



LIFE GROUP SERMON NOTES

“Campus Ministry”

Christy Cantrell - September , 2015

WARM-UP (10-15 minutes)

Choose a question below to answer, or ask another. *No right or wrong answers.*

- Did you become a follower of Jesus when you were in high school or college? If so, who influenced you?
- Who was the strongest Christian that you knew in college or high school? What was one quality in their lives that you respected?
- Have you ever ministered spiritually to college or high students? How was your experience?

WORD (10-15 minutes)

Sermons can be heard online at <http://www.bethelworld.org>

As Ps James Lowe said last Sunday when we honored and heard from our parent ministry's founders, our church has both a first name and a last name. Our first name is Bethel, and our last name is Every Nation. Every Nation fundamentally prioritizes three missional objectives, which are church planting, campus ministry, and world missions. Today we will focus on campus ministry.

Campus ministry is a strategically important work for the advancement of the kingdom of God. College students in large numbers go on to become leaders in all walks and professions of life. From civil and political leaders, to business leaders, to scientists and medical professionals, to engineers and artists, the majority of today's professionals and leaders studied at a college or university at one time.

Furthermore, college students are in a season of life where they are learning and exploring. They often are searching for direction and meaning for their lives. It is well known that research has affirmed that the vast majority of people who become Christians do so before the age of 25.

Psalm 78:1-8 ESV Give ear, O my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth! I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings from of old, things that we have heard and known, that our fathers have told us. We will not hide them from their children, but tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the Lord, and his might, and the wonders that he has done. He established a testimony in Jacob and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our fathers to teach to their children, that the next generation might know them, the children yet unborn, and arise and tell them to their children, so that they should set their hope in God and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments; and that they should not be like their fathers, a stubborn and rebellious generation, a generation whose heart was not steadfast, whose spirit was not faithful to God.

- God cares deeply about generational transfer.

He wants us to think and act long term. We should never only think of ourselves. God's love and concern is for everyone who will ever live. He wants us to live in such a way that our lives impact future generations, not just those who are alive today. Our witness to God's truth and his ways needs to be of such quality that the next generation can turn around and pass it to the generation coming after them, and they in turn pass it on to a generation as yet unborn.

- We each have an important part to play.

Even if we are not parents we still are called to be spiritual fathers and mothers. This becomes even more of an imperative as we grow in age. Our greatest legacy will not be the bequeathing of our material possessions accumulated over a lifetime. It will be the people who's lives we impacted with the Gospel for the kingdom of God. We have the great opportunity of taking whatever level of life experience that comes from walking with the Lord and passing it on to those that are younger. We all benefit from the strength and wisdom of those who love the Lord and are older than us when they pass on their spiritual riches to us.

PERSONAL APPLICATION (10-15 minutes)

Choose an item below to discuss, or introduce another related topic for discussion.

- Why is it strategically important to reach college students with the Gospel and disciple them and develop them as Christian leaders?
- Why does God care so much about discipling the next generation?
- How could you get involved in reaching college students, or perhaps others who are simply younger than yourself?

PRAYER (10-15 minutes)

Pray for any of the following, as well as any other requests you may have.

- Pray that God will open doors for all of us to reach the next generation with the Gospel and disciple them.
- Pray that God will send forth quality laborers to serve in the harvest fields of college campuses.
- Pray that God will give us a great, increasing harvest of college and university students, some of whom will follow the call of God to go into full-time Christian ministry.