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Mississippi College Parents Club

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Nora Hall

James Twilbeck

and everyone that sent in questions

Parent Article: How I Let Go

Article by Nora Hall, mother of Annaclaire Hall, MC Sophomore

Looking back on my daughter's freshman year at MC, I am so thankful for the encouragement I received as a parent during Freshman Orientation 2009. At the parents breakfast, Christy Pritchard, MC Admissions Counselor spoke to us from Isaiah 55: 8-11, "For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways..." What a wonderful reminder that my daughter is separate from me with her own thoughts, her own dreams, her own goals in her own ways. "...For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, and do not return there, but water the earth and make it bring forth and bud..." My daughter was not to return from where she came, but to go forth and grow in God with her dreams and her goals. "It shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it." In order for God's plan to work in my daughter's life I read these scriptures many times to help encourage me to let go, have peace and watch her grow in Christ at MC. With that faith, our Heavenly Father guided her to friends who accept her and walk in faith with her as they attend classes, socialize and worship together through music, social events and local churches that surround the campus. As I look at the bigger picture, God's plan began for her in the summer of 2007 when she attended M-Fuge on the MC campus with our church youth group. It was

then that God began working on her heart that led her to MC for her college destination. That summer while working with the inner city youth, her youth group witnessed a drive-by shooting. Seeing the gun fired and hearing the shots ring out brought her to a place she had never been before. Alone, scared and a long way from home she clung to the strength of Jesus Christ in her life and never felt more safe. It was in those moments that she realized God is her Protector, and she can go anywhere He leads. She felt led to attend MC. but did not think her father and I would let her attend a college so far from our home in Northwest Arkansas. After visiting the campus we knew this was where she belonged, our precious Jesus gave us that peace.

Now, the hard part began, letting go. We knew in our hearts MC is where she belonged, but how could we let her go so far away where we would no longer be a part of her daily life? We found peace and acceptance with God's words in Isaiah. His words helped us realize that this moment is what He helped us prepare her for, to spread her wings and follow Him. Just as Hannah gave Samuel to God for answering her prayers in I Samuel chapter 1, we must all reach that moment as parents where we give our children back to God, so that they shall not return to Him void, but they shall accomplish what He pleases, and they shall prosper in the thing for which He sent them. (Isaiah 55:11)

PARENTS COUNCIL

The Parents Council is MCPC's leadership team.
We need parents who are willing to step up
and take an active role in MCPC!
Look on Page 2 for more information.

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Parent Article: MC Impacts Lives

Article by James Twilbeck, father of Travis Twilbeck, MC Junior

Impact - means forceful contact, influence, the force exerted by a new idea. Paul in writing Colossians (Col. 3:15) tells the early church that their lives should be impacted by Jesus. They should be showing kindness, humility and love. And then he says, "Be Thankful."

As a parents of a MC student and Alumni of MC my wife and I are Thankful for the impact that MC has made on our lives and now the life of our son Travis. When I was a student at MC (Class of 84) (my wife Colleen is class of 85) it was because of the impact of MC and their commitment to missions that I went on my first mission trip. I served a summer with

The Seamen's ministry in Charleston, SC through BSU missions. Through that experience I sensed God's call upon my life to missions and now am serving as a Director of Missions for an association of Baptist churches in Tennessee. I have the privilege of leading churches to be on mission.

Now I get to see the impact that MC is having on the life of my son, Travis. Travis transferred in to MC after attending a state school here in TN. While Travis faired well at the state school he was never really happy there. Since transferring to MC we can tell the difference in his over all demeanor. He has found his place in college and finally enjoys college life. But the real "impact" came when we were there for Homecoming weekend this year.

We did all the Homecoming activities and had a great time on Saturday. We stayed on Sunday to go to church with Travis. Then we took Travis to get stock up on food before leaving. When we got to his dorm to drop him and his loot of food off, four of his dorm friends came out to our car and said they knew I was involved in missions work and they wanted me to know that they were interested in going on a mission trip. As I celebrate Thanksgiving I am thankful for how God has used MC to impact my life, my wife's life, my son's life and the students that are a part of the MC Family. And who knows maybe God will open the door for me to lead these young men on mission trip?

ALL ABOUT THE: PARENTS COUNCIL

WHAT IS THE PARENTS COUNCIL?

The Parents Council is the governing body of MC Parents Club. The council also has the responsibility of being the parents voice on our campus as well as keeping other parents informed of campus events. The council will report to the MC Parents Club sponsor, and it is the duties of the sponsor to relay the council's concerns to The Parents Council consists of 16 current MC parents representing all four academic classes. (ie. 4 freshmen, 4 sophomore, etc.) Parents can serve as a duo representing one student or separately.

WHAT DOES THE PARENTS COUNCIL DO?

The council will be responsible for hosting parent events at summer orientations and preview days, recruiting parents of current students

for MCPC, parent social during
Family Weekend, holding two annual
meetings, regional receptions for
accepted freshman, producing a
monthly newsletter in conjunction with
MCPC sponsor, and any additional
parent socials or events suggested by
the council or sponsor.

OUR VISION FOR THE PARENTS COUNCIL:

This is a new branch of the Parents Club that we want to create. The sky is the limit as to what we can accomplish! For starters, MC would love for MCPC to be run by the parents for the parents and that is essentially what we want the Parents Council to do. However, we realize that with the right leadership and resources the council could do so much more. Why couldn't the council help with recruitment and other special events on campus? Well, why not! You and your

student become increasingly familiar with MC during your student's time here. So, who would be better to tell future students and parents what to expect than current parents?

HOW CAN I BECOME PART OF THE PARENTS COUNCIL?

