

CMDA St. Louis December Update



Global Health Missions Conference

The final plenary by Stan Key gave me a touch of divine transformation as he talked about “How To Waste Your Life”, giving the rich young ruler from Mark 10:17-22 as a case study. We are like the rich man in that we give Jesus 99% of our life (but not 100%), we don’t take risks that God calls us to, we put other things like family before God (this conflict between God vs. family comes up when missionaries decide where to serve), and we live for tomorrow rather than today. The last point of how to waste one’s life is especially applicable to me as a medical student because many times, I feel that I can’t live a meaningful life until after medical school, when I’m at the end of tunnel and there’s light. But GMHC inspired me to consider going abroad at some point in my medical training, even as early as this upcoming summer!

WashU Med Student Testimony

As this was my first Christian conference ever, I’m thankful that I got a chance to explore medical missions and to be surrounded by people who love and serve Christ. From the very opening session, I knew that the missions conference would be life-changing. Juli Slattery opened up with “Why Does Sexuality Matter?”, one of the most controversial and taboo, yet most fundamental topics of Christianity. She mentioned three mistakes that we have made about God with regards to sexuality: 1. We don’t worship God as the creator of our sexuality; 2. We do not believe that God can heal sexual brokenness; 3. We do not surrender to God as Lord of our sexuality. Reflecting on her speech has made me motivated to change my attitudes to align with the Bible and not to make sexual decisions based on the counterfeits of this world.

Physician’s Corner

It’s almost impossible to make a difference in someone’s life during a 12-minute office visit. But we must interrupt our schedule, whatever the cost, to do so. Although I wasn’t surprised to learn Mary couldn’t afford the nasal Mupirocin ointment she needed to combat her recurrent MRSA cellulitis, I certainly was surprised when she said she couldn’t take a shower. She didn’t have a shower, she explained. In fact, she didn’t even have running water. That meant no indoor toilet and no washing machine, and I suddenly understood what caused her overpowering odor. I could no longer hold back the tears when this morbidly obese woman told me how the local church had asked her not to come back until after she had first taken a shower and washed her clothes. We got her clean clothes to wear after taking a shower in my private office. Next we closed the office one Saturday and held a fundraiser in the parking lot to build her a well. Besides community shops donating services, one employee baked desserts while another’s dad barbecued meat and hot dogs he donated. God commands we tangibly love others. My ex-wife and staff did all the s itself.work, but my responsibility was to decide to forego the income my urgent care center generated on a busy Saturday. Medicine provides us with unique opportunities, afforded by the intimacy of every doctor-patient relationship. I challenge you to actively recognize one such opportunity next week and seize it when it present



Robb Hicks, MD

Praise & Prayer

Praise God with us for :

- *God transforming students to be missionally minded.
- *Christians in the medical field being the hands and feet of Christ.
- *Medical students learning how to follow the Great Physician.

Pray with us for:

- *CMDA St. Louis students to experience God deeply and to have transformational community.
- *Physician mentors for our CMDA students.
- *For God to raise up medical students who will take opportunities to serve the Lord during their summers.

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