

Heart 2 Heart

Spotlight on: Back2Back Ministry

Back2Back Ministry works with junior high students at Grace Chapel in Mason, OH just outside of Cincinnati. The team spends time getting to know the students one-on-one and working with them in small groups.

Each Wednesday night, eight Cedarville students head down to Cincinnati to participate in this ministry. After they arrive, the students hangout with the kids (generally around 40-50) and play video games, Air Soft, dodgeball, or other games. Following this time, they have announcements, worship, and a message from Pastor Mark. After the message, the students break into small groups with 4-6 kids per leader. When the small group is finished, they eat pizza and hang out till the kids leave. After the kids leave, the team prays together and heads back to Cedarville.

Alan McIver, team leader for Back2Back enjoys hanging out with these kids. "As I work with these kids, my biggest desire is to point them toward Christ and be an example to them. As I do this and talk to them about the struggles they face in life, I see the areas in my life where I fall

short which I need to fix to be a better example to these kids. It's very humbling and creates another reason to work on my relationship with Christ. The kids can see right through a fake."

His favorite part of the ministry is playing games with the kids. "My favorite part of the ministry is playing Air Soft. Last year I had an old cheap gun and the kids were always wailing on me with their high powered guns. This year I gave in and bought a nice gun, now they hide from me. Wrestling is also a favorite part. Junior High guys just love the attention when you wrestle with them."

One of Alan's favorite memories from the ministry was when he got to build a fire. "One week our youth pastor had the kids write what was keeping them from God on a piece of paper. He asked me to build a fire behind the church for them to throw the papers in. Well, I figured the bigger the better, so I found a bunch of pallets and gasoline just sitting around and created a sweet fire. Unfortunately, it was so big we had to wait till it burnt down some before the kids could get close enough to throw their papers into the fire."

Anna Van Vliet, team member, enjoys learning more about herself and seeing the kids grow in their faith. "When I go to ministry, I often learn more about myself than anything, the kids really challenge me, without even knowing it, to have a closer relationship with God and to seek after Him every day. I enjoy seeing the kids grow more every week and just being a part of their life, it is such a blessing. Breaking off into small groups for prayer and discussion is such an integral part of the time that we spend there. I have a chance to challenge them, to learn more about what is going on in their lives and to answer any and every question that they have. A couple weeks ago one of my girls asked me how you know for sure that you are going to heaven. It was amazing to share the gospel with her and to see her gain an understanding of what Jesus did for her on the cross."

Back2Back could use more girls to help with the junior high girls. For more information about Back2Back, contact Alan McIver.



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Ministry Opportunities

The Sonshine Club is looking for more volunteers. Contact Vashti Mensah for more information.

FairCreek Church is looking for more students to help with AWANA. Contact Amy Hanna if interested.

Forest Ridge Baptist Church is also looking for more volunteers to help with AWANA. Contact Mark Kwast for more information.

City Gospel Mission is looking for more volunteers. Contact Tim Voltz for more information.

Changing Lives Now Ministries is looking for donations and volunteers for their annual Thanksgiving Celebration. For more information call, Sim Bowen at (937)323-6396.

"One plus one equals more than we can ask or imagine"

Beth Moore

"Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name. For the LORD is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations."

Psalm 100:4-5

If you have any questions about Community Ministries or Heart 2 Heart, contact Brynn Paine or stop by Christian Ministries in the DMC.