

ALOHA KE AKUA

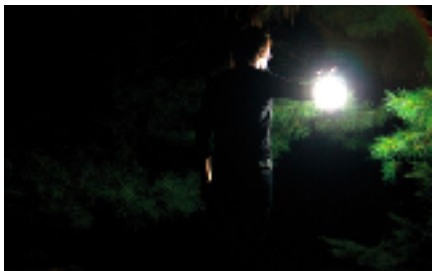
"God is Love" - Simple Conversation Starters
September 2021

BUILDING SPIRITUAL MOVEMENTS EVERYWHERE SO THAT EVERYONE KNOWS SOMEONE WHO TRULY FOLLOWS JESUS

Due to the nature of switching to high school ministry and working with minors, please do not share these stories/photos without my consent.



We show this stack of cards to our students and one of our first questions is: pick a picture to describe your life. I've been working directly with high school kids for the last three weeks and we've seen a mix of picture picked as we give out free Chick Fil A sandwiches and gather around the campus after school. While some pictures chosen have described their life as a typical high school student, some of them have picked pictures to describe their pain and loneliness. I've been surprised by their vulnerability and the tears shed to complete strangers simply asking a question. They are longing to be seen, to be heard, and simply to be known. Aren't we all? The power of pictures and stories have opened my eyes and given me a desire to just sit, listen, and ask questions.



This second photo is the picture I've shared. I share how much of life right now feels like I'm navigating in the darkness. Whether it's social media, work, health, relationships, you name it. It just feels like a dark time and we're all trying to find our way out. The next question we follow up with is pick a picture to describe what you want your life to be like?

I've done this so many times and what I love is how each picture can represent something different for each person. This round, I've found myself sharing the same photo because although I am navigating darkness, there is light in that darkness and that light is Jesus. He gives me hope, freedom, security. He leads me and guides me and His promise is to never leave me. This is the hope I cling to in these times and it is enough. My prayer is that each of these students would see this light in their own lives as well!

I had the privilege of speaking at the University of Arizona's Fall Retreat. It was such a blessing to be with the Cru, Destino, and Epic movements at the UofA. Speaking and engaging with students again was such a gift and to get to teach the Word of God in person was refreshment to my soul. We read through the book of Jonah and engaging with God's heart for us, His people, and the world. Thankful for continued opportunities to speak and minister to collegiate students.



Another added blessing in getting to head to Arizona was spending time with the Epic Japan Stint team! Because of COVID and the country still being closed to outside travelers, this team is spending their time helping with Epic at the UofA until they can head to Kyoto. They have been faithful in trusting the Lord even in the uncertainties and have added so much to our team and ministry to Tucson. Please continue to pray with and for them as they wait to get visas and a date to be able to report to Japan. I love the crossover I've had with each of these interns as students and love seeing their growth and love for one another and for Jesus!



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