

musings in ministry

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April 25, 2012

Kingdom Conversations

Walking into a local theatre two weeks ago, I searched the crowd for friends saving seats. It was the opening night of the Florida Film Festival and a few of us were there to see *Renee*, a film based on the true story of “a young [Orlando] woman battling addiction, depression and self-injury.” (www.reneethemovie.com) Locating my friends, I headed up the stairs, stepping over them and into the empty seat they’d saved for me.

A minute after sitting down, the girl, we’ll call her Mia, sitting to my right turned to me and said, “Hi! I’ve never come to a movie by myself before...” She and I made some small talk and I assured her that my friends and I would be happy to be her friends for the evening. As our conversation continued, Mia told me that she’d actually seen the film already--she

knew one of the producers and was given a sneak peek prior to the opening. She went on to tell me a bit about her life and how she related to the themes presented in the film.

She asked me what I did for a living and I told her that I work with a church in town and love the opportunity to come alongside people in their spiritual journeys. She went on to convey that she believes that every person is on a spiritual journey--whether they know it or not. Her own recovery had pointed her to that truth and reality. I smiled and told her that I couldn’t agree more and that one of the joys I have in life is talking to people about God’s love for us in Christ.

A little while later into our dialogue she turned to me and said, “Jessica, what made you decide to do what you do for a living?” I reiterated my belief that everyone is on a spiritual journey and how I had experienced this in my own life. God gave me the opportunity to tell her how I came to faith early in life, walked away from the Lord in high school and came back to Him right before college. “After walking through all of that,” I explained, “I realized that there was nothing more important I could do than spend my time helping others to know how much Jesus loves them.” Just as I was finishing this sentence, the Festival began and we turned our attention to the film. When it was over (and boy, it was messy and the story did not wrap up neatly, but spoke powerfully to the significance of relationships and the

process), she and I briefly chatted about it and said our goodbyes.

I went home that night thinking about Mia and the way that God desired for her to know that He loved her. He just decided to speak it out to her that particular night through me! Thankful, I reflected on the opportunities He gives us to have Kingdom conversations like this one and share about the love of Jesus with the world. I hope for many, many, many more conversations like this in the days and weeks to come.

Thank you so much for your continued prayers and financial partnership! I truly cannot be present in this field of ministry without you!!



So glad that we’re in this together!

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God provided a great organization to help me with the administrative details necessary to continue my ministry with Status. **Global Service Network** was launched in 2007 to help empower people called into church-planting and other missions vocations to live out their calling. **All tax-deductible gifts can now be directed to GSN via the link below, please let me know if you have any questions--thank you!**

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