the students' futures and asking the Lord to bless their ministries.

King concluded the Bible conference with a message titled "Stronger Companion." He reminded the student body that God gives every moment purpose. The struggles that students face now and in the future will be used in their ministry, often in unexpected ways. No one wants to endure hardship, but it is better to have Christ during those hard times than to avoid trials altogether. King told students that when they feel like their life is out of control, that is when they need to depend on Christ the most.

Students lives were changed for eternity as a result of the Fall Bible Conference. Countless others will be affected as students live out the challenge to serve. A great, Gospel start to the year.

THE PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

By Thomas White
President

When the annual Fall Bible Conference started at Cedarville University, no one could have predicted that more than 100 students would make a profession of faith in Jesus Christ, or that another 93 would respond to a call to enter full-time ministry. But that's exactly what happened following evening messages on August 18 and 19, when God broke down walls and moved in the lives of college students.

Clayton King, founder of Clayton King Ministries and this year's conference speaker, spoke to more than 3,400 students and faculty and staff members during the course of four days. He shared the story of loss in his own life, including the deaths of his mother and father. He spoke about weakness and brokenness and how God uses those times as a way to worship Him, and as a way to heal.

This is only one of many instances that God has worked mightily in the chapel of Cedarville University. Through four different buildings as well as four different presidents in the last 60 years, chapel has served as the heartbeat of our campus

for alumni and friends of the University to invest into the most important part of Cedarville University — to invest in eternity for generations to come. Specifically, we want you to raise your "stone of remembrance." After the Israelites had finally crossed over the Jordan River in Joshua 4, the Lord commanded Joshua to take 12 representatives from the tribes of Israel and have them construct a memorial out of 12 stones from the Jordan. This memorial served as a reminder to future generations of God's faithfulness to His people and His promises, signaled by the Jordan's waters drying up as the Ark of the Covenant passed over. As part of our chapel renovation, we would like to invite you to "raise up your own stone of remembrance" through placing a plaque on the back of a seat in chapel, signifying all that God has done in this place, and thereby remind future students of God's faithfulness to Cedarville University throughout its 127-year history.

For a gift of \$250 dollars or more, we will place a plaque of remembrance on a seat

WE WANT TO PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR ALUMNI TO INVEST INTO THE MOST IMPORTANT PART OF CEDARVILLE UNIVERSITY — TO INVEST IN ETERNITY FOR GENERATIONS TO COME.

and our mission to exist "For the Word of God and the Testimony of Jesus Christ."

Summer 2016 will be the 20-year anniversary of the Jeremiah Chapel in the Dixon Ministry Center. While this facility has served Cedarville well, the time has come for renovation. The life expectancy of the pews has expired, while the color of the carpet and pattern on the fabric testify to the style of a time gone by. Additionally, with the rapid advances in technology, new video and sound equipment is required. Moreover, the student body has grown from 2,509 in 1996 to 3,711 in the fall of 2015, thus requiring additional space through expanding the auditorium into one of the classrooms along the back. Altogether, this renovation will cost around \$3 million, not because of the importance of the facility, but because of the importance of what takes place inside the facility.

As we renovate every area of the chapel, the sound, video, carpet, seating, paint, rails, lights and stage, we ask for your help. We want to provide an opportunity

in the renovated chapel. On this plaque, we will inscribe a Bible reference of your choice, along with your initials, and your year of graduation (if applicable). When your family and friends come to visit, you can then take them to your plaque of remembrance and tell them about what God has done in your life. Future students may look up your verse at the precise moment when God knows they need it.

I have the privilege of serving at a place where it feels like genuine revival could break out at any moment. I feel that strongly enough that I have laid in bed at night thinking through what I would say or do that day when no one wanted to leave chapel because God had revealed Himself to us in a such a way that we all cry out to Him broken over our sinfulness, concern over lost friends and relatives, heartbroken at the sinfulness of our society, and in awe of His majesty. As I pray toward that end, I ask you to join me in praying not only for revival, but also for how you can partner with us to ensure we have a place where we have many more Bible conferences and chapel services to come.

WANT TO LISTEN TO CHAPEL?

Visit cedarville.edu/chapel every weekday at 10 a.m. to watch a live stream of chapel.

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