



Walking by Faith and Not by Sight

“Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us.”

– Ephesians 3:20

We began the year of 2018 with the our theme being: MORE. Our desire as an overall ministry organization was to see God do MORE than we could ever imagine as we step out in faith to see coaches and all whom they influence impacted for the glory of God! We based this theme on the verse of scripture Ephesians 3:20.

This focus has proven to be one that challenges our entire ministry each week as we step out to see God do what only He can do.

We agree with the apostle John, where he stated in John 3:30 that, “He must become greater; I must become less.” The calling of the Great Commission continues to drive our overall strategy and mission here at Nations of Coaches as we pour into coaches lives personally, professionally, and into their families lives as well. Coaches continue to be one of the greatest influencers in our culture today. Increasingly, young people look up to their coaches more than any other person in their lives. We desire to help those influential coaches be all they can be for the Master Coach.

This starts in the home. Our light should shine brightest in the home where our families gather daily. Through this initiative we continue to see MORE coaches and spouses attend our marriage retreat than ever before. We have

more opportunities than ever before for coach's spouse to receive the support they need as they strive to make their home one for God's glory. With a new coach's spouse blog and podcasts on the way in 2019, we are excited about all of the possibilities to strengthen the marriages of coaches across the country. We also have begun strategizing to provide a hotline for coaches and/or their spouse to call if they find themselves in a crisis. We want to go the extra mile to help any coach and spouse deal with the challenges they face as a family. The divorce rate for coaches is higher than the national

MORE

average. We want to see God do MORE as we serve as the hands and feet of Christ to those in need.

MORE coaches are tuning in to our Legacy Summit than ever before. Coaches are diving into becoming better leaders in their programs, and in their homes as well. We are committed to helping coaches understand what it takes to be the type of leader God would want them to be and how that influence impacts all of those within their sphere of influence. This calling to impact others for the glory of God is one that coaches are taking seriously. We anticipate MORE coaches attending the 2019 Legacy Summit than in any other year we have offered this continuing education leadership summit.

Character Coaching continues to be on the rise as MORE programs are being served by our character coaches than in any other time in our

history. We have trained over 150 Character Coaches and currently we have 18 programs desiring a Character Coach right now. In addition, we are pursuing relationships with 47 programs in hopes to placing a Character Coach on their teams for 2019 as well. God is doing MORE than we could have ever imagined.

We also are growing in our partnerships with donors and supporters around the country. MORE people are beginning to see the eternal value Nations of Coaches is making in the lives of coaches and student athletes. We have already witnessed over 35 decisions for Christ since the fall semester began in August. Our character coaches have conducted 15 baptisms and even more mentoring has taken place with athletes desiring to go deeper in their walk with Christ.

I share all of these details with you to inform you that 2018 has already been a watershed year for us here at Nations of Coaches. Our focus and theme has been to see God do MORE and He has definitely shown up in many ways. Please continue to pray for us and consider supporting us throughout our year-end fundraising efforts so we can continue to see God do MORE than we could have ever imagined. To God be the glory for great things He has done!



Jack Lovelace
Chief Operating Officer
Nations of Coaches

It's Not Too Late To Make A Difference

The end of the calendar year is the perfect time to make a charitable donation to Nations of Coaches. You will receive the tax benefits of a charitable donation and you will receive the satisfaction that this gift is making an eternal difference by empowering coaches leave a legacy of excellence— on and off the court.

100% of the work we do is funded by generous donors like yourself. Any win we celebrate, like the 300+ decisions for Christ because of our work in the past 3 years, can be traced back to your faithfulness and generosity.

To make your gift today, visit www.nationsofcoaches.com



NOC Nashville Golf Classic Grows Area Awareness

The chilly fall temperature didn't keep a field of supportive golfers from teeing off for the first annual NOC Nashville Golf Classic on Tuesday, October 16th. Golfers from the greater Nashville area played a four-person scramble at Gaylord Springs Golf Links while supporting the ministry growth and impact of NOC in the region. The group enjoyed lunch provided by Puckett's Grocery & Restaurant and a short program to highlight NOC's important work with area college men's basketball coaches and teams.

The winning team of Matthew Harvey, Benji Olson, Michael Shinn and Cole Brazier finished the day with a 15-under-

par score of 57. The runner-up squad of Chris Stout, Brent Peterson and Greg Cantrell fired a 13-under 59.

Other winners on the day were Tate Matheny with the Longest Drive on hole #1, Edward Hall with Closest to the Pin on #3, Karen Richards with the Longest Drive on hole #10 and Ben Schmidt with the Closest to the Pin on hole #13.

2013 World Long Drive Champion, Heather Manfredda was on hand to provide a little excitement on hole #2. Anyone making the second shot, after Heather's world-class drive, would win an all-expense paid trip for two to Pebble Beach! Nobody came through to win the trip, but Heather put on a great show.



NOC Board of Directors Meet in Kansas City

Nations of Coaches is led by a group of volunteer board of directors. The board is responsible for determining the mission of Nations of Coaches, ensuring organizational planning, supporting the executive director, assisting in the development of the annual budget, and securing revenue to ensure financial sustainability.

Our board is made up of highly capable business leaders, coaches, and pastors. They hail from all parts of the country including Los Angeles, Denver and the Washington, DC area. While not actively involved in



the day-to-day operations, each success and life impacted can be traced back to their wisdom and guidance.

In August our Board of Directors held their annual meeting at the National Association of Basketball Coaches administrative offices in Kansas City, Missouri. They gathered for fellowship, selecting new board members, reviewing outcomes, and setting the course for 2019.

After the retreat, each board member walked away with renewed enthusiasm for our work.

