

Praying and Hoping for God to Move Through Student Impact

Why do you come to Student Impact? Perhaps you are forced to? That's okay – I was forced to go to church when I was a teenager. Perhaps you have made friends here more easily than you've made friends elsewhere, so you keep coming to see your friends. Perhaps you are in the habit and are only here until sports, or a television show, or something more appealing comes along. Either way, I'm glad that you're here and not somewhere else.

I think we've got the "student" part down pretty well. But what about the 'impact?' I mean, is the norm that you come here on Wed nights and are truly impacted by the Truth of Jesus Christ? We've been studying "what we believe," has that impacted you? Has it changed your outlook, caused you to forsake some particular sin? Has our time lately caused you to stand up for what you believe? Or have our Wed nights, been nothing more than passed time. Have you come in and left, unaffected?

One of my prayers for you as a student is that you would have the desire to be part of something huge, something global – something that would change the world. Now, there are many ways you can do that, you can raise money for people who are suffering all over the world, you can help build houses in low income areas, you can do all kinds of humanistic endeavors. But ultimately, my prayer for you is that you have the desire to be part of the movement of God as He draws people to himself through his son, Jesus Christ. I hope that you will live "for the Lord's sake" as Peter puts it in 1 Peter 2.

Let me throw an idea your way and see if this is something you would get on board with. What if we began to treat Student Impact as more than just an hour and a half time slot we made happen every Wednesday night? What if, in an endeavor to be part of the movement of God, our whole outlook on Wed nights became more focused on seeing God move, and in us treasuring and finding our joy in Jesus Christ? What if we stopped 'just coming' and began to come expecting God to move and wanting God to move and if we came willing to be used by God as He did move? What if we put our energy and efforts not only into being socially mature (getting people to laugh at our jokes) but at being spiritually mature? If God is at work in Yorktown, VA would you want Him to use Student Impact as part of his movement? It would necessarily mean that some things change. But what if we really aimed at seeing God move in us and through us on Wed nights? What if God began to move through you? Would you run with that or run from that?

Now, I think there are three reactions to this idea:

1. Flat out denial – this is the reaction of the person who cares nothing for God and has no care to see God move in any way whatsoever.
2. Hesitant Denial – The chances are that if you are not a student, that means if you're a leader, then this is you. I hope not, and I pray not. I want more and more volunteer leaders who long to see God move, in fact that's probably why you're

here – because you believe God moves today through students and you want to be part of that. That’s why you’re in this room and not anywhere else.

3. Wholeheartedly getting on board – I hope this is where you will end up. I pray that everyone in here will commit to praying and longing for God to move through us on Wed nights.

Rise up; come to our help!

Redeem us for the sake of your steadfast love!

Psalm 44:26