



PRESENCE vs PRESENTS

As the Father sent his Son, you have sent us into the world of young people across Canada. **THANK YOU!**

INTO THE STREETS

to be present with 17-year-old Jason, providing transitional housing

INTO THE SCHOOLS

where 23-year-old YFC staff Sami is present in her old high school, answering kids' tough questions

INTO THE COMMUNITY

to be present in the lives of teen parents and their kids, providing them with adult mentors

“Without the incarnation, Christianity isn’t even a very good story, and most sadly, it means nothing. “Be nice to one another” is not a message that can give my life meaning, assure me of love beyond brokenness, and break open the dark doors of death with the key of hope.”

Michael Spencer
Mere Churchianity

“Mercy triumphs over judgement...Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by my deeds.”

James, the brother of Jesus
Holy Bible

“So the Word became human and made his home among us.”

John 1:14





Dear Partners in Ministry,



Sometimes we are tired and don't feel that we have anymore to give. Recently I was in the Vancouver area with a packed schedule - lunch with an Executive Director, a visit to our location on East Hasting where many homeless young people live on the street, a quick drive out to see our new head-office in Langley, coffee with one of our staff, a reception of the e-leaders conference (www.eleaders.org), and then a rainy drive to North Vancouver for a youth event where Laura Bronson, director

of Keep it Real, was to speak (www.ikeepitreal.ca). Along the way I was wondering if I had anything left to give, any wisdom to speak into the situation which would encourage and support, but it was a great evening. The next day I received this short email from Laura: "Dave, thanks for coming last night. That made me so happy." No comment on what I said, or what I did ... just that I was present ... that I showed up. Afterwards I found myself reflecting on the fact that this is the ministry of Youth for Christ - being Jesus to the youth of this nation - YFC staff showing up in kids' lives! Here are some examples:

- Desmond, from Manitoba, works to provide hope for homeless teens while battling cancer.
- Asmick gets up before dawn with his team to prepare breakfast for 50 youth from a Montreal housing project.
- Vivianne, from Ontario, prays with a young girl who asks: "What does God say about me? I want to learn how to hear Him."
- Alan and Ryan, from Calgary, go out at night in a mobile drop-in, being Christ to hundreds of street-kids whom others consider "throw-aways."

And many many others! Some organizing Youth Alpha and others simply giving birthday parties, hanging out on week-nights, helping kids with homework all desiring to be Christ to the youth of this country and to tell of the Saviour who showed up in our world! This is the message of the incarnation - the message of Emmanuel, "God with us." And these young people become followers of Jesus when they realize that He is present in their lives today, loving them, caring for them, always there to listen, and always wanting the best for them. Take a moment to hear Kristina's personal testimony of what happened when she realized that God was present in her life: <http://yfcstratford.com/kristinas-story/>

As we pause at Christmas time to celebrate the incarnation, thank you for praying for us, and for supporting us financially so that we can be present in the lives of the kids that we love so much. We also value your prayers for the staff across Canada, that they would be refreshed this Christmas and delight in the presence of Jesus, our Emmanuel.

Because Jesus became flesh and lived among us,

Dave

OUR PRESENCE DEPENDS ON YOUR PRESENTS!

To make a secure online donation, you can visit www.yfccanada.org and click 'Donate.' Cheques should be made payable to: "Youth for Christ Canada" and mailed to: Youth for Christ Canada, PO Box 93008, #135 - 19705 Fraser Hwy., Langley, BC V3A 8H2. To make a donation by phone, please call us toll free at 1.888.649.2011.

WOULD YOU CONSIDER YFC IN YOUR WILL AND ESTATE PLANNING?

Need more confidential information? Call, write or phone Gary MacDonald and he will send out a package for you to read. Your privacy will be honoured.
gary.macdonald@yfccanada.org
1.888.649.2011 Ext 7



we see the hope and potential in every young person

All YFC Canada National Staff links can be found through www.yfccanada.org

