

Mission Mentoring

Connecting people to a spiritual parent, in hopes of producing disciples who are Attaining Truth, Love and Self-control.

Vision Transformation

Every believer equipped and engaged in spiritually fathering or mothering another

The Quarterly Quote:

"We are here to comfort the afflicted and to afflict the comfortable"

"If one falls down his friend can help him up, but pity the man who falls and has no one to help him up"

Ecclesiastes 4:10

ATLAS Hires Product of Spiritual Parenting

Hello,

My name is Brian Rand, I am the new Staff Mentor for ATLAS of Sioux Falls. I will be working along side Justin Vandewater at our office here in Sioux Falls, trying to connect the hurting with those who have the truth and life-giving power of Christ. It is an honor for me to be in this office, the path for me to get here has been long and adventure-filled.

I grew up in a rough home with a lot of drugs and alcohol. I started selling drugs young and at 19 my life came to a screeching halt. I was arrested, lost everything, and was on my way to prison. Then a few guys reached out their hands and they taught me how to learn, how to live, and most of all, how to love. I then asked them what I could do to pay it back and they asked me to give it away to the next guy that needs it. I live my life to give back the love and redemption Christ gave me through these friends.



The city of Sioux Falls is full of people who feel the same way I did, and have the idea that "this life is too hard, God can't be real." As I was writing this a friend of mine contacted me to say, "I want to runaway and die, I don't feel like living, I do not even believe in God anymore, sorry for wasting your time Brian." This is not a very far-fetched story. More than likely you can find someone in your neighborhood, work, or school feeling the same way. Our desire at ATLAS is to find these people, walk with them through their crisis and hopefully introduce them to a Believer who has the Hope, Love, and Joy of Christ to give away. Thanks for taking the time to read this, and I look forward to partnering with you in "The Great Commission."

Standing Together With the Isolated and Vulnerable

Many of you have probably seen the footage of the young water buffalo in Africa that gets separated from the herd and then is attacked by a pride of lions and an alligator. If you have not seen the footage I am referring to please go to youtube.com and type "Battle at Kruger" in the search field and watch this amazing story unfold. The enemy's tactic is quite simple: identify the vulnerable, isolate them from the rest of the herd, and then attack. I am certain the pride of lions have been successful many times with this strategy. Could you imagine the hopelessness, pain and fear the young buffalo must have felt in that moment? But something utterly amazing happens this time, and just when it looks like death is imminent, the herd comes back for the weakened and vulnerable calf. Strengthened by numbers the courageous herd *stands together* and pushes the enemy back as the young calf limps safely back into the fold. *Cont'd on reverse*



3rd Annual Golf Classic Coming this Summer!

ATLAS will once again be hosting our annual Golf Classic on August 15th at the Spring Creek Golf and Country Club. We have had tremendous involvement and support for this event over the years and we look forward to another great day of fellowship, food and fun on the course. In addition to 18 holes of golf, dinner and prizes there is also a brief ministry update for our supporters to hear about the progress and productivity of the ministry. For more information, to sign-up to golf, or to learn more about sponsorship opportunities please email Justin@atlasofsiouxfalls.com or call 977-0760.

Standing Continued

Here at ATLAS we are working to encourage the herd of believers in this community to take a *stand* for the vulnerable and isolated. Together, we can touch lives for Christ that otherwise would be over-powered and defeated by the enemy. We can courageously take a stand beside them, love them, nurture them and disciple them. Ephesians 6:10 says, "Be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power. Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your **stand** against the devil's schemes...therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to **stand** your ground, and after you have done everything to **stand**. **Stand** firm then, with the belt of truth, breastplate of righteousness, gospel of peace, shield of faith, helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit." We need to put our faith into action. God gives us armor for a purpose and that armor is useless if we don't enter the battle and take a stand. Whether it's someone at work, someone at school, someone in your church, or someone who comes into ATLAS...if they are isolated and vulnerable be courageous and willing to stand next to them.

Mentor Moments

I want to encourage everyone reading to pick up a copy of Larry Kreider's book entitled "*The cry for Spiritual Fathers & Mothers.*" Kreider does an excellent job of laying out a compelling vision for authentic, nurturing relationships. In his book Kreider cites the need of the hour as, "Spiritual Parenting...believers being disciplined and discipling others. Today's church needs to wake up to the need for spiritual parenting. When we finally understand that God is a God of families and wants each person simply to be a spiritual dad or mom to another person(s), we understand spiritual parenting. No longer ignorant, we are now responsible."

NEW LOOK!

As you can see ATLAS of Sioux Falls has a new look. Brian has created the new logo and layout. We have also clarified our mission statement (page 1). We are excited to use these updates in an effort to reach our city.

COMING SOON!!

www.ATLASofsiouxfalls.com

Along with the new logo and layout, we are in the process of putting together an all new website. Our expected launch date is June 1st. The purpose of this site is to enable mentors and clients to have an effective way of communicating in an interactive setting. It will also be very informative and equipping for those interested in Atlas and discipleship in general.

THANK YOU!!!

We received an amazing gift in the mail this past month from an anonymous donor. The gift will cover almost 2 months of our operational expenses and comes at the most opportune time. To this individual and everyone who has given support to us we want to express our deepest gratitude.