

## Campus Ministry Strategies



Happiness is fellowship with Rev. Jacob Deal.

Sometimes campus ministry focuses on attracting entire groups, but other times we may target individuals. All Saints thought going to the shooting range would be a way to bring Jon out and we were right. Jon loves guns and welcomes time with people his own age. We felt that he would return to worship after spending time with students from Westminster College, Grove City College and Slippery Rock University.

When Jon (not his real name) came to worship the following Sunday we thought he would attend church regularly. When he did not return in the succeeding weeks, we wondered why. We sent photos of him with his girl, called to tell him the time of Sunday services had been changed to 1 PM, and let him know we cared about him. At the range he had told us that he had to work every day all day. We had assured him we'd pray about his demanding schedule.

But Jon didn't reply to phone calls. Believing that we really had bonded with him at the shooting range, I called one more time. I wanted to apologize for anything that might have offended him. This time he answered the phone. He was glad to hear from us. He said he'd never be upset concerning our time together. He then described what had happened.

Jon explained that a family member had gotten very sick and needed someone to run the family business for him until he could recover. This is exactly what Jon has been doing. He is not indifferent to his experience with All Saints at the range, but has been consumed with his workload. He added that he has been praying, sharing his faith with peers, and reading the Bible.

We are glad we had the time at the shooting range. It made a difference to everyone, but especially to Jon. He is going to be at worship. He knows he can always talk with Rev. Jacob Deal. He knows that he wants to be in Christian fellowship.

Was it worth the effort to help a young man return to church? Because we believe it was, All Saints campus ministry will continue to sponsor monthly Korean meals. We also look forward to kayaking and/or another time to go to the range. And this time we will feature shooting competitions between the men and the women to create even more interest.

Will it be worth the effort to reach out for perhaps just one student? Yes, it will, because we remember Kenzaburo from Japan when he first came to a student meal. He was just one person, but he asked a huge question. He asked if someone would teach him the Bible. We did, and he became a baptized Christian. It is worth the effort, even for just one person.

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