

What's happening... by jared marcus

I actually remember when 'what's happening' was a TV show. But that has nothing to do with what I want to share. As this is our last letter before the Christmas break, I just want to tell you guys a few short but very awesome stories. First, I want to brag on a few of our kids a little bit. God has really got a hold of some hearts here at The Post. About four weeks ago, five of our kids went to Living Faith Fellowship and got water baptized as a declaration of their faith in God. Wait a minute, "I thought The Post just did like shows and stuff of kids screaming and calling it music?" Or "Wait, the kind of kids that go to The Post wouldn't get baptized, they're bad and rebellious kids." Not anymore people, God is doing some really cool things and I believe this is just the beginning. We don't do shows, that part is right, but those 'kinds' of kids still come, but God is in the business of softening hearts and transforming lives, all we have to do sometimes is get out of the way.

Just a few nights ago I was leaving The Post a few minutes early, the snow was beginning to stick, my tires are bald and I had to make it all the way back to South Bend. Before I could get out the door one of the boys came up to me and said, "Let us pray for you before you leave so that you make it home safely." So of course I said ok and he began to pray. At the time he started there were maybe 3 students around, by the time his 20 second prayer was over, every kid in the building had their hands on me with their heads down in prayer. Talk about a sight...

REAL LIFE

Last year, I was a mess. I was basically every bad thing that anyone could be in the world, but there was one thing that was in my life for a long time. I was a bisexual. That's a person that likes the opposite sex and the same sex too. So for me I liked guys and girls. In my first year of middle school I was gay. So I liked guys and didn't really want to date girls, just guys. Today I am straight. I like girls and I have a girl I am planning to date soon. Well, the only reason why I am like this now is because of a person named God. I don't know where I would be without Him. The Post is a great place. They are on a mission to save teenagers that are doing a lot of sin. They saved me.

I just know that Jesus is very proud of these young men and women. He has got to be smiling down from Heaven, just loving on these kids. This may be hard for some of you to believe, thinking, "that stuff just doesn't happen to kids like that!" Well

all I can say, in the spirit of Christmas, "Seeing is believing!" 301 E. Lincoln Avenue, Goshen, IN 46528 ...I'll be waiting...



water baptized

evaila
and
sean



**This is an actual student testimony of a young man that comes to The Post. I have not added or changed one letter of this story. This is word for word accurate. I would just like to add that this young man is one of our strongest student leaders and boldly shares his faith in Christ and glorifies Christ every chance he gets for the transformation He is doing in his life. If you want to hear more of this great story, you should have me and this young man come speak to your church or Sunday school class. jared*

Is that enough...? by jared marcus

I found myself asking the same question over and over again, "If all we do is lead them to Christ, is that enough?" Many would say yes, at The Post, we say NO. Though our ultimate hope and prayer is to lead young men and women into a relationship w/ Christ, we believe that there needs to be more. **Generational Poverty** is something we at The Post see everyday w/ almost each kid that walks through our doors. Generational Poverty goes far beyond a financial status; it's a lifestyle, a mind-set and it's a spiritual desert. It affects way more than just the wallet, but the mind, body and spirit. Initially I believed GP to be a choice and the more I study, the more I am convinced it is a lack of knowledge and hope. During one of our Thursday Night Discussions, I asked the kids the question, "Why do people stay in poverty, why don't they do something about it?" And a 6th grader sitting next to me said, "Cause they don't know how." (exact words) Later that night when I dropped him off at his house we talked a bit more and he went on to tell me that his family is very poor and they help people but nobody helps them, not even family. And he said, "All we know how to do is be poor, we *can't* change." This testimony is not uncommon, not at all, I hear similar stories all the time.

'If nothing changes, nothing changes'. Not a real complicated statement, but an extremely accurate one. So at The Post we feel it is our **time and place** to provide resources and opportunity for our kids to change the future. We want to help 'Johnny' be the first one in his family to ever go to college. We want to give 'Michael' every chance possible to make it to the NFL. We feel the burden to help 'Kelley' stay focused in school and go on to pursue acting, what her heart screams to do. We **HAVE** to begin teaching the hidden rules that people operate under in the 'middle class' that people in 'poverty' are just simply unaware of. It is time to begin bridging the gap and providing our youth with the resources and opportunity to live life and pursue their dreams and purpose. *"The thief comes only in order to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have and enjoy life, and have it in abundance. (John 10:10 -The Amplified Bible)*

Some of the 'hidden rules' of Generational Poverty are...

- Money is to be spent, **NOT** managed or saved
- Education is viewed as abstract, **NOT** a means to a career
- Choices are based on present emotions, **NO** regard for the future
- Vocabulary is 200-400 words, **NOT** equivalent to school or workplace
- Driving Force is entertainment, **NOT** achievement or family
- Destiny: they have **NO** control over it, 'it is what it is'



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