



Decreasing & Increasing

FOR THE LAST 3 YEARS, We've been working with a band, and specifically connecting with one of the members of that band more than any of the others. We have talked probably 15 or 20+ times about meaningful things, but a lot of the same things; the weather, the band, girl-friends (his, not mine J), and a little about life in general. We talked about faith, but not *HIS* faith, & talked about God, but not *HIS* relationship with God. I didn't doubt that he **had** a relationship with God, but I only knew about this young man, I didn't really know him.



THEN, this past June, at about 12:45 one clear Kentucky night, as I walked up to the backstage area where he was watching a band from just outside of the tent in which they were paying, I asked him how he was doing, fully expecting to have that same conversation we'd had before. In about 5 seconds, however, I knew that God was INCREASING the depth of this relationship & DECREASING the 'how's the weather' chat. I listened & heard about his broken heart, his deepening faith & his reliance on God to get him through each tough day and was able to walk him through some next steps for his life, relationship, and his walk with God.

Being **usable** and **available**- physically AND spiritually -was a tough thing to maintain, especially when I felt no progress, but God moved when the time was right, in HIS timing, and I'm grateful I got to help. Praise God for the chance to be along for the ride!! -dave

SUMMER FLY-BY:
Over 6 weeks on the road working with about 27 bands, 3 non-profit groups, and 2 speakers this summer! Each of those groups is speaking and influencing people with the Gospel of Jesus Christ each week, YOUR impact has made OUR impact help spread THEIR impact.

Hoping.
Helping.
Healing.

"... man, I QUIT this SH*T!" (the next day though...)

So this July, right after we arrived at Sonshine Music festival, I got a text msg. It was from an artist we've been working with for the last couple summers, and with whom we have a great relationship—lets call him "Joe." Joe had his family & crew traveling ahead of him and meeting him at the festival with his vehicle and merchandise, and he was flying there to meet them after doing some ministry elsewhere. That text message, and subsequent phone calls from Joe, explained that his wife had

GIVING UP. GIVING IN. GIVING AWAY.

gotten locked out of their vehicle and then managed to get in- only to have the alarm repeatedly go off in their vehicle with their child trying to sleep inside. You can imagine her frustration, the group's frustration, and Joe's frustration at trying to help and being MILES away. He sent this text, angrily & at the end of his rope, "man, I QUIT this SH*T!" In the next minutes I was able help his wife and also be there for HIM. I didn't try to take away his frustration, I just joined him and walked with him from giving up to giving in to God's grace & then to giving himself away. We aren't going to pretend LightsOut saved his

ministry that day, he probably would have figured things out and been ok. BUT, THIS I KNOW- we helped Joe that day. LightsOut stood in the gap between where he was and where he needed to be— **a safe place for him to be real about his pain and a real encouragement to his soul. And, the NEXT DAY** when he got to the festival, I got to help Joe walk a hurting young man (caught up in sexual sin & far away from Christ) to a place where he confessed that sin, heard healing scripture & started a relationship like never before with Jesus. Joe, ready to quit, now giving his life away & helping this kid gain a real life in Christ!! What a day! -dave

I Pray You Read These Words...

If you only have a few minutes, here's the big picture:
*****WE ARE SO THANKFUL*****

We got the chance to buy Doris Thee RV at about 1/2 price & we fixed damage from the accident we had last summer

God has given us favor with artists, and is doing real work in their lives through LightsOut, and we believe we are to continue IN OBEDIENCE doing this work HE has given us. **BUT, WE NEED YOUR HELP TO CONTINUE THE WORK WE'RE DOING!**

Giving has decreased, but the need is as great as ever for growing ministry needs to be met

Without an increase in giving, LightsOut will be **unable to operate** in our current form by next March, obviously that means BIG changes for us

I pray you read these words with the heart with which I write them. I can't express in words how grateful I am that the dreams God placed in our hearts 3 years ago have become real things, that people have supported the ministry with their finances & prayers. I can't believe how things that were just a thought or an idea or a 'maybe' back then have become real working on life, real tour-pastoring, real bible studies, real prayers & real tears with real hurting artists. It really humbles me to re-examine ministry and see how God has grown & changed LightsOut from a jumble of 'maybes' to a ministry of real substance.

Maybe you haven't given a financial gift before, or maybe you gave to this hope we had early on. I am writing you now to ask humbly for you to consider how you could re-examine your own giving, consider growing with us from a heartfelt hope to a ministry of real substance.

I will be making phone calls this next month & scheduling visits to (re)connect w/you & to ask you about this very thing. LightsOut loves your prayers, but we have a real financial need, and will simply NOT BE ABLE TO OPERATE without a larger support base. I'm stoked to spend a bit of time with you to catch up on our ministry, but also to ask you to creatively consider partnering with us financially. I'd love it if you'd pray about this with your family and consider a tax deductible year-end gift or a 2012 monthly pledge!

Please call/email if you'd like more info today on giving a financial or other gift to LightsOut. 605.359.0820 or dave@LiveLightsOut.org

We've seen God in BIG ways!

Sharing Holy space in Doris Thee RV. Talking theology, art & music with LightsOut friends



We have seen God increase so much this past year. There's the times when we are just at a loss and don't know what to do next, when we don't know what, exactly, ministry will entail, and we've seen God show up BIG in those spaces with open doors right next to ones that have closed, new opportunities when we wondered what direction to go, and through our obedience to the call he's given we've seen God provide with resources beyond what we'd be able to orchestrate if we tried! We've seen artists leave the bands they loved and enter full-time church ministry. We've seen others fail with sin in their life and helped them to be restored. We've seen marriages struggle and be strengthened. We've Seen God in Big Ways. And now, completing our 3rd summer of ministry to artists, we are praying that God shows up BIG in YOUR world too. When we give, we've experienced joy. We hope, through your giving, YOU experience joy too!