(Visit our website at www.nationsofcoaches.com/our-team/ for information about each of our directors!)

A Time of Learning

Nations of Coaches hosted our annual Character Coach Training on September 10 - 11, 2018 in Decatur, Alabama. Over thirty men and women gathered from all over the country to be trained by our staff on how to be a Nations of Coaches Character Coach. They came from all divisions of men's college basketball (junior colleges to Division I programs) and were trained on Nations of Coaches S.E.R.V.E. model:

Service • Evaluation • Responsibility • Victory • Evolve

We are so thankful for all basketball programs across the country who have partnered with us as we strive to “see coaches and all whom they influence impacted for the glory of God!” As of today, we have over 100 character coaches actively serving basketball programs and have trained over 150 character coaches since 2010. God continues to grow the Character Coaching ministry. There are 70 colleges and universities in the process of adding a Character Coach! We are excited to play our part and see the lives of coaches and student athletes taken to a HIGHER LEVEL OF PLAY, both on and off the court.

We would like to thank Decatur Orthopedic Clinic for their generous sponsorship of the Character Coach Training. The training could not have happened without their support. Also, thanks to First Baptist



DOC ORTHOPAEDICS
& sports medicine

First Baptist Decatur

Church of Decatur, Alabama for donating space for the training, Chick-fil-A of Decatur for providing lunches for the participants, and Pepsi Cola Bottling of Decatur for donating refreshments.

"...I LEARNED A LOT WHILE AT THE CHARACTER COACHES TRAINING. I LEFT FEELING EMPOWERED, CHALLENGED, AND ENCOURAGED TO SERVE MY HEAD COACH AND TEAM TO THE BEST OF MY ABILITY. WHAT RESONATED WITH ME WAS THE STRONG EMPHASIS ON MARRIAGE AND FAMILY. WHILE SERVING OTHERS IT IS EASY TO FORGET THE FIRST AND MOST IMPORTANT MINISTRY, FAMILY! THE CHARACTER COACHING TRAINING CHALLENGED ME NOT LEAVE MY FAMILY BEHIND WHILE SERVING THE TEAM."

– Marcus Anderson, Character Coach - Men's Basketball, James Madison University

Fulfilled by Serving: Character Coach Valerie Burrell



As we highlight our Character Coaching ministry, God continues to lead and guide our staff to partner with people with a heart the same mind and heart for His Kingdom.

Valerie Burrell is the Admissions Enrollment counselor at Bluefield College, an NAIA associated school in Bluefield, Virginia. Valerie has worked at Bluefield since June of 2016. In the summer of 2017,

Regional Pastor Roger Adams with Nations of Coaches connected with Valerie. Valerie loved the mission and vision of Nations of Coaches and attended last year's Character Coach training in September.

Valerie began to serve the men's basketball program and immediately had a major impact as players were saved and baptized. Roger Adams states, "Valerie is an evangelistic machine and loves to use the team ice baths for baptism.

She is one of the most active and successful Character Coaches we have in the country." Because of her heart and spirit to serve, the women's coach asked Valerie to be the women's team Character Coach as well.

Valerie's impact has been noticed on Bluefield's campus. The basketball players, football players, athletes' parents, and even students have begun to call Valerie, Mama Val. She has been stopped by the parents of athletes and had them say, "Mama Val, please stay on my son/daughter. He/she need your love and prayers."

Mama Val led two students to Christ a few weeks ago and they were preparing for another baptism this week. Valerie's desire for her students is to live a life that exudes



2019 NATIONS OF COACHES EVENTS

LOOKING AHEAD!

Early March

SEC Legacy Breakfast
Nashville, Tennessee

April 4 - 7

NABC Convention/ Final Four

- *NABC Expo*
- *Character Coach Forum*
- *Celebrate Marriage Luncheon*

Minneapolis, Minnesota

May 7 - 9

Coach Marriage Retreat
Rome, Georgia

May 22

Legacy Summit
Atlanta, Georgia

March - May

Spring Coaches Ministry
NCAA Evaluation Sites

June - July

Summer Coaches Ministry
NCAA Evaluation Sites

July 12

NOC Celebrity Golf Classic
North Augusta, Georgia

September 9 - 10

Character Coach Training
Decatur, Alabama

Sep. 30 - Oct. 2

Character Coach Marriage Retreat - Rome, Georgia

Please be in prayer for coaches, players, and Character Coaches as they begin the 2018- 2019 basketball season, and for NOC as we finalize our plans for ministry and events in 2019.

Fulfilled by Serving...

Continued from page 3

"authenticity and the love of God that students seek for in areas that are often overlooked. They desire love and empathy, and I can provide that for them."

This past summer another school just 5 miles from the Bluefield College campus, Bluefield State in West Virginia, had a tragic death of a basketball player while playing pickup-basketball. Our Regional Director, Roger Adams heard of the tragedy and felt compelled to attend the funeral and serve the school. As Roger scanned the crowd, he discovered Valerie was there to minister as well, and the two served hand-in-hand that day. This teamwork led to a powerful afternoon of ministry and connection with Bluefield State's staff. Thus, starting this fall, the Bluefield State program will have a Character Coach – Benny Burrell, Valerie's husband.

This is God working and moving. We are humbled to even be able to be a part of His plan. When we asked Valerie what serving as a Character Coach has meant to her, without hesitation, she said, "Fulfillment." She continued, "I have the opportunity to serve in many ways, but without a doubt, the Character Coach ministry has been the most impacting and fulfilling." What a remarkable opportunity God has provided for Valerie and her husband, Benny. What an honor to have them both as part of the Nations of Coaches team.



**NATIONS OF
COACHES**

A Higher Level of Play