



Native Sons



Equipping Native Leaders to Reach Native Americans

CAMERON DAUKEI

POINTS OF INTEREST

- Cameron is 3/4 Navajo and 1/4 Kiowa.
- He is a registered member of the Kiowa tribe, but receives no financial assistance from them.
- The Kiowa were originally Plains Indians, but were forced southward by other incoming tribes.
- The Kiowa were forced onto a reservation in southwestern OK in 1867.
- In 1901 Kiowa land was sold to white settlers and the only remaining tribal land is small parcels leased to white settlers before the land had been sold off.

PRAYER POINTS

- New financial partners.
- Wisdom to minister effectively.
- The spiritual and educational growth of our students.

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"My family was full of alcohol & drug abuse and domestic violence. My father was abusive to my mom always beating her and even stabbing her once. My mom kicked him out early in my life, but then married another man just as abusive, there was nothing I could do about it. They both abused alcohol and drugs. Mom would disappear for several days at a time and leave me alone with my siblings. We had to change diapers, cook, clean, and be adults at a young age. I began drinking and doing drugs with my mom when I was 13 – this was chaos."

Cameron's story is all too common among First Nation people. It would be easy to blame Native people for this kind of depravity, but the truth is these are some of the sad results of the abuse that has been inflicted on Native people, especially from the time of the Reservations and boarding schools forward. Cameron has 8 siblings, 3 who he does not know from his father and 5 that he grew up with from his mother; among these Cameron is the middle child. Growing up his step-father was often in and out of jail and the family was often on the run, so he moved frequently. His mother tried to kill herself multiple times, but never succeeded. Cameron was aware of a number of these attempts. "For a long time I tried to think what life without mom would

be like. I'm glad to have my mom."

Throughout school Cameron hid his home life and pain. He fought often and was thrown out of many schools. He was sent



Cameron Daukei

to juvie once from bringing a gun into his middle school. "I was lucky, the judge could have thrown me in jail, but he had mercy on me. This was a little turning point." He learned to defend himself against his step-father and would sometimes fight him. Sometimes people have told him to focus on the good things from his past, but he says, "It is hard to remember the good things of the past. I do not have any good memories.

His mother had been sexually abused as a

child and went to a counselor for a while, but stopped when he told her that she would never fully recover. She gave up on being healed. They had also sometimes gone to the Mormon churches, Jehovah Witness churches, and Catholic churches, "but these did not help, so we would stop. One day, I came home and mom had this warm, glowing smile that I had never seen before. I asked her if she was OK and she said she had been going to Evangel AG. She invited me to come to the revival services that the church was holding. I was curious, so I went."

As the preacher spoke Cameron related to the things that he said. When he gave an altar call, "I don't know how or why, but I went up. I told God, 'If you are real I need you to show up, I don't want to continue this lifestyle.' The next thing I knew my hands were raised and I was saying the sinners prayer. The atmosphere changed and I felt hands touching mine (these were not human hands). I could not move and began crying. Right then I knew I was not going to be the same and I knew that God was real." Cameron was 21 at this time.

He started going to church. After a month he began helping the pastor

ON A PERSONAL NOTE

We are now a month into the new school year at AIC. There have been various staffing changes and the school continues to struggle financially and with its enrollment. We have 82 students at the moment and there will normally be a drop between the fall and spring semester. My classes are going well and I have worked at totally revising my Bible Study class to make it more hands on in class for our students. Many are coming to us biblically illiterate, this is not just an issue among First Nations people, most of the other AG colleges acknowledge this as a problem with the students from dominant culture as well.

Theresa continues to enjoy teaching preschool and is very much enjoying her new position as curriculum director. The school has grown remarkably and is planning on building a new facility. Please pray Standing

Stone Christian Academy as they seek to construct a new building to accommodate their rapid growth. Also, keep Theresa in prayer for some upcoming medical tests and on-going problems with her neck.

Levi & Alicia are well. She has returned to FT nursing after receiving a 6-week maternity leave. Levi has started his new semester at Fuller Theological Seminary. He and his family love fishing and Levi is

something of a fishing fanatic. He has decided to try to make use of his fishing skills and is starting a river and lake fishing guide service called the Kilted Carper to try to supplement their income while he is in school.

Caleb continues to power-lift and enjoy his work at the fire station. Please keep him in prayer.



however he could and around that time received a call into the ministry—prophetically. Cameron told him he just wanted to serve the Lord and the pastor encouraged him to go to Bible college. Initially, Cameron was not interested, but when the pastor gave him a brochure for AIC he decided he would apply not expecting to be accepted. Three weeks later he arrived at AIC with only a bagful of clothes. He is now beginning his sophomore year.

College has not been easy for Cameron. He earned a GED before coming here, but because of his chaotic upbringing school was never a priority. He would really rather not go to classes and it is hard for him to develop the needed disciplines of study. It does not help that he is working two jobs six days a week in order to pay his school bills. He also helps out at church on Sundays. I have encouraged him to let one job go so he could focus more on his studies and he senses God telling him that his job while he is here is to be a student and to learn. The need to pay the school bill catches Cameron and many of our students between a rock and a hard place. Cameron also finds the routine of studying hard to get use to and he needs to review things he is learning many times in order for it to sink in for him. It does not help that he is tired all the time from so much work. He does enjoy learning new things and once he is interested in a subject he wants to really dig in. He is in my Bible Study class currently and says he enjoys it and learning how to study Scripture. He also enjoys writing classes, because they allow him to express himself. He especially enjoys Blair Schlepp's (Lakota Sioux) psychology and Christian spirituality classes.

