

Fighting the Good Fight

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This Ambassador pledge board and several others like it were filled with cards indicating students committing before God to be ambassadors of the Gospel everywhere from the other side of the world to their dorm floor.

Students ponder “Is it worth it?” at Christmas Conference

It is often joked that our organization should be called Campus Crusade for Conferences instead of Campus Crusade for Christ. Being on staff I’ve been to and worked at so many that it often seems mundane as the format and structure of our conferences and retreats don’t change much from year to year. I can easily get caught up in whatever responsibilities I have, whether it’s leading a finance team or setting up a summer project reunion. I tend to forget that God does amazing things in students lives at conferences and that any toil we go through in putting them on is absolutely worth it.

This year’s Christmas Conference was no different. The conference theme was “Is it worth it?”, and the speakers challenged students to consider that question with regards to various aspects of following Christ. It is always a joy to see how God leads my students in this kind of environment. At lunch after the second conference session, Esther, one of the student leaders at Benedictine announced that God was leading her to go on a summer project and asked what I thought about her going to Rome. I was surprised because summer projects hadn’t yet been talked about from up front at the conference, but was happy as my staff team has been praying that Chicago students would go to Rome throughout this last semester. I’d like to share with you some quotes from students at the conference from various schools throughout the Great Lakes Region.

“Christmas Conference has definitely showed me the need for more community outreach and involvement. The city outreach activity revealed to me God’s ability to use us as individuals, his Word and love even when it is out of our comfort zone.” -a student from Otterbein College

“I have been distracted by so many things that have been pulling me away from God. This conference has brought me back to God. It has refocused my priorities. This is definitely a great way to end and begin a year.” -a student from Oakland University

“God is challenging me to be more focused on being a representative of Christ wherever I am as well as in overseas mission opportunities.” -a student from New Zealand

“This week has helped to really show me the abundance of grace that a community of believers have with each other. The Lord has opened my eyes to the power of prayer through the speaker and close friends.” -a student from Ohio State