



COMMON GROUND

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Trading Worry for Peace

Have you ever had a day, or even a week that just seemed to go totally wrong? You planned it all out, worked hard preparing everything, and then disaster strikes. The oven charcoals your dinner, you lose your glasses before a major exam, misplace your keys, and then the dog vomits on the floor.

You sit there thinking, *“no Lord not today. I don’t have time for this. I can’t handle it!”* and the truth is you’re right.

It’s amazing how little we as humans can take before it becomes “too much”. When things change and our plans are thrown out the window we fall into an old habit of despair and self-pity. These habits cripple us not only by keeping us from moving forward, but also by blinding us to the opportunities around us.

This week I faced what seemed like an insurmountable pile of tasks and the worse part was all those “additional” things life seemed to add on just for the fun of it. I lost my glasses, misplaced my laptop, and was almost positive the world was crashing down around me. That’s when God took me by the shoulders and said, “STOP! Calm down. You don’t have to do this alone. You don’t have to shoulder all this worry and responsibility. Trust me. Give it to me; I am more than enough for you.” And it’s true. God never asks us to face this world alone; He gave us

His Spirit, His love, and His Son. He’s more than willing to give us His strength in exchange for our worries. *“Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus” (Phil 4:6-7).*

We don’t have the strength to take on this world alone, but we aren’t asked to. When plans fail and our world crashes, God is there waiting to help us. The only question is will we chose Christ or self-pity? To be honest I’ve tried both this week and I can tell you hands down Christ is far greater. My week was put in shambles but from them God picked up the pieces. He wove something great out of my nothing and took my worry straight from my mind. I’ve had an awesome week. I’m in awe of God and in awe of the beauty He surrounded me with throughout it.

I hope this week you will lean on Christ, trust Him with your worries, and be filled with His peace.

In Christ,
Bethany McMilin



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UPCOMING UNITED CAMPUS MINISTRY EVENTS

Tuesday Evening Worship- Is at 7PM in the lounge above the Lola Tilly Commons. We call this worship service Vespers (evening worship service). Vespers consists of singing, student testimony, a short message, and a time of quiet reflection. This service is a great mid-week pick-me-up.

Thursday Lunch Bunch- Every Thursday from 1PM-1:50 PM. We meet at the United Campus Ministry office at 306 Constitution Hall (above the bookstore). This semester we will be studying the book of 1st Samuel. Feel free to bring your own lunch; we will provide cookies and milk.

Chena Hot Springs Trip-Friday, November 2nd we will meet at the UCM office at 5:30PM and head out to Chena Hot-Springs for a relaxing evening under the stars. We should be back to campus around 11PM that night. The cost for this event is \$5; please bring a swimsuit, towel, and change for a locker (~\$1 worth of quarters). We will not be having dinner at Chena so make sure to eat beforehand.

Thursday Evening Bible study-Jess Morris will be leading a Bible study at 7PM in the evening. It is focusing on the book of Philippians. The Bible study will be held at Cutler Apt. 606 and should have a black cat and UCM posters on the door.

Thanksgiving Dinner Prep-Wednesday Nov. 21st we will be doing prep-work for the Thanksgiving dinner if you can meet us at the UCM office at 6:PM and help out with the prep-work that would be greatly appreciated.

Thanksgiving Dinner-November 22nd UCM will be hosting a Thanksgiving dinner for those of us away from family during this holiday. We are meeting at the UCM office at 11AM and will go to the Moore's house where we will hangout together to play games, eat food, go for a winter walk, and eat some more. Feel free to join us and celebrate the ways God has blessed us this year.

