

God doesn't call the qualified... by jared marcus

...He qualifies the called!

I had an article all written up and ready to go, and on my way to the Post today I felt God wanted me to say something else. (And it was a good one, if I must say so myself) Nonetheless, you'll get that one next time. I was in the car talking with my mom and she was telling me of a commercial she saw. She wasn't sure who sponsored it or if it was local or national. But what it said was, "give a year and give a life". Here at the Post we believe strongly that programs don't change people, relationships change people. Programs help, but it's the love and respect that encourages young men and women to change.

The students that come through the Post are very 'needy', ranging from physical to emotional and everything in between. Many of them do not get their needs met at home and so as leaders we try and meet those needs the best we can. But the few of us that there are can only do so much. So I am clearly asking you guys, the faithful ones that read our newsletters, **come help change lives**. We need you, not for crowd control and keeping the peace, God does a great job of that, He has covered this place with peace and Godly protection. We need people (like you) to come and build relationships with our kids, and then have you write an article sharing of how you witnessed God change a young person using **you**, right before your very eyes.

There is this huge misconception among working with youth, especially kids that attend the Post. There is a reputation floating around out there that our kids are trouble and violent and scary to be around. **FALSE!!** What they lack is love and attention, which all of you can give. It truly is that simple, we are not a credit card company with hidden fees and catches that you don't find out about till later. Our youth just want someone to come and love on them, that's it. Someone to show up 'consistently' in their life that they can count and learn to trust and will be there for them when they need them.

The stories are real, the kids are growing but there are needs going unmet everyday. Help us reach **every** kid that walks through the doors, and eliminate the phrase, "he/she must have fallen through the cracks". Talk to you soon...

574-534-7678
(Ask for Jared or Erica)

*alejandra
and
anthony*



TO PERFECTION by erica jenkins

One of our developing areas of focus at the Post is student development. So many things fall under these two words, and since the idea is so expansive it takes time. Assigning student tasks that require decision-making, mentoring, encouraging, asking "hard" questions, keeping them accountable in education, requiring sportsmanship in games, utilizing outside resources and programs, and, most importantly, spending time in prayer for our students are some of the approaches we've used to achieve this goal in our students.

One young man that we have the pleasure of seeing regularly first came into the Post with an endless supply of "boyish" energy and an eagerness to make friends. It

wasn't long before we began to see that this sweet boy struggled to contain his anger and express it in a healthy way. Part of it was age, but a bigger part of his anger stemmed from relational brokenness like so many of our students that come from homes void of the resources and, many times, the parents they so desperately need. As things continued to happen with this young man we continued to work with him and after one intense outburst with one of our other students, we decided to pull in some outside help in the form of a mentor that meets with him weekly. It just warms my heart to be able to say that, after many months, we are finally seeing progress! The one student that he had offended in the outburst

TO PERFECTION (continued)

came to me a week after and said that in school he had specifically apologized to her in the hallway for what he had done. Another girl came to me just last night and mentioned that she noticed that he is doing so much better in his attitude at the Post. He recently asked one of our volunteer leaders that he is particularly close to if he could start going to church with him! I personally happened in on an argument between him and two other boys several nights ago and after asking for an explanation from all three of them, he was the first to speak up, and he said, "It was my fault". While it may not have been entirely his fault I was very pleased to hear him take responsibility for his actions. I believe it surprised the other boys as well because they dropped the charges eventually and the argument ceased.

It is so wonderful to be able to testify of change in even just a single student's life! I love to see how God softens hearts and guides us as leaders to reach these students and intentionally "love on them", even when it doesn't always

Do you have a CLUE how you can help? by john regan. board president

Just in case you have been wondering how you could help us help the kids at the Post, let me share how some local adults lent a hand recently. Jared and his team had an all night lock in a few weeks ago, and as one of the evening activities, they recreated a full life-size version of the board game CLUE. Do you remember playing CLUE as a kid?

There were five teams each consisting of four students and one staff member or volunteer, with their goal being to solve the mystery before any others. The CLUE masquerades, all dear friends of mine, dressed in real life costumes to fit the individual characters of the game, and stepped immediately into the various roles with great passion. The kids were challenged to ask the right questions and get involved in some critical thinking in order to piece the mystery together, and many of them really took the challenge to heart.

I had forewarned the adult guests, that although our purpose that evening was to find some small way we could bless the kids, they shouldn't be surprised if the kids in turned blessed them as well. It was an extraordinary evening for everyone, and I owe a wonderful thanks to the participants: Lisa Fenech as Miss Scarlet, Ron Fenech as Colonel Mustard, Linda Pladson as Miss Peacock, Joel Pladson as Professor Plum, Dawn Regan as Mrs. White, and Neal Myers as Mr. Green.

As the comedic photographer that evening, I witnessed high school kids in awe of how much six complete strangers were willing to reach out and interact in a very positive way with them. I also got to see how impressed the six adults were with the positive interaction that came from the kids.

At the Post, we build relationships with the kids who enter our doors so that we can help them navigate some of the most challenging situations that life pushes on them, and it cannot be done without other adults willing to lend a hand. We are very appreciative of everyone who helps our mission, and are in constant need of more of the same.

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initially feel like love to them! Philippians 1:6 is my heart's cry for each one of our students at the Post! "And I am convinced and sure of this very thing, that He Who began a good work in you will continue until the day of Jesus Christ (right up to the time of His return), developing (that good work) and perfecting and bringing it to full completion in you." *Amplified Bible*



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