



- THE GARAGE
- LHGH
- TEEN MOMS
- THE DOOR
- D - GROUPS

YFC WADSWORTH

Newsletter August 2011



PLEASE HOLD MY ARMS

This is going to be a different sort of newsletter. I find myself without the strength to write the articles I had planned.

As long as Moses held up the staff in his hand, the Israelites had the advantage. But whenever he dropped his hand, the Amalekites gained the advantage. Moses' arms soon became so tired he could no longer hold them up. So Aaron and Hur found a stone for him to sit on. Then they stood on each side of Moses, holding up his hands. So his hands held steady until sunset. As a result, Joshua overwhelmed the army of Amalek in battle. (Exodus 17)

I find great comfort in reading how Moses, this great man of God, who lead under God's strength still succumbed to a moment when "his arms became so tired he could no longer hold them up". I am no Bible scholar but I don't think this is a reference to Moses' lack of faith or disbelief in God's power. I think it shows that he was human and needed the support of his friends to fight the battle.

It is not easy for me to write this to you. My eyes are filled with tears as I type. I feel great conflict as I share with you. I am wondering why God and I can not conquer this battle without asking for help. Yet as I seek to be a good leader of this ministry I believe that the victory lies in being transparent enough to share my personal pain.

Satan knows that attacking the leader has a effect that can ripple into many areas. Basically, that's just good war strategy. It is a spiritual war the Garage volunteers are engaged in when we stand against hell and try to tell teenagers about Jesus. And so, Satan's strategy hasn't changed. "Weaken the leaders!" he screams to his minions. And like Moses, we are humans who can sometimes be wrecked by our physical and emotional limitations.

Make no mistake, we win in the end! Praise God! And I've asked to be first in line to give the devil a black eye, but today the devil's attack is very keenly directed at my family. He has squirmed his venomous influence into more areas than I am able to raise my arms against any longer. I have found myself so exhausted by the battle that I have found the humility to write this article. I also believe that if my family is under this extreme of an attack that there are others in this ministry that are suffering as well.

We have five essential principles that we stand on. It is no mistake that the first is titled "Widespread Prayer". The verbiage is this..."We deliberately engage lots of Christians to intercede on behalf of the ministry site."

I am begging you, our supporters to pray. Pray for me, for my family, for the volunteers, for each of the ministry venues at the Garage and for the desperate souls of the kids we are trying to reach.

-Lou Fister
(Director, YFC Wadsworth)

This is Elijah Straub. He was one of the "original Garage kids". We have watched Eli change from a self described arrogant pothead to a young man who is Christ centered and purposed to share the Gospel with others.

Eli is leaving in just a few days for youth ministry training. Please watch your mail and your inbox for his story and ways you can partner with him in this exciting chapter of his life.

YFC Wadsworth
P.O. Box 323
Wadsworth, OH 44282

Northern Ohio Executive
Director - Steve Pausch

Wadsworth
Director - Lou Fister
lou.fister@gmail.com

www.yfcwadsworth.com

The Grace of Giving

We want you to know, brothers, about the grace of God that has been given among the churches of Macedonia, for in a severe test of affliction, their abundance of joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part. For they gave according to their means, as I can testify, and beyond their means, of their own accord, begging us earnestly for the favor of taking part in the relief of the saints— and this, not as we expected, but they gave themselves first to the Lord and then by the will of God to us. (2 Corinthians 8: 1-5 ESV)

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All contributions are greatly appreciated and are tax deductible. Should any project be over subscribed, excess funds will be channeled to other essential ministry needs.