

The Abatie Article

As always, I thank you all for being an integral part of my team. Your prayers and your partnership bolster me on in ministry at Michigan State University, and encourage me greatly in this support-raising season. Read on for some updates on support and how you can help!



I have so enjoyed spending time with students face-to-face in our weekly summer Bible study in East Lansing. We've been seeking out God's missionary heart in the Scriptures from Genesis to Revelation!

One Last Push to 100%

The last time I sent out a newsletter, I announced that I was only about \$300 of monthly support away from the finish line--so close to finishing out this season of support raising and turning my whole focus back to campus work with students and my staff team. Since then, I've gained a few new ministry partners and I've lost a few, which happens occasionally as life and finances change. **I now have \$520 of monthly support left to raise before August 3rd** (when the MSU staff team will begin meeting to prepare for the fall). My earnest hope and prayer is to be fully funded by then so that I can return to campus with my team in time for the new school year!

I have to admit that I was discouraged by the setbacks of losing some monthly support at this late stage--it felt like the finish line moving further away when I was just within arm's reach. But I want to share a verse that God has used to encourage me in this time! In Isaiah 55:8, God speaks, "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways." In verse 11 of this passage, He says, "So is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not

return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it." God's foreknowledge, his plan, and his power are far beyond my own. He will accomplish his purposes. He will fulfill his promises. And he invites me into this journey! At the beginning of this chapter, God says to Isaiah and Israel, "Come, all you who are thirsty" (v1). Even as I pray and seek the end of support raising, He offers something even better: Himself. Even as I set my eyes on a worldly goal (not a bad one, but a small one compared to the vastness of His purposes), He promises something even better: His glory made manifest. So I will trust that this season is a part of that--a faith-stretching, root-deepening season of walking closely with our Abba. Lord, help me believe!

I will trust God to raise my support in his perfect timing, even as I pray to finish soon. **Will you join me in one last push of raising support so that I can finish by August and return to campus? Here are two specific ways you might help me:**

1. If God has blessed you with greater funds and capacity to give since we last spoke, **would you prayerfully consider increasing your monthly giving by \$15, \$20, or some other amount?** You can do this by clicking the blue button below.

2. Do you know of anyone who would be (at the very least) interested to hear more about what God is doing at MSU through Cru? At this stage of raising support, I have reached out to the majority of my friends and family--I'm at a loss for who else can join my team and help me to be 100% funded. **My greatest need is to connect with people you know to share stories of God at work at MSU and invite them to my team.**

Can you think of a handful of people (family, neighbors, coworkers, friends from your church or small group, etc.) with whom I could connect?

If you can, would you do one of two things?

- Send them the video below! This can be a short and sweet introduction to who I am and what I do at MSU. You can copy the link and send it their way. Would you let me know if you're doing this so that I can follow up with you?
- Send me a way to contact them! Or, if you're more comfortable doing so, please send my contact information to them first. Would you let me know if you're doing this so that I can follow up with you?



This is a video that can be sent on to people you know who may be interested to hear more about my work at MSU!

Ways to Pray with Me

Praises:

- At MSU, we are looking forward to the largest class of freshmen ever. Both the freshmen and sophomore class will be required to live on campus this year, which means our staff team and students will have better access to meet them and share life together in the dorms!
- As I look around at our summer Bible studies in East Lansing, Grand Rapids, and online; I can see God raising up new student leaders with a heart for reaching their peers at State. I am so excited to see how God will use them this coming year!

Prayer Requests:

- **Please pray that the Lord would quickly finish raising my support! Please pray specifically that he would raise \$520 of monthly giving by August 3rd, and that he would raise up new partners to join my team in the coming weeks.**
- Josh and I are currently searching for a new (to us) car, and working on repairing another. Please pray that God would provide a vehicle for us, and all that we need to get ourselves ready for the new school year at MSU and Holt High School.
- As I continue helping out with summer Cru here in East Lansing, please pray that God would use this time to train and equip our current students to live on mission in the coming school year, and to welcome and pursue new students well.



Praying for YOU!

I truly thank God for each of you and the unique ways in which you have all supported me this year. Thank you for being cheerful givers and believers partnered together in the earth-shaking act of prayer.

Josh and I want to be praying for you, too! Please tell me how we can do that: rebecca.ryder@cru.org | (239) 357-1324

With great love and gratitude,
Rebecca (Ryder) Abatie
Cru at MSU

Click here to give in support of my ministry or to update your giving!

*If you would like to give in support of my ministry, please go to <https://give.cru.org/0998823>
If you would like to help with support in another way, I would love to contact people you may know to share my ministry with them!*

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