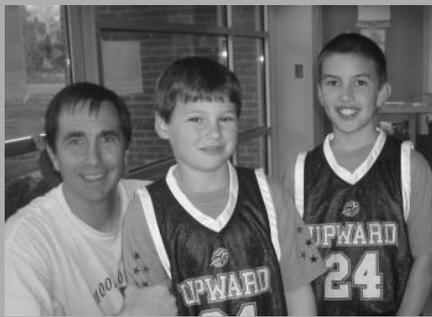




Above: Brent's Grandma



Above: First Baptist Church Garner NC

Don't sell this autograph on Ebay!



One of my little fans



My Grandmother

It has been a busy first half of the year. I was supposed to go to Peru with my church on Tuesday, January 16th but I got a call from my Aunt Faye the day before. My grandmother was not doing well and if I wanted to see her before she passed, I should come back to North Carolina right away. I let the church know and they were able to find a replacement for me. I left for NC on Wednesday and traveled all day. I got to the hospital shortly before midnight. It was if my grandmother was waiting for me to get there and she passed away two hours later. I pray that she knew I was there. It was wonderful to have the family there to celebrate this lively and fun loving woman's life!! I have many great memories of my grandmother. Since she worked at a restaurant for about 35 years, she was an unbelievable cook. She used to give us coconut crème pies for Christmas gifts (man, am I going to miss that!). She was such a hard worker and would be up at 5am for most of her life. She came from tough, mountain stock and she grew up during the Depression. Her birthday was on New Year's Day and I called her a couple of years ago to wish her a Happy Birthday. I asked her what she was doing and she said, "Washing my car". That was Grandma. Even in her mid 80's she was out working. The woman was always on the go and even her daughter and granddaughter would say, "Grandma wears us out!" We will miss you, Grandma.

UPWARD AWARD'S NIGHTS

February-April was an extremely busy time for me. This is the time of the year when most of the Upward basketball leagues are doing their Award's Night. I was able to be in twenty cities in Florida, North Carolina, Louisiana, Texas, Mississippi, Illinois, Washington, Oregon, California, Colorado and Kansas. I ended the season by doing a school athletic banquet in Indiana. Seth and I even squeezed in a half-time show at the Colorado 14er's game. They are a minor league team for the NBA. It is their first season but they had a great year. They made it to the championship game but lost in overtime. You can check them on the web at www.nba.com/dleague/colorado.

In all, I performed in front of over 13,000 people and many of them gave their lives to the Lord. I heard a report that at one show, the whole family came to the Lord!! What a blessing!

Hoops of Hope Prison Ministry



She can spin a ball!



He can spin two balls!!

This prison season was the most successful we have had in many years thanks to all the players and especially Josh Stanek who coached and put the schedule together. They played more than a dozen games and this team showed the most unity we have ever had. I want to thank each and every team member for their sacrifice and commitment to this team. Continue to pray for the inmates who were touched by their ministry.

Prayer Requests

Pray for the seven weeks of basketball camp, to have lots of kids, for their safety and for them to come to know the Lord

Pray for Dina as she was hired as the Athletic Director of the Vanguard School

Pray that the Lord continues to meet our needs just as He has done for the last twelve years



God's Word

Have you ever felt persecuted or been blamed for something that was not your fault? I mean there is no basis for the charge and yet you are getting the full blame. We have dealt with some situations like that lately and it makes you wonder what the Lord is trying to teach us.

I think of the verses in Matthew 26:62-65. It tells the story of how Jesus stood before Caiaphas, the high priest and faced all the false charges.

“And the high priest stood up and said, “Have you no answer to make? What is it that these men testify against you?” But Jesus remained silent. And the high priest said to him, “I adjure you by the living God, tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God.” Jesus said to him, “You have said so. But I tell you, from now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven.” Then the high priest tore his robes and said, “He has uttered blasphemy. What further witnesses do we need? You have now heard his blasphemy. What is your judgment?” They answered, “He deserves death.” Then they spit in his face and struck him. And some slapped him.” (ESV)

Think about that, the Son of God and Creator of the universe took all that and yet if any person was ever innocent it was him. How then are we to treat our enemies?

Romans 12:14-21 says, *‘Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.*

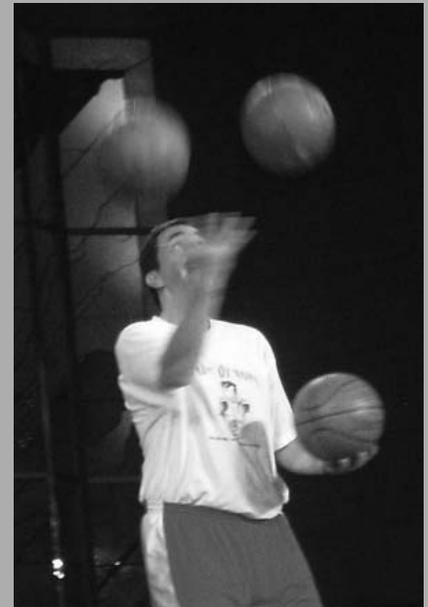
Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be conceited. Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, “Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.” To the contrary, “if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head.” Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.” (ESV)

Are you kidding me? I am supposed to love my enemies, give to them and take care of them? That is exactly what we are supposed to do because that is what the Lord did for us when we were His enemy!! What if they never change? It doesn't matter because in doing this it changes our heart!!



Brent with his cuties; Seth & Jaden

Brent Juggling





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Hoops of Hope is a Basketball Ministry that focuses on spreading the gospel through basketball camps, speaking at school assemblies and 'Upward' award banquets, and through running basketball tournaments. Hoops of Hope has visited schools, prisons and churches throughout the Philippines, Malaysia, India, Krygyzstan, Kazakhstan, China, Mongolia, Singapore, Trinidad and Tobago, the Bahamas, Mexico, Kenya, Namibia, South Africa and across the U.S. Literally thousands of people young and old alike learn from Hopes of Hope's expertise each year, while being exposed to the good news and hope that they have in Jesus Christ.

Hoops of Hope Basketball Ministry

phone 719-210-3489 fax 719-573-5952
www.hoops.org hoops@hoops.org

**IMPACTING ETERNITY
THROUGH BASKETBALL**



Thank you for continuing to support Hoops of Hope and our family. You are a blessing to us and I pray that the Lord will richly bless you throughout the summer.

Summer Basketball Camps

June

- | | | |
|-------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| 4-8 | Colorado Springs, CO | Rocky Mountain Calvary |
| 11-15 | Colorado Springs, CO | Rocky Mountain Calvary |
| 18-22 | Hemet CA | 1st Pres /Valley E Free |

July

- | | | |
|----------|----------------------|------------------------|
| 16-20 | Colorado Springs, CO | Mountain Spgs. Church |
| 30-Aug 3 | Colorado Springs, CO | Village 7 Pres. Church |

August

- | | | |
|-------|------------------|-------------------------|
| 6-10 | Willow Park TX | Trinity Christian Acad. |
| 13-17 | Pompano Beach FL | First Baptist Church |