

# **Student Ministry's Mission of Glory**

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*"I will say to the north, Give up, and to the south, Do not withhold; bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the end of the earth, everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made." -- Isaiah 43:6-7*

The High School Group has assembled its summer missions team and the training has begun. This summer we are excited to be returning to the inner city of Washington D.C. We will be working with an organization called Center for Student Missions who uses missions teams to minister to the homeless and poor through existing ministries. Our team consists of 15 students and 6 adult leaders.

The goal of the missions experience this summer is to understand how to live for the glory of God. Although this seems simple the reality of it in our lives is very foreign. The sin in our hearts and the self-centered lives it produces has changed the meaning of missions. When asked why should students go on a missions trip we answer that it would be good for them, so they can grow in their walk, to get them out of their comfort zone, etc. The question each of us needs to ask is this: Since when was serving about what we get? Sin takes the things of God and perverts them, even to the extent to where the verb "serve" means to get something. The students have been grappling with questions such as: Is the impact we seek in ourselves or others? Is the impact we desire for us or God? Would I go on a missions trip if I did not get anything out of it?

Please be praying that the students understand and live according to their chief end -- to glorify God and enjoy Him forever. Because their chief end is also God's -- to glorify Himself and enjoy Himself forever. God wants to draw worshippers to Himself so they too may experience His glory and the abundant life of being a child of God. This missions project is not just another self-centered pleasure seeking event among other events in life.

The missions team does get something on this trip, a chance to die to themselves, give their lives away and experience what it is like to be like be Jesus. This trip is not a youth event, but a result of the whole body of WPC seeking to spread the gospel to the world. We invite you to join with us in giving yourselves away through prayer and support in the next several months.