

ALOHA KE AKUA

"God is Love" - Is it Worth it?
January 2022

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.



I had the privilege of co-directing our 2022 Epic West Coast Conference over MLK weekend and it was so good to be back in person! We took extra precautions meeting during Covid with distancing, masks, and testing and of course, lots of prayers! God met us in extraordinary ways and there was something sweet and needed being together again! Our theme was GOOD NEWS. As I reflect back to all that happened, leading an in person conference in the middle of a pandemic, only God could have done it. I'm not going to lie, I found myself asking, is it worth it? **The Good News is worth it.**



This is more for me than for the staff or students that came this weekend. I knew that I needed to be reminded that the Good News is...

- * Knowing that I am loved and pursued just as I am
- * God is working even if I don't see or feel it
- * Being on mission with Him
- * He is waiting for me
- * Getting to be the sweet aroma of Christ everywhere
- * He is bringing beauty out of ashes

I'm thankful for what I get to do and when worship feels hard, He continues to remind me that He is still here with me and it's worth it because He is worth it.



I shared with our staff Friday morning a story of how I found myself walking onto campus one day asking this same question.. is it worth it... is it worth spending hundreds of dollars on pizza to feed 100 kids each week? Is it worth the drive and time for the short 30 minutes we had? Is it worth it to be doing so much to share a 10min message? Is it worth it when so many of them were in their own conversations, on their phones, and only there for free food? Is it actually worth it?

That day a random student came up to me and shared about how she was struggling in the pandemic- losing loved ones, losing church, losing community... and how all this loss had caused her to want to revert back to hurting herself. She didn't want that but didn't know what to do. She asked me for Scripture that would help her navigate these times, we talked, and we got to pray through the tears.

Is it worth it? Hundreds of dollars for pizza, distracted kids, the time it took to drive and be there. Yes. It is worth it. It is worth it because it mattered to this one student. Even if it was just one, it is worth it.

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