

The Cody Triggs Presentation: “Risking Right”

-Emma Stewart

A few weeks ago, students, faculty and other Bishop’s affiliates had the opportunity to attend a presentation on “Risking Right” given by Rich Fettke. While Rich is known for his motivational speeches given to business’ and corporations to ‘push their limits and expand their success’, he made a special exception when he signed on to present to the large Bishop’s crowd in Centennial theatre the night of Wednesday, March 29th.

When Cody’s parents, Laurie and David Triggs, and Bruce Stevenson first contacted Rich Fettke, he was immediately drawn to Bishop’s because of his past experiences.

In addition to being a renowned motivational speaker, Rich is also an extreme sports athlete. Rich relayed to the crowd at Centennial theatre that night that it was his extreme attitude towards life that lead him to become and inspirational speaker on “Risking Rights”.

As a youth, Rich was faced with many challenges in life. From being told that he had Attention Deficit Disorder to being made fun of in school, Rich knew he had to overcome his fears if he wanted to succeed in life.

As a young man, Rich grew addicted to the rush of extreme sports. From sky diving to rock climbing, to bungee jumping, Rich couldn’t get enough. It was only when tragedy fell that he knew he wasn’t invincible. While trying out a new stunt for ESPN’s *X-Games*, Rich lost his close friend when their bungee cord snapped and they free fell over 100 feet into the water below. Rich was saved, but his friend, and partner, lost his life.

As Rich got up on stage to speak to the eager Bishop’s crowd, he announced that he was extremely nervous to speak, and that this was going to be the first time he ever revealed his story to a large crowd of people.

When Rich heard the story of our University’s loss last September, it hit close to home. He knew that he had to come speak to this crowd of young adults and share his story of fear and “Risking Right”

Rich talked to the crowd about respecting the fear inside of oneself. Instead of running away from that fear, one must confront it and ‘dance’ with it. Through a few exercises involving the crowd and three brave volunteers, Rich truly got the group motivated. He emphasized the importance of everyone’s right to risk in all aspects of everyday life and the value of listening to that little voice inside of oneself.

Rich’s words were respected and received extremely well.