



COMMON GROUND

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Standing up and Moving Forward

Have you ever had those moments in life when things get rough and don't go exactly your way? That frustration you get when you want to go somewhere in life and the closer you are to achieving it, the more stuff gets in the way and make it harder for you to obtain? Those moments where you begin to say things like "I can't do it", "It's too hard", "I quit"?

We've all had those moments. Those moments where we lose hope in everything we are trying to achieve, and we just give up on life. Sit in a chair next to the window and stare aimlessly in space. Lay in bed and just think about things that you don't want to think about. Obstacles are a part of life, things that we have to go through to continue moving forwards. Sometimes we can push through them with ease, and sometimes we get lost amidst the chaos and begin to have second thoughts about everything in the middle of it all. Those are the times where we should stop, ask God for help, and he'll deliver. (Psalms 37:23-24)

I've had many of those moments, especially this semester. I'm working on transferring to an

art school in California with connections to the art industry in Oakland and San Francisco, something I've been trying to find for the longest time. But there were and are obstacles I have to overcome first, the top two are money and basic college classes. A month ago I started feeling as if it was all for nothing I was working (and am still working) and going to class, and I asked God, "Is it really worth it anymore?". A few days later, I came across the school's website I clicked the link thinking that it wasn't going to happen. And almost immediately I started to remember the time I visited the school, taking in the environment, and got the feeling of "This is where I belong". And then, as if God were saying "Stop moping, and get going!", I got back up and looked towards my goal once again.

When times are hard, we tend to lose track and drift further from our goals. And when we feel completely lost we should look to God and ask for his help. And he will bring us back on track, (Proverbs 3: 5-6). From there, the only thing we can do after that is stand up and move forward.

- Gene Cole

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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. Our last meeting of the semester is December 4th

Thursday Lunch Bunch every Thursday up to December 6th from 1PM-1:50 PM. We meet at the United Campus Ministry office. This semester we will be studying the book of 1st Samuel. Feel free to bring your own lunch; we will provide cookies and milk.

UCM Caroling & Christmas Party Friday December 7th we are meeting in the UCM office at 5:45PM and heading over to the pioneer retirement home to do some caroling and spread a little holiday cheer to its residents. Afterwards we will head over to The Moore's house where we will have the UCM Christmas Pizza party and white elephant gift exchange. If you would like to participate in the gift exchange please bring a wrapped gift (any wrapping will do) that costs \$5 or less. Creativity and gag gifts are encouraged

Thursday Evening Bible study-Jess Morris will be leading a bible study at 7PM at night. 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. December 6th will be our last official meeting of until next semester

