

Summertime is a season that opens new doors for the ministry I am involved in. As some regular programs pause for the summer, more time can be spent with youth on-on-one. Last summer I spent a few weeks delivering flyers with a youth from a very low-income family to help him earn some money. This valuable time together helped us develop a close friendship which has contributed to his understanding of Jesus in his life. I am hoping for similar results this summer.

The last couple weeks have been quite intense with some deeper ministry. I called up one of my ministry donors and asked to take him out for coffee to see how he was doing and to express some gratitude for his continued support. While waiting in line to get a coffee, he told me that he wasn't doing too well that morning. He had dark sunglasses on and he was extremely fidgety. **He told me that he'd relapsed into using drugs after being 47 months clean.** He'd been using hard for the last few weeks and things in his life were going downhill fast. My phone call to him the night before had prompted him to decide to quit that morning and to confess it all to me. I spent most of the day with him while he came down off the high. We spent some time praying and reading Psalm 51, particularly verse 12, "Restore unto me the joy of your salvation and maintain a willing spirit within me."

Sincerely asking, "How are you really doing?" can go a long way.

I recently listened to a radio interview of a former juvenile prison guard who had written a book that explores the world of youth who commit crime. The author said that in his many years of work, the #1 reason that a youth would typically offend and then re-offend was because they had **no one to turn to in their time of crisis.** This broke my heart and re-affirmed to me my conviction that one of my roles in youth ministry is to be present and available for a youth (or donor!) in need.

A few days after the morning confessional with my donor, I was talking to a girl who went to station X for a few years and recently

Cookbook Fundraiser

Elisa is doing a fundraiser for the youth group at our church and for Station X. She is collecting recipes that will be included in a recipe book that will be sold before Christmas. If you have a favorite recipe, please send it to me! She will include it in the cookbook and you can then buy many copies for you and your family :)



Scriptalk: 1 John 4:12

got married to a guy she met at Station X. They are in their 20's now and I am still closely connected to them. She had just found out that her husband has been having an affair with her best friend. (How do you respond to that?!) She was asking me for counseling and help. They didn't know who else to turn to. The couple and I spent the next day together. The girl had decided to forgive her husband and to work towards reconciliation. I was amazed at her level of grace and forgiveness. We spent a while talking about grace, a new start, renewing the closeness that they once had with Jesus and how they can now learn and grow. They asked to come to church with me the next day. There is definitely a lot of work still to do, including finding more appropriate marriage counseling. Please pray for wisdom!

My heart is feeling the strong desire to do even more ministry with the youth as I see more needs and opportunities around me. **My goal is to add on another 5 hours of ministry time per week by the end of the year.** This would mean cutting back hours from my other job and receiving new donations from people who have the same vision of reaching youth with the understanding that their creator loves them! We love to have people over for dinner. Please call us if you 'd like to visit and find out more information about our ministry and we'll enjoy a meal together.

I have saved the best for last. Elisa and I are having a baby!!!

We are incredibly excited (and so are our parents!) and we're having lots of fun getting ready. The baby is due in early January.

Thank you for all your prayers, friendship and support in many ways. It means a lot to know people like you are behind Elisa and I.

*Faith means being sure of the things we hope for
and knowing something is real*

even if we do not see it.
Hebrews 11:1

REAL



Calvin Williams

***Can you feel my excitement?
Want to get in on it?***

Call or email me. Coffee is on me.

604-302-2346

calvin.dynamite@gmail.com

www.HopeForTheYouth.com
