

# STANDING IN THE GAP

NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2024

*“To be and make disciples of Jesus Christ”*

## SEEING THE SHIFT FROM RECEIVING TO GIVING AS ALUMNI CONTINUE IN THE BODY

As the year continues, God is working in different ways to show His faithfulness and love through the ministry of Standing in the Gap.

This semester already had a men’s and women’s retreat hosted by Gap alumni who are now members of the Church in Drive. These retreats opened the opportunity to great conversation and fellowship leading to relationships being built and strengthened.

Other gaps alum are contributing their gifts by writing and performing poetry pieces inspired by the lenient season. The ways God has blessed and continues to bless members of Standing in the Gap is a testament to His faithfulness. The response of contributing to their body after their time in Gap has concluded shows the difference Standing in the Gap makes going and making disciples.

“Therefore, brothers, be all the more diligent to confirm your calling and election, for if you practice these qualities you will never fall. For in this way, there will be richly provided for you an entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.”

2 Petter 1:101-11

-Natalie Norris; Standing in the Gap Communications Manager



# 2024 STIG MEN'S RETREAT PERSONAL REVIEW

By Jake Taylor

The men's retreat was a one night getaway from school, like it was last year. When I went in, I expected no different this year. The fellowship, the message, the key points to be learned, etc. It was generic and yet no less fun. However, more importantly than the fun, there were personal lessons that I had to learn concerning myself.

When we watched Voddie Bauchum's 4-part sermon series "Love and Marriage", it reminded me of many things. The first thing was obviously marriage, otherwise, I might not have watched the series about a half-year before the retreat, which I did. However, I now remember the key points he made, as well as how and/or why it's important to practice as if you're already married to prepare yourself for the real thing. The problem: there's much more to it than that.



After the retreat, I realized how much maturing that there was that I needed to do. I realized why it's so important that I pay better attention to what's going on, why I need to be extra calm around women to make them feel safe, and why modesty is also a man thing and that I should be practicing that, regardless of the fact that there were only guys when I walked around the house without a shirt. I realized that modest is hottest. I realized who I want to be in the name of God, because that's exactly who he made me to be.

If you're struggling in your relationship with God: seek counsel from others, really listen to and hear what's happening around you, and make various Christian practices your priorities the best that you can, especially if you haven't made prior commitments to extracurriculars. If you want to be a Christian, then do it, and don't be in the dark about it. Find a community and express your faith with them, so that you can truly know how to be strong. I have confidence in you, reader.

Sincerely,

Jake Taylor, man of God and proud leader of Standing in the Gap

# THE MIDDLE CROSS

By Kacie Leneway

I was hopeless; I was lost.  
Had built a debt, couldn't pay the cost.  
Every option, I would exhaust.  
But that middle cross was mine, was mine.  
Destined for death, a rebel would be.  
Clinging to chains, thinking they'd make me free.  
Declared guilty by righteous decree,  
So that middle cross was mine, was mine.  
But looking down, from up above.  
The Son of God was moved by love.  
Grabbing at chains He'd free me of,  
Says "Let that middle cross be mine, be mine."



But I say "Sir, it isn't fair.  
That You would swap with me this chair.  
And my mistakes that You should bear.  
That middle cross is mine, is mine."  
And with that, my Savior sighs,  
"From that grave, you could not rise.  
So let this gift be not despised.  
For yes, that middle cross is thine, is thine.  
And as I die, you die as well  
To a former life that was a shell  
And now my Spirit with you shall dwell.  
So let that middle cross be mine, be mine."  
And with that, He takes my place.  
So a life like His, I now embrace.  
For I shall not waste this grace.  
For that middle cross was mine, was mine.  
So let us all in one accord,  
Praise dying Savior and risen Lord.  
Against all darkness, this is our sword.  
From an empty grave, a vine a vine.

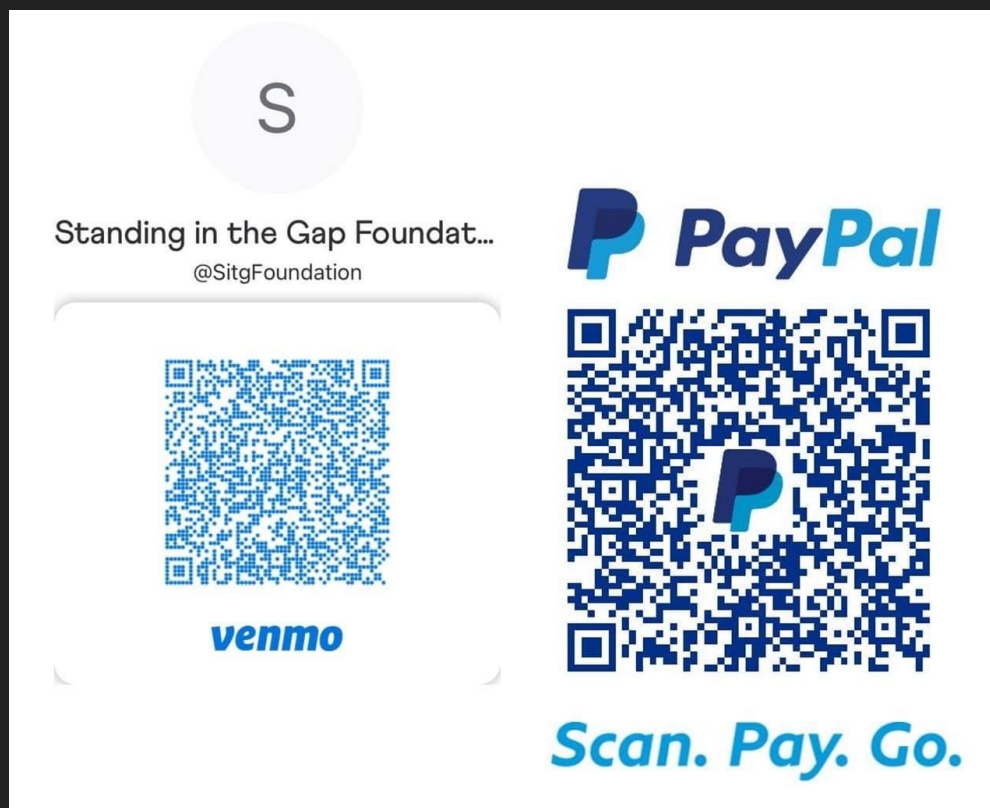


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