

“Broken but Blessed”

Whom have I in heaven but You? And there is none upon earth that I desire besides You. My flesh and my heart fail; but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever. For indeed, those who are far from You shall perish; You have destroyed all those who desert You for harlotry. But it is good for me to draw near to God; I have put my trust in the Lord God, that I may declare all Your works. – Psalm 73:25-28

Eva Paich, Kat Smith and I were able to go the Calvary Chapel Youth Workers Conference in California this year and it was great! I know that I was going to the conference to have some great leaders tell me some great ideas for the youth group, but then I (and the rest of the people there) got blindsided. Speaker after speaker came up and started to challenge us, and our walk with the Lord. The main question was, were we serving with our whole heart? **Pastor Chuck** started things off by challenging us to take chances for the Lord and His glory. We as leaders need to be in step with the Lord, and then the Lord will do amazing things. We got to hear **KP Yohannan** two times, and the Holy Spirit used the message to leave everyone broken. One of the first things he asked us is, “Does your life revolve around Jesus?” From this he just continued to show us that everything needed to be for the Lord. The Holy Spirit just used this to break people from things that were in their lives. There was a time of confession, followed by restoration, and that were in their lives. There was a time of confession, followed by restoration, and finally the pouring out of the Holy Spirit. This was only my second youth conference, but I have never seen the leaders so broken before the Lord. The Lord used this brokenness to just fill people up and it was a great experience. As I sat thinking about it, everything came back to the beginning, that I needed to be desperate for the Lord for the rest of my life. The Lord was trying to prepare me for what was going to happen at the conference, but even though I heard I wasn’t really listening until the same message came from all of the speakers. KP gave the verses from Psalm 73, and it is a reminder to us that we needed to be following after the Lord, that we need to be filled with the Holy Spirit and as a result we will have a renewed passion for the Lord as well as a renewed passion to see the lost saved. **There is no time like right now to draw near to the Lord, to put our full and complete trust in Him and then watch as He does amazing things.**

~ Youth Pastor, Eli Storhaug