The Lord has also been gifting Cameron spiritually in a number of ways including experiencing numer-

ous visions from the Lord and encounters with the demonic. Prior to coming to AIC the Lord used Cameron to deliver a woman from a demonic spirit during a prayer meeting. Since arriving at AIC he has been used several times to confront demonic spirits that plagued some of our students. On one occasion here a Navajo spirit came dressed in kachina clothing with a Native crown with Native symbols on it. In came in an image of light and had 12-13 other spirits with it dressed in black and red with the Native zig-zag pattern on their dresses. The spirit began telling him that everything he had learned was a lie, that it was his creator, and that God was fake. Cameron began citing Scripture to it that he had not previously known. At first the spirit was angry, but then fell silent and all the spirits came closer surrounding him. Cameron felt humbled and wanted to pray for them, because he felt sad for them. As he began to pray "the Lord came and turned them to ashes. I asked God why he did this. He said, "They chose to lie and become what they are. They cannot be forgiven." This event caught Cameron by surprise and he says he does not understand why they came to visit him. He does know that confronting Native traditional spirituality because many believe in it and it is hard for them to hear that these spirits are not gods.

Cameron also has had many visions. The first here at AIC was at the end of his 1st year. He was standing in the desert by a river playing in the water. He heard a voice announce, "There is someone here who wants to speak with you." He looked and on the bank was a person in a white robe, completely clean and without flaw. The man announced, "I am the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Your children will run after your own heart, they will be doing what you do, but more." In another vision the Lord showed him the things he had done, that had been done to him,

that had gone on in his family including occasions when his mother attempted suicide, then announced, "I have been with you every single day of your life—I am always with you." On yet another occasion he was attending a Christian conference, "I got hit by the Holy Ghost in a way that I had not experienced before. I kept asking, 'More Lord, I want to experience more of you.' I was totally changed and turned into a totally different person. On Sunday I told this at my church and the Spirit again showed up powerfully. Sunday night I was cleaning and was slain in the Spirit and saw Jesus's face. First I saw Him from behind, but He turned and as He did so His presence became more intense. It was the same person I had seen at the river, He was dressed in white and now his hair and face were white. He had a huge smile and spoke to me without words. There was a cloud covering above Him. He reached into it and pulled out a flame, he gave this to me putting it inside my belly. He told me this was not just for me, but for the world. Several days later I asked God what this meant and He said, "What you think you know, you do not know. What you saw was Me. You cannot see the Father, but I have seen the Father."

Cameron feels that the Lord is calling him to be an evangelist. He says of AIC, "This is a special place; God has His hand on it. The faculty and staff really care about the students. I like the accountability here. AIC is important because Native people need guidance, there is a lot of history and hurt that needs healing. AIC is a part of that healing because it is raising up Native leaders to reach out even further to Native people.



Kachina March

Kachina dolls are Native dolls made in the images of Native spirits called kachina. They are often sold to tourists as art. Many different Native tribes and nations make, use, and sell these dolls, but they are especially prominent in the southwest where they are made from cottonwood root.

The Navajo adopted the kachina from the Hopi and tend not to use them in a spiritual fashion. For the Hopi, kachina spirits are extremely important to daily life. In Hopi traditional belief, the first people to live on earth left their dark homes in the earth's interior and climbed up through kivas (underground ceremonial



Kokopelli

The Kachina

chambers) toward the light and this world. They believe they will return to the underworld after death. The kachina are the spiritual beings who taught the Hopis how to love on earth; kachina dolls are religious figures representing these beings. These dolls represent the spiritual essence of everything in the world, so they are like statues of the saints. "Kachina" means "life bringer" in the Hopi language. Other spellings and pronunciations include: "katsina" and "qatsina."

There are numerous kachina dances including public dance performed in village plazas during the spring and summer. These celebrate special events and include feasting, socializing, and dances that are meant both for entertainment and spiritual purposes. Dancers are dressed as kachina representing fertility, rain, health, and life. Dances include mixed dances with different dancers representing different kachina spirits. They also include line dances where all the dancers are dressed as a single kachina. After the public dance season is over there is also a longer series of secret dance rites that is performed.

Hopi children are taught to have deep reverence for the kachina because they are terrifying, supernatural beings. Children are initiated into nature of



Sun

kachina when they first engage in the kachina dancing and wearing of kachina masked crowns. The stories of the different kachina are prominent features in Hopi storytelling and spirituality.

Some of the kachina include Heletu the father of the kachina and creator of deer. He is the first to appear in kachina dances. Corn

Maiden or Yellow Woman often wears a green mask and has her hair done in butterfly whorls and wears an embroidered ceremonial blanket.

Sun Kachina is a despised boy who is tested by his father and as a reward for passing the test is given the power to marry the daughters—Corn Maidens—of 8 rain priests. Kokopelli is the humped-back flute player who appears in ancient rock art and on pottery throughout the southwest. Kokopelli's origins are only speculated on, but today he is a seducer of girls, bringer of babies, and a hunting tutelary.



Corn Maiden