



Close-up On Campus

Campus Ministry in Southwestern Pennsylvania and the Mid-Atlantic



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Walking With Jesus: A Summer Adventure

“When you leave school for the summer, don’t go to church. *Serve* in a church!” Of course when David gave this talk at the end of the school year, students knew he was making the classic distinction between merely attending a church and being an active participant. Many have lofty goals to grow in their faith over the summer, but it’s those who have realistically prepared themselves that succeed. David painted this picture for students in Luke 24:13.

On the road to Emmaus two men who had been walking with Christ were now walking away in dejection. Disillusioned that Jesus hadn’t fulfilled their expectations they drifted back to their previous lives. But Jesus (disguised) calls them ‘foolish and slow of

heart to believe..!’ He realigns their hearts with scripture’s expectations of the Messiah. Don’t we too need this constant realigning to His Word (Prov 16:20)?

In order to thrive for the summer David encouraged students they’d need to be vulnerable with and accountable to other believers. While many may think merely attending a church provides this type of fellowship, David countered that it’s when we serve in a church and invest ourselves in the people that we find this soul-to-soul connection. We are more likely (and effectively) impacted by wise mentors when we serve shoulder-to-shoulder with them. As one multifaceted body we each offer unique gifts, and we all benefit when we each offer these in worship (Rom 12:1).

Bible Thought:

“Watch over your heart with all diligence; For from it flow the springs of life.”

Proverbs 4:23

Book Recommendation:

The Insanity of God

by Nik Ripken

Please Pray

- Our returning freshmen class would grow in maturity, serve in humility, and invest in underclassmen
- Johnstown students would be encouraged as they start the year short-handed, pray for boldness
- Our home church is still in much pain, pray for wisdom and peace

Taking It To The Next Level

It didn’t take long for IUP Sophomore, Luke, to start living this out when he got home this summer. He contacted his pastor soon after classes let out asking to be baptized. His pastor was thrilled at the request! Seeing maturity in Luke he challenged him. “We have a need with the small children’s ministry and Sunday School class. How would you feel about teaching?”

Luke, with very little kid-experience, was a bit terrified, but he wanted to take a step of faith and be a resource to his church. Very quickly he found out he had a real gift in the area! He also built great relationships with some other mature believers serving there and was significantly refined in his faith over that time. As the summer drew to a close he had

grown to love his kids so much, he almost didn’t want to come back for his junior year of college!

Luke starting his summer adventure



Luke, center, at Cru picnic before summer

Praise God!

- Great start at IUP in reaching both freshmen (nearly 20 involved so far) and multicultural students (nearly 15)
- Natural sense of community developing among our students that is very attractive to newcomers

Thank you again for your prayers and hearts for Christ!

Until all hear, (Col 4:3-4)

David & Ashley
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