

PERSPECTIVES: LISTENING IS LOVE

"OUR WHOLE CULTURE CRIES OUT, "WON'T SOMEONE PLEASE LISTEN TO ME? WON'T ANYONE ACKNOWLEDGE MY PRESENCE AND THE IMPORTANCE OF MY FEELINGS AND EXPERIENCES?" ~DALLAS DEMMIT~

I HAVE SEVERAL SENIORS IN SPORTLINC THAT I VISITED AT THEIR COLLEGE CAMPUSES IN KENTUCKY AND ARKANSAS. CHECK OUT THEIR STORIES OF HOW JESUS IS TEACHING THEM HOW TO SHARE THEIR FAITH IN LOVING ENVIRONMENTS.



Taylor, Deverin Muff (EKU Basketball Player) and Raechele Gray, AIA SportLinc Rep and former EKU woman's basketball player

~Deverin Muff's Story ~ "I couldn't believe that I was in the cafeteria sharing my story with four people who had just lost a friend to suicide recently hear on EKU (Eastern Kentucky University)! I thought my story was relevant because I lost my best friend, Marco to a car accident. After I got done sharing, everyone seemed relieved because I could relate to the situation. Here is how we got there..."

I got the opportunity to meet Taylor through an Athletes in Action talk at EKU where I attend and play basketball...We went out to breakfast and we talked about "Perspective Cards" which is a tool to help start spiritual conversations. After the breakfast Taylor asked me if I wanted to go share on campus with other students. Although I was nervous I accepted the challenge.

When we got to campus, Raechele (EKU woman's basketball player and SportLinc Rep) met with up with us. We went to the cafeteria praying and looking for someone to share these tools to engage

in spiritual conversations and we sat by four students who were willing to play our game. About midway through the perspective cards when we started talking about the purpose of life, one of the students started breaking down crying (that was when it was revealed to us that one of their best friends, who had committed suicide the day before.) That is when Taylor taught me a life lesson about how to grieve. We started talking about the memories of their friend Reggie. Quickly those tears of sorrow turned to tears of joy and laughter.

That is when I thought it was a perfect time for me to share my testimony of how I lost my friend, Marco. When I lost my friend I ran away from Christ; Because of my experience, I encouraged the four of them to go closer to Jesus. After we were done with the perspective cards all of the students were happy that we took the time out of our day to engage them in a spiritual conversation while we were just excited that someone listened to us.

Overall my experience with Taylor helped grow my faith because he taught me to be more intentional with spiritual conversations. The lesson of the day was how to show love to others, how Christ showed love to us.

Since then it has been a lot easier to share my faith because "Perspective Cards" gives the other person a chance to share what they believe while we listen. Out of four other times sharing, I have not gotten one bad response from our student body.

If you are like me and struggle to share your faith "Perspective Cards" are a great way to get it started. It is also a great way to listen to what other people think in a culture that typically views Christians as jamming their agenda down other peoples throats. I guarantee you that at the end of the conversation you will have something in common and the other person will appreciate it because you took time out of your day to listen to them. Perspective Cards gives us an opportunity to listen and love people."



~Matt Calhoun's experience~
*"I have enjoyed the perspective cards! They provide a practical way to share your faith in any environment. If you are nervous, it takes the pressure off because it's just a card game and you aren't responsible for talking the whole time. It allows the player to reveal as much or as little as she or he wants to. The only thing that the administrator of the game has to do is use wisdom in either 1) active listening and showing the player you are genuinely interested in his beliefs. Or 2) act on Holy Spirit nudges that may pry deeper into why the player believes the card they chose. **Josh & I have shared the prospective cards 5 + times since we have gotten them!** One person liked them so much they asked where they could get some b/c it was the best tool that had seen for breaking the ice and helping them share their faith! I was so happy a little deck of cards could ignite her fire, as well as Josh and I to share the faith we have using a deck of cards."*



Josh Spears & Matt Calhoun
 Harding University

"...You must all be quick to listen, slow to speak..."
 James 1:19

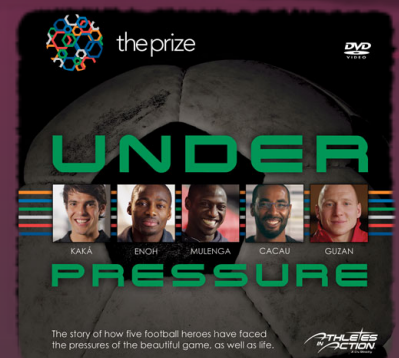
~Josh Spears Experience~ "The perspective cards have been so cool. I have shared them in the library, the cafeteria, the clubhouse, and at Starbucks. They are such an easy way to soak in information from people in the world around us. We sometimes think that everyone who is a Christian or looks like one shares the same views and perspectives as us; Boy are we dead wrong! The cards allow a simple game-like opportunity to share and listen to the faith of others. Appreciate you introducing them to us and giving us a tool for sharing."

"The seeds are growing here and I can't say thank you enough for you allowing God and His spirit to use you to help his kingdom here in Searcy, AK." Josh



One of several team talks from the trip.

- Jesus is continuing to show me how good He is through His mercy and wisdom from mentors and friends. I am learning what it looks like to "Bear fruit in keeping with repentance." (Matthew 3:8).
- Toy Story 3 made me cry again # Catharsis
- Please use World Cup Outreach Video theprize.com (also on Jesus film App)
- Dominican Republic Baseball Tour May 29-July 2nd
- Learn more about at perspectivecards.com
- Talk with me about doing evangelism training for you



Thank you for being part of seeing Christ-Followers on every team, in every sport, in every nation.!"

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