



Mark Johnston
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My name is Mark Johnston

a.k.a. A nobody telling anybody that somebody loves everybody

I was born into a family of 14 whose parents wanted their sons and daughters to live out their faith in a practical way. We grew up as a musical family playing for churches, conventions, open air Campaigners (Biola) and *Good News Club outreaches (CEF)*. This was a great learning curve in discovering my gift as an evangelist but it was with Release Time Education where I taught tweens during public school in a 5th wheel trailer that I saw the deep hunger of children to learn who Jesus was and discover the joy of following Christ. Amazing written letters convinced me that this age was crucial in evangelism which is why Jesus said, "Bring the children to me, for the kingdom of God belongs to them."

After graduating from Azusa with a business degree and starting several businesses, God clearly spoke to me to go full time into ministry and I purchased The Old Corona Country Club and converted the rundown barn into a clubhouse for kids. God blessed the ministry and as an evangelist, I started weekly *Good News Clubs* for children, *The Boys and Girls Brigade for Youth* and *The Kings Academy Discipleship School for Teens*. Simultaneously, I was running the youth program at E.V. Free as well as the Awana program for both departments. God gave me favor with the mayor who supported my program, *Character by Design*, to teach godly character to kids after school. With so many from the neighborhoods receiving Christ, I had Christmas, Valentine, Easter, Halloween and Thanksgiving outreaches at the facility that drew many families from around the city to hear the Gospel and receive Christ.

After investing 10 years in proclaiming the Gospel in Corona, God led me to Bayside Church for 15 years to reorganize the weekend *Club 56* youth ministry and create the *Club K.N.I.G.H.T.S* midweek program that taught tweens leadership skills in many areas of their lives. The practical discipleship for the 5th/6th grade youth and training equipped them to reach neighborhoods, malls, rest homes, fairs, homeless and *FISH Clubs*. God's hand grew the ministry from 80 youth to over 350 weekly attenders and a team of 95 adults as coaches, tech, music, hospitality teams. The greatest joy of working with children and tweens is to see the direction they go with their lives and the influence they have on peers and family. Twenty five years of early youth evangelism has allowed me to see grounded youth avoid the pitfalls of the teen years and gain tremendous momentum in living out and sharing the Good News with others.



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My new season of ministry has led me to Inspire Academy; where I teach Bible classes and life skills, as well, as pastor at Maxine Singer Youth Guidance Center (Juvenile Hall) in Marysville and oversee *Fish Clubs* on three public school campuses. In addition, I teach *Knights of Christ* and *Boys2Men*, which is a rite of passage program that prepares youth for young manhood in Northern and Southern California. For four years, I have partnered with *JA Perez Ministries* and Ray with *Rock of Ages* in Kenya, Jamaica, Haiti and Costa Rica sharing the Gospel to children. The object lesson driven teaching, small groups and activities keep the youth engaged all day with evangelism happening at each session but with a focus of onsite discipleship. This allows the pre-trained interns to connect with the children in small groups and build a bridge to their church for continued fellowship. The training of youth pastors before and after the festival has changed the entire region after our team leaves.

As a child receiving Christ at eight, I know the direction and influence one changed life can make in the hands of the Master. I have seen the excitement of children from being valued, recognized and affirmed. I have seen children bring back friends the next day and pray publicly for their lost friends. I have seen throngs of children running to the tent in the morning to learn more of Christ; laughing with joy and growing close to the new friend next to them. I have seen youth pastors and interns get fired up after being trained and equipped to reach the next generation for Christ. The harvest is ripe and *NextGen Arising* is on the front line in carrying out the Great Co-Mission. I pray I can help support and partner with vision minded men and women who present the Gospel in 2017 and beyond.

In the Service of the King,

Mark