Make sure you have completed the Parent Questionnaire at: www.mc.edu/parents/parent-questionnaire and send an email to MCPC stating that you would like to become part of the Parents Council and why. It's as simple as that. Please have all submissions in by December 15th.

Look for an announcement in the January Newsletter about the council members and the spring meeting!

Your Student Life Questions Answered:

Q: How does Thanksgiving Break work in the residence halls?

A: The residence halls do close for Thanksgiving break and students are required to vacate the premises for a few days. Anything your student will need during the break, they should take with them. All ID cards will be deactivated for these few days and students will not be able to gain access to their room. It is very important that your student communicate with their Resident Assistant if they have any questions about Thanksgiving Break procedures. Students must be out of the hall by 9 am on Wednesday November 24th. Students will be able to gain access to the building on Sunday November 28th at 2pm.

Q: Does my student have to move out at Christmas?

A: Similar to Thanksgiving Break, your student must once again vacate their room for the break. The only reasons your student should have to completely move all of their belongings home for the break is if they are not returning to on campus housing or changing rooms for the Spring Semester. The procedures for checking-out for Christmas Break will be reviewed with your student during a mandatory hall meeting on Tuesday, December 7th at 9pm with their Resident Assistant.

Q: What if my student wants to change roommates?

A: For a room change to happen, your student needs to email their Resident Director (email is posted beside their apartment door) and

state where they would like to move to, who they would like to room with, and any other relevant information to the move. All room changes must go through the Resident Director and Resident Assistant of the buildings involved. If the room changes can be made before December 1st, your student will not have to completely move out for Christmas Break. If the room change cannot be completed before the December 1st deadline, your student will have to completely move out at Christmas Break.

Q: How can I access my student's grades?

A: The easiest way to access your student's grades is to use their BannerWeb log-in. You will need their 700 number as well as the pin number they created for the account. With this you will have access to their grades, student account, and student records.

O: What is the final exam schedule?

A: The final exam schedule can be found here: www.mc.edu/resources/publications/schedules/

Q: What address do I use if I want to send my student a package?

A: For anything shipped UPS or

FedEx, use the address:
200 S. Captol Street,
Clinton MS 39058.
Anything that is small or shipped
through USPS send it to their MC Box.
Students always appreciate a care
package from home around holidays
and during exam time!

Upcoming Dates You Don't Want to Miss!

Tribe & Club Informals & Formals 11/5 - 12/4

please be praying for our students as they travel to their various destinations

Thanksgiving Break 11/24-11/26

all MC offices closed, residence halls close at 9am on 11/24 and reopen 11/28 at 2pm

The Best Christmas Pageant Ever 12/1- 12/7

contacts 601-925-3229 for tickets **Dead Days** 12/6-12/8

12/8- last day classes & night exams begin

Study Day 12/9

no classes, reserved for studying Final Exams 12/10 - 12/14

they'll be here before your student realizes it and yes they do have exams on Saturday! Residence Halls Reopen 1/6 halls open at 2pm Spring Classes Begin 1/10

Note: for complete athletic schedule go to: www.gochoctaws.com

Basketball Season is underway, if you are in the area, be sure to check out a game!

Do you have any questions about student life?

Maybe you just have an opinion you would like to share, Send them in to MCPC@mc.edu You just might find your question or response Would you like to write an article for the January Issue of the The Journey? We are always looking for parents who are willing to share how God is working in you and your student's life. Maybe you would like to share how MC has made this transition easier for your family or simply tell other parents how God is leading you through this season of your life. If you would like to share with other parents for the January issue, simply email mcpc@mc.edu with your name and article by Jan 6th.

20 Ways to Spend Quality Time with Your Student During Break

- Volunteer together to help with a local holiday meal, gift-wrapping booth or adoption days at the local animal shelter.
- Take an elderly neighbor or relative out to do something she likes that will get her in the holiday spirit.
- 3. Go to craft fairs together.
- Try an improv class, Pilates or some other activity that could be fun for both of you to try.
- Ask him to meet you for lunch at your office so you can introduce him to your co-workers
- Go on a walk or bike ride together
- Try one of those new Sudoku puzzles together they're Japanese number puzzles that are the current craze.
- Cook a nice meal together to share with family or friends - see if your student has any new recipes to share or if he wants to learn how to make one of your specialties.
- Ask your student to share some of his papers and projects with you from the semester that the's particularly proud of.

- 10. Adopt a family for the holidays and make/buy items that will help them have a healthy, happy holiday season.
- 11. Have a Father/Student or Mother/Student night at the movies with another parent/student pair that your son/daughter chooses.
- Head to the wellness center in town for chair massages.
- 13. Look through digital photos that your student wants to share—it's a good way to see who her friends are and what her surroundings look like.
- 14. Check out a church supper or firehouse pancake breakfast instead of going out to eat at a restaurant.
- 15. Go browse through the bookstore or library, comparing things you'd both like to read.

- 16. Do holiday grocery shopping together at night, when it's not so crowded.
- 17. Stay in some night, with popcorn and board games —sometimes old-fashioned fun can be the best!
- 18. Have a New Year's potluck with friends so you can all enjoy one another's company once the holiday hub-bub has died down—and share your leftovers.
- 19. Participate in the New Year's Day bird count at your local environmental education center.
- 20. Start a new tradition, whether it's buying a favorite children's book to donate to a local agency or picking out a Toys for Tot donation— together.

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Don't Overplan!

During the holiday break, it's easy to want to cram lots of family time into the small window of time that your student is home. However, it's important not to overwhelm anyone. So ask your student what she would like to do during her time at home. Chances are, she'll be eager to sleep and regroup after the stress of finals. Yet, listen to what else she has to say so that her priorities are in the mix, too. This will help make for a healthy, happy holiday season for